

Contact: John Nash

REGISTER OF UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS

Actions Requested: Recommend the Board approve Permission to Proceed with Project Planning with the **UNI-Dome Fabric Roof Replacement** project, including the Design Professional selection process.

Executive Summary: This project would replace the center portion of the UNI-Dome's roof. To improve maintenance staff safety for the entire roof, additional safety lines and anchor points would also be installed. The estimated project budget of \$7,000,000 to \$8,000,000 would be funded by Gifts, Fieldhouse Fund, General Fund and/or Athletics Department funds.



University of Northern Iowa's campus, west side, looking northwest



Background: In December 2019, the University hired roofing consultants to assess the condition of the roof's center portion, a fabric structure allowing natural light into the UNI-Dome. The assessment revealed that the center portion, 25% of the entire roof, had begun deteriorating, was nearing the end of its useful life and would need to be replaced by 2024. The 2010 outer roof, 75% of the entire roof, is in good condition and under warranty through 2040.

UNI-Dome roof history:

1976 = UNI Dome was built, including an air-supported fabric roof system. It was the first indoor stadium with a full-size, air-supported fabric roof system in the United States.

1999 = UNI Dome outer roof was replaced with a 'hard,' metal roof and the roof's center portion was replaced with a better-quality fabric roof, both after 23 years.

2010 = Due to hail damage, the outer metal roof was replaced with the current PVC white roof that has a warranty through 2040. The roof's center portion was in good condition.

2019 = Independent study done to assess the roof's center portion.

2020 = Minor repairs done on the roof's center portion.

2021 = After 22 years, the roof's center portion needs replacement.

To maintain the translucent light originally provided into the UNI-Dome, this project would replace the center portion with a better fabric roof, perform maintenance on the support structure, add safety equipment to facilitate maintenance on the entire roof and update the roofs over the main entrances.

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Board Action</u>
Permission to Proceed with Project Planning	Feb. 2021	Requested



UNI-Dome's new 'hard' outer roof and the center portion's fabric roof, under construction in 1999

The UNI-Dome is one of the focal points of the University of Northern Iowa's campus. The structure provides an indoor event space for collegiate athletics, high school state football playoffs, marching band practice, intramural sports, kinesiology classes, summer camps and large events for the public. Replacing the fabric roof is one step in maintaining the integrity of the building for years to come.

