

The University of Michigan Regents Communication

Request for Action

Subject: William W. Cook Legal Research Library and Allan and Alene Smith Underground Library Renovation

Action Requested: Approval of Project and Authorization to Appoint an Architect

Background:

The Allan and Alene Smith underground library addition to the William W. Cook Legal Research Library was completed in 1981 and is approximately 84,000 gross square feet. This project will renovate approximately 77,000 gross square feet of existing library space and construct a small addition of approximately 3,500 gross square feet to modernize research and learning environments. The work will improve circulation, consolidate the physical collection, enhance access to staff and services, and strengthen connections between Legal Research Library and the Underground Law Library. The project will replace end-of-life infrastructure, address deferred maintenance including building envelope repairs and replacement of leaking window wells, and improve accessibility through a new entrance and an elevator providing a direct, accessible connection to the Underground Law Library. There will be no impact on parking from this project.

The estimated cost of the project is \$75,400,000. Funding will be provided from Office of the Provost resources. The construction cash flow may be provided, all or in part, by bond or note proceeds, secured by a pledge of General Revenues, and authorized by the Board of Regents. The architectural firm of Integrated Design Solutions in association with Hartman-Cox will design the project. Design is scheduled to begin immediately and we will return with a construction schedule, when we seek approval of schematic design.

We recommend that the Board of Regents approve the William W. Cook Legal Research Library Allan and Alene Smith Underground Library Renovation project as described and authorize commissioning Integrated Design Solutions in association with Hartman-Cox for its design.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert A. Hewlett III

Interim Executive Vice President
and Chief Financial Officer

July 2026

Attachment

Attachment: Site Map for William W. Cook Legal Research Library and Allan and Alene Smith Underground Library Renovation

