Subject: University of Michigan-Dearborn
Henry Ford Estate-Fair Lane
Heating and Cooling System Improvements

Action Requested: Approval to Proceed with Project

Background:

Fair Lane was constructed in 1916 as the residence for the Henry and Clara Ford family. The 31,000 square foot home was purchased by the Ford Motor Company in 1952, and in 1957 the residence was donated, along with 210 acres, to the University of Michigan for the creation of the Dearborn Campus. Fair Lane was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1966.

The heating and cooling system in the residence is well beyond its useful life. This project will address the highest priority needs with the current steam heating system by replacing it with a hot water system, including new boilers, piping, and radiators. In addition, the project will improve cooling system performance and update system controls. The scope of the project includes the architectural, mechanical, and electrical work necessary to accomplish these improvements within this historic structure.

The estimated cost of the project is $1,500,000. Funding will be provided from University of Michigan-Dearborn resources and gifts. 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. Gunn Levine Architects will design the project. Construction is scheduled to be completed in Winter 2008.

We recommend that the Regents approve the University of Michigan-Dearborn Henry Ford Estate-Fair Lane Heating and Cooling System Improvements project as described, and authorize issuing the project for bids and awarding construction contracts providing that bids are within the approved budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel E. Little
Chancellor
University of Michigan-Dearborn

December 2006