Subject: Betsy Barbour House and Helen H. Newberry Residence Fire Suppression System Upgrades

Action Requested: Approval to Proceed with Project

Background:

Constructed in 1920, the Betsy Barbour House is an approximately 34,000 gross square foot, four-story residence hall for approximately 130 students. Constructed in 1915, the Helen Newberry Residence is an approximately 31,000 gross square foot, four-story residence hall for approximately 110 students. As part of the “Residential Life Initiatives” presented to the Regents in September 2004, this project will address life safety needs in Barbour House and Newberry Residence. The proposed project will install fire suppression systems to provide coverage throughout the buildings. The existing fire detection and alarm systems, installed in 2001, will be upgraded to coordinate with the fire suppression systems. When completed, the fire detection, alarm and suppression systems will meet all current codes and standards, including those set by the Americans with Disabilities Act. The scope of the project includes the architectural, mechanical and electrical work necessary to accomplish these improvements. There will be no impact on parking from this project.

The estimated cost of the project is $1,450,000. Funding will be provided from Housing resources and investment proceeds. The construction cash flow may be provided, all or in part, by increasing the commercial paper issuance under the commercial paper program, secured by a pledge of General Revenues, and authorized by the Regents. The University of Michigan Department of Architecture, Engineering and Construction will design the project. Construction will be done in phases in order to minimize disruption to residence operations, and construction will be completed in Fall 2007.

We recommend that the Regents approve the Betsy Barbour House and Helen H. Newberry Residence Fire Suppression System Upgrades project as described, and authorize issuing the project for bids and awarding construction contracts providing that bids are within the approved budget.

Respectfully submitted,

E. Royster Harper
Vice President for Student Affairs

Timothy P. Stottow
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

February 2007