

**New Data Center
Construction Authorization**

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors authorize the President, or his designee, to award contracts to construct a new Data Center. In September 2016, the Board of Governors authorized \$830,000 to design a new Data Center. It is further recommended that the Board of Governors authorize spending up to \$16.07M for the total project cost of \$16.9M to design and construct the facility. Funding for this project will be provided from future bonds.

Background and Project Description

The building located at 5925 Woodward Avenue was constructed in 1915 and has served as the center for computing operations at Wayne State University since 1960. The existing facility supports the University's data center, staff, and support spaces. Over the last 55 years, many changes to the facility have been made in an attempt to keep up with the demands created by newer computing equipment. However, in each case the improvements were adaptations that still relied on a base infrastructure designed for a different computing era. A portion of the roof over the computing room is a wood structure and creates a concern regarding structural integrity as well as a potential fire hazard. The air conditioning units utilized to maintain a proper operating environment for the computing equipment are extremely inefficient and beyond their useful life. The units were installed in 1996 and are controlled by a single Uninterruptible Power Source (UPS) control cabinet. In the event of a breakdown, the system would be disabled. In response to these needs and vulnerabilities, in September of 2016, the Board of Governors authorized \$830,000 to design a new Data Center.

The planned new Data Center involves construction of approximately 12,500 square feet in a single story building, adjacent to the existing Computer and Information Technology Building. The new facility will provide a current-best-practice environment to support technology functions for the University that allow for flexibility as well as future growth. The facility is designed to include staging and testing areas, a data room for network infrastructure equipment racks, and mechanical and electrical rooms with state of the art HVAC equipment, controls, and reliable power to meet the requirements of a Tier III Data Center. The facility will be buffered from Cass Avenue and Antoinette Streets by crash barrier fencing and a park-like landscape buffer.

All contracts for this project will be awarded in accordance with university policies and procedures.

Project Budget

Funding Sources	
Bonds	\$16,900,000
TOTAL Sources	\$16,900,000
Expenditures Plan	
Design Fees	\$830,000
Construction	\$14,700,000
Project Management and Contingency	\$1,470,000
TOTAL Expenditures	\$16,900,000