PERINATOLOGY RESEARCH BRANCH - ADDITIONAL RENOVATIONS
AT THE DETROIT MEDICAL CENTER

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors authorize the President or his designee to design, solicit bids, and award contracts to implement additional renovations at the Detroit Medical Center’s (DMC) Brush Building to support the National Institute for Health’s (NIH) Perinatology Research Branch (PRB) for a cost of $220,000. Initial funding for this work will be borrowed from the University cash pool and will be repaid by the Federal Government upon completion of construction.

Background

During fiscal year 2001 and 2002 the University engaged in a national competition to be the permanent home for the National Institutes for Health’s Perinatology Research Branch. After winning that competition the Board of Governors authorized the first of two construction projects to develop the PRB’s laboratory space in the C.S. Mott Center on May 1, 2002 for a total of $5,375,000. This project was completed in November of 2003. On March 19, 2003 the Board approved the second project to develop the PRB’s administration and clinical space within the Detroit Medical Center’s Harper University Hospital. An amendment to this project was approved on April 30, 2003 to permit the University to loan the DMC $9,000,000 to design and construct this space. The administrative phase of this project is now being occupied by the PRB staff, and the clinical areas are scheduled to open in late November 2004.

As the DMC project was nearing completion the PRB administration secured authorization from the NIH to implement a number of aesthetic enhancements to one of the Harper entrance lobbies, to the passenger elevators that service the PRB space, and for landscape and signage. These changes were proposed to improve the curb appeal impact and image for clients served by the PRB. The NIH approved this work and granted $220,000 for its implementation by THMarsh Construction, the PRB project’s construction manager. The Federal Government is contracting through Wayne State for all lease and construction projects for the PRB. The DMC has agreed that Wayne State can contract directly with the construction company for this project as opposed to contracting through the DMC.

Following authorization from the Board of Governors the University will execute a supplementary lease agreement with the NIH to accomplish this work, with an accompanying payment plan. The University will also execute a construction contract with THMarsh to build the improvements.