

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: University of Michigan Center for Innovation

Action

Requested: Approval of Schematic Design and Authorization to Proceed with Construction

Background:

At the October 2023 meeting, the Board of Regents approved the University of Michigan Center for Innovation project and the appointment of Kohn, Pedersen, Fox as the architect for its design. The University of Michigan Center for Innovation (UMCI) is a proposed new academic building to be located in downtown Detroit. The proposed 200,000 gross-square-foot building will be the first of 3 buildings to be constructed on the site, with the other two buildings to be constructed by a developer at a future date. Included within the building is shelled space that will provide flexibility and expansion opportunities in the future. UMCI will be a world-class research, education and entrepreneurship center designed to advance innovation and talent-focused community development to propel city, region and statewide job creation and inclusive economic growth by stimulating economic development in the city of Detroit. The program will offer a mixed-model approach that includes both masters' degrees and workforce development programs that will focus on technology and innovation. The new building will have a basement and 6 stories above grade. The lower floors will contain public-facing programs while the upper floors will be dedicated mostly to graduate programs.

The estimated cost of the project is \$250,000,000. Funding will be provided from a gift, State of Michigan grant and other donations and development activities. 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. Construction is scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2027.

We recommend that the Board of Regents approve the schematic design for the University of Michigan Center for Innovation project as presented at the meeting and authorize proceeding with construction provided that bids are within the approved budget.

Respectfully submitted,



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Geoffrey S. Chatas  
Executive Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer

March 2024