

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

Approved by the  
Regents  
November 20, 2014

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: New Biological Science Building

Action

Requested: Approval of Schematic Design and Authorization to Award Limited Construction Contracts for Demolition, Utility Relocation, Site Work, and Other Preparatory Work as Described

Background:

At the February 2014 meeting, the Board of Regents approved the new Biological Science Building project and the appointment of SmithGroupJJR as the architect for its design. The College of Literature, Science, and the Arts is proposing to construct a new teaching, research, and museum facility for the biological sciences and exhibit museums. The Department of Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology (MCDB) and the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (EEB) are currently located in the Edward Henry Kraus Building (Kraus), built in 1915, that has reached its limit in terms of ability to allow contemporary research and the number of researchers it can support. EEB is also located in the Alexander G. Ruthven Museums Building (Ruthven) which has even greater limitations to meet the needs for contemporary research and has very significant deferred maintenance needs. Ruthven also houses the Anthropology, Natural History, Paleontology, and Zoology museums. In addition, a portion of Herbarium specimens and dry collections remain in Ruthven and will be relocated into the new Biological Science Building (BSB), but most of those holdings have been moved from Central Campus to the Varsity Drive Building.

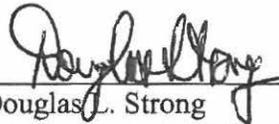
The proposed project will include a new BSB of approximately 300,000 gross square feet with a connection to the Life Sciences Institute (LSI) Building to increase the utilization of its dock and vivarium functions. A small renovation to LSI will also be necessary for vivarium and related support activities. The new building will house research laboratories, associated support functions, offices, classrooms, vivarium services, and the four museums listed above. The laboratories will be constructed in an open plan to allow for much greater collaboration than can be achieved in the existing buildings, increased flexibility, space utilization, and better management. The scope of this project includes the architectural, electrical, and mechanical work necessary to accomplish these improvements. There will be no impact on parking from this project.

The proposed site of the BSB is adjacent to LSI where both North Hall and the Museums Annex currently exist, and we now propose the demolition of these buildings along with utility relocation, site work, and other preparatory work to prepare for BSB. The cost of this proposed work is \$9,000,000 and is included in the \$261,000,000 project cost. All work will be financially tracked as one project. We will return to the Board of Regents to seek approval to issue the remainder of the project for bids and award construction contracts.

Funding will be provided from College of Literature, Science, and the Arts resources and Office of the Provost resources. The construction cash flow may be provided, all or in part, by bond proceeds or increasing the commercial paper issuance under the commercial paper program, secured by a pledge of General Revenues, and authorized by the Board of Regents. The project is expected to provide an average of 256 on-site construction jobs. Demolition is proposed to begin in January 2015, and overall construction is scheduled to be completed in the summer of 2018.

We recommend that the Board of Regents approve the schematic design for the New Biological Science Building project as presented at the meeting and authorize awarding limited construction contracts for demolition, utility relocation, site work, and other preparatory work as described above providing that bids are within the approved budget.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas L. Strong  
Interim Executive Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer

November 2014