



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Executive Action Summary

Budget & Finance – Attachment 2

Committee Name: Budget & Finance

Date: October 31, 2025

Agenda Item: PROCEED - Engineering and Digital Innovation Center

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Information

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Review

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Action

Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University hereby authorizes the Administration to proceed with the project titled, “Engineering and Digital Innovation Center,” with a project budget of \$340,000,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Administration will maintain its ongoing coordination with the State of Michigan’s capital planning and outlay processes, in alignment with the project being the University's capital outlay request for cost participation in State Fiscal Year 2027.

Recommendation:

The Trustee Committee on Budget & Finance recommends that the Board of Trustees authorize the Administration to proceed with a new Engineering and Digital Innovation Center for teaching, learning, and laboratory research. This will prepare MSU students today for the careers of tomorrow and support research in emerging fields such as AI, space electronics, quantum computing and materials science.

Prior Action by BOT: The Board authorized planning for this project on June 24, 2022.

Responsible Officers:

Daniel Bollman, Vice President for Strategic Infrastructure Planning and Facilities

Barbara Kranz, Assistant Provost and Executive Director, Institutional Space
Planning and Management

Summary: To support the project’s purpose of providing space for diverse research perspectives to intersect and to prepare students for careers in emerging fields, the center is composed of a variety of spaces. The building will be 260,000 gross square feet and will create new research spaces, teaching and learning spaces, and formal and informal collaboration spaces. The research space will support approximately 65 experimental and computational principal investigators in fields such as artificial intelligence, space electronics, quantum computing, materials science, and computational science. The

teaching and learning spaces include 12 flexible and active-learning spaces, supporting instruction in computational sciences, cybersecurity, user experience, game design, and mixed reality. The Entrepreneurship and Innovation Hub, the building's formal collaboration space, will provide a continuum of resources for student entrepreneurs through idea generation, prototyping, networking, business planning, and marketing. The center will provide opportunities for informal collaboration through spaces such as open study areas and team rooms. Additionally, program offices will provide students with on-site access to experts across multiple colleges.

The new building will be in the central academic district, in proximity to the Engineering Building, near the STEM Teaching and Learning Facility. Proximity to the functions that occur in these existing buildings in the central academic district is critical to the collaborative nature of the teaching, learning, and research. The project includes demolition of the Urban Planning and Landscape Architecture Building and the abandoned Water Reservoir. Additionally, Red Cedar Road between S. Shaw Lane and Wilson Road will be closed and converted into green space.

Background Information:

The new center will support a multi-college, interdisciplinary continuum of research and learning activity under one roof. The academic partnership across six colleges (Engineering, Natural Science, Arts and Letters, Broad College of Business, Communications Arts and Sciences, and Social Science) is intentional and will lead to interdisciplinarity in learning and research. The center provides space for students to tailor their academic journeys, allowing them to pursue their passions and missions right from the start, and creates the potential for researchers to spark new ideas at the intersection of diverse perspectives.

Source of Funds:

The budget is \$340,000,000 to be funded by a combination of philanthropy, State of Michigan appropriation, and debt, including allocation of previously issued century bond funds. Debt service will be repaid with general funds.

Resource Impact:

The annual cost of building operations, maintenance, and utilities is estimated at \$7,000,000. The building will (a) provide new capacity for research and teaching, (b) align modern building infrastructure and space functionality, and (c) support the consolidation of top-ranked researchers and students, thereby enabling new synergies, enhancing potential for discovery, and increasing the potential to recruit top-talent faculty and attract significant federal funding in high-demand research areas. This building will be a

physical and symbolic gateway to the digital future at MSU and serve as a home for new ideas and transformational learning and research.

Academic programming in the EDI Center is strategically designed to build a digitally fluent workforce, equipping students with the skills most in demand for the jobs of tomorrow. Investing in the EDI Center ensures that Michigan remains competitive by directly aligning talent development with industry needs, driving innovation, and fueling sustainable economic growth across the state.

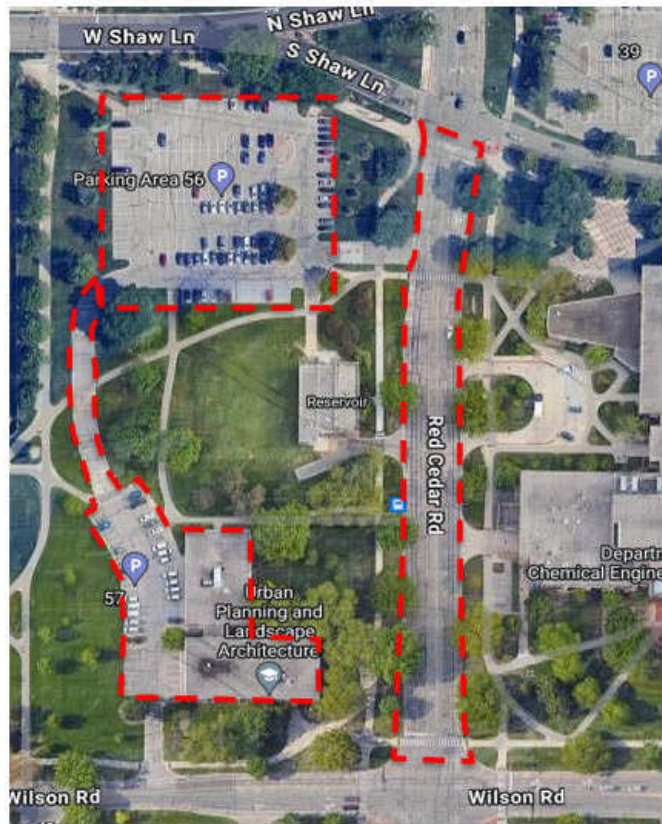
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Engineering and Digital Innovation Center



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Existing Conditions



New Site Plan

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