



CITY OF EAST LANSING MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the East Lansing City Council

FROM: Theodore J. Staton, City Manager

DATE: February 22, 2008

SUBJECT: City Center II

Attached please find a letter from MSU Provost Wilcox in which he indicates that MSU will not be relocating the MSU Museum to the proposed City Center II Project as we'd hoped. However, he clearly states that the University enthusiastically embraces the opportunity to partner with the City in realizing the vision for City Center II as a regional arts and culture destination.

As you will read, Provost Wilcox envisions using the auditorium and exhibition space to "showcase" the work of faculty, staff, students and others associated with the University. To that end, he has assigned Wharton Center director, Mike Brand, to serve as lead contact with the City as we identify opportunities for collaboration. I met with Mr. Brand at noon today to begin outlining the specifics necessary for successful collaboration. I look forward to presenting you with the recommendations that will emerge from this partnership.

Of course I am disappointed by the University's decision regarding the museum but remain very enthusiastic and reassured regarding their commitment to partner with us to develop outstanding arts programming for City Center II.

Please note that I will be sharing Provost Wilcox' letter with the Planning Commission on Monday.

MICHIGAN STATE
U N I V E R S I T Y

February 21, 2008

Ted Staton, City Manager
City of East Lansing
410 Abbott Road
East Lansing, MI 48823

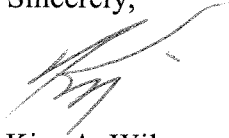
Dear Ted:

I am writing to share that we do not intend to move the MSU Museum to the City Center II development project. The University remains committed to the City and to its efforts to grow as a regional center for the arts and culture. Beyond the relocation of the Museum, we believe the City Center II project provides various opportunities for the University and the City to partner in this effort, and we look forward to pursuing those opportunities.

As I understand current plans, the project will include a 400-seat auditorium. This could provide the potential for showcasing a range of University activities from lectures to film festivals and concerts. Similarly, gallery or exhibition space in the project could provide a venue for exhibits by students, faculty, staff, or others associated with the University. We at MSU are eager to pursue these collaborations in an effort to highlight the activities of our students and faculty and to help cement East Lansing's position as a cultural center in the state and region.

I'm sure that you see the same potential for collaboration and I look forward to working with you in the coming months to help realize a shared vision of collaborative arts programming.

Sincerely,



Kim A. Wilcox
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs



OFFICE OF THE
PROVOST

Michigan State University
Administration Building
East Lansing, Michigan
48824-1046

FAX: 517/355-9601