

Fountain Court Renovation

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors authorize the President or his designee, to award contracts to implement renovations to the Fountain Court area for a project cost not to exceed \$600,000. Funding for this project will be from the Campus Enhancement Fund that was established by President Gilmour in 2010. Following the authorization of this project the balance remaining in the Campus Enhancement Fund will be \$338,198.

Background and Project Description

Fountain Court is near the center of campus at the axis of Williams Mall and Gullen Mall. Originally known as War Memorial Plaza, it was first a green vista that connected Cass Avenue to Second Avenue. In 1978, as part of the Gullen Mall renovation, the low, boxy concrete landscape retaining walls that provide planter beds and sculptural fountain in its center were incorporated. Over the years the Fountain Court area has deteriorated significantly, but has been kept marginally functional with a patchwork of concrete repairs. Many of the trees within the raised planter beds have died and been removed. The trees that remain are dying, the fountain no longer functions, and the area has no remaining light poles. This proposed project will remove the concrete walls and raised planter beds, and provide safer, level walkways, new plantings, site benches and lighting, and exterior power sources for events. The fountain will be restored to operation, and the improved area will be more harmonious with the new Student Center south garden, and other surrounding areas.

All contracts for this project will be awarded in accordance with University policies and procedures, and with a focus on sustainability.