THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ITEM FOR INFORMATION

Subject: Washtenaw Area Transportation Study Representative

Background:

The Washtenaw Area Transportation Study is a multi-jurisdictional agency responsible for transportation planning in Washtenaw County. The University of Michigan joined the Washtenaw Area Transportation Study (WATS) in 2002. The agency is mandated by federal law to provide a comprehensive transportation planning process, which guides the expenditure of state and federal transportation funds in Washtenaw County. WATS establishes project priorities for consideration by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) when programming transportation funds. Additionally, WATS monitors the condition of county transportation systems, including roads, bicycles and pedestrian paths, and public transit.

Henry D. Baier served as a member of the Policy Committee from 2002 until his retirement in August 2023. As required by WATS, we are informing the Regents that Kimberly Kiernan, Co-Interim Associate Vice President for Facilities and Operations, will become a member of the Policy Committee. Stephen Dolen, Executive Director of Logistics, Transportation, and Parking will act as an alternate. Stephen has also served on the Technical Advisory Subcommittee since his employment at the University began in 2010. Both committees meet on a monthly basis to discuss transportation planning initiatives, work on the creation of a three-year Transportation Improvement Plan for the Washtenaw area, and approve long range transportation plans.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey S. Chatas Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

October 2023