Subject: Central Campus Area Utility Tunnel Reinforcement

Action Requested: Approval to Proceed with Project

Background:

Most Central Campus buildings utilize the Central Power Plant and a network of tunnels for the distribution of utilities. A recent study determined that some sections of tunnel under proposed emergency vehicle access routes require reinforcement of the tunnel to withstand heavy loads of emergency vehicles such as a fire truck. This project includes reinforcement of approximately 550 feet of tunnel near the School of Social Work Building and the restoration of paving and landscaping disturbed by the project. Utilities to nearby buildings will continue to be provided during construction. The project will require temporary detours for pedestrian traffic and emergency vehicle access, but access to nearby buildings will be maintained. There will be no permanent impact on parking from this project.

The estimated cost of the project is $1,800,000. Funding will be provided from Utility 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 engineering firm Commonwealth Associates Inc. will design the project. The project is expected to provide an average of seven on-site construction jobs. Construction is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2014.

We recommend that the Board of Regents approve Central Campus Area Utility Tunnel Reinforcement project as described, and authorize issuing the project for bids and awarding construction contracts providing that bids are within the approved budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy P. Slottow
Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

February 2014