## THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN REGENTS COMMUNICATION

## **ACTION REQUEST**

Approved by the Regents May 19, 2006

Subject:

Michigan Stadium Renovation and Expansion Project

Action

Requested:

Approval of Project and Authorization to Appoint an Architect

Background:

Michigan Stadium, an iconic brick and concrete structure, was constructed in 1927 and provided seating for 72,000 persons. In 1928, the capacity was increased to almost 86,000, and in 1949 the capacity increased again to 97,000 with the addition of permanent steel stands. Further modifications and additions included a press box in 1956 and another seating expansion in 1998 bringing the Stadium to its current seating capacity of 107,501.

We propose to renovate and expand Michigan Stadium to improve circulation and egress within the Stadium, increase the number of restrooms and concession areas, increase accessible seating for the disabled, and add other fan amenities including a variety of enclosed seating arrangements. We have developed broad objectives for this project to positively effect safety, accessibility, and the overall fan experience. The project will be financially feasible and consistent with maintaining the long term financial health of the University and Athletic Department. Finally, the project will respect the tradition and character of Michigan Stadium and be of appropriate quality.

The proposed project scope includes renovations to the bowl to widen the aisles and add handrails, widen seats, and improvements to existing concession areas and restrooms. The press box has become outdated at nearly 50 years old and will be replaced with a new, state-of-the-art structure. New building structures on the east and west sides of the Stadium will include bench seats, media facilities, accessible seats, restrooms, concession areas, an additional concourse, and approximately 83 suites and 3,200 indoor and outdoor club seats. The capacity of the Stadium after renovation will be approximately 108,000.

The estimated cost of the project is \$226,000,000. Funding will be provided from Athletic Department 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. The architectural firm HNTB Architecture will design the project. We will return with a construction schedule when we seek approval of schematic design.

We recommend the Regents approve the Michigan Stadium Renovation and Expansion Project as described and authorize commissioning HNTB Architecture for its design.

Villiam C Martin

Donald R. Shepherd Director of

Intercollegiate Athletics

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy P. Slottow Executive Vice President and

Chief Financial Officer