

Contact: Joan Racki

**UNIVERSITY OF IOWA MUSEUM OF ART REPLACEMENT FACILITY**

**Action Requested:** Receive the report from the University of Iowa on the replacement of the Museum of Art facility.

**Executive Summary:** In June 2008, the University of Iowa removed its noted arts collection from the Museum of Art Building hours before the building was flooded; the building sustained considerable damage. The University submitted appeals to FEMA for replacement of the museum building based on the fact that the collection could not be returned to and insured within the former structure. Those appeals were denied. Since notification that the final appeal effort had been rejected, the University advanced plans to replace the Museum of Art facility independent of federal funding.

In June 2013, the Board granted the University permission to proceed with project planning for a replacement facility. As envisioned by the University in June 2013, the establishment of the formal design process for the new museum facility would begin with a public Request for Information and Qualifications for a public/private partnership for a joint use facility; this process was approved by the Board. This public solicitation was to aid in establishing a range of potential siting options and partnerships that would meet the University's needs. The following provides an update on the University's progress and proposed next steps.

The Request for Information resulted in feedback from both local land owners/developers and nationally-based developers familiar with financing and constructing unique projects like museums of art. The information and insight gained from this process has helped the University and Lord Cultural Resources, an internationally recognized consulting firm, to draft the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) the University now plans to release.

The RFQ will invite a wide range of developers and private owners of land near the core of the University's academic campus to create teams and proposed site layout options for the University's consideration. The submittals will be reviewed by a diverse team of stakeholders, including representatives from the Museum of Art, University administration, College leadership, the Board of Regents office and the University's Museum Board and Envisioning Committee (created by President Mason following the 2008 flood event).

The RFQ submittals will be evaluated on:

- Feasibility of the proposed site(s) to meet the functional/operational needs of the University's Museum of Art and its current and anticipated collection;
- Proximity of the proposed site(s) to the core of the University's academic campus, and ease of access for University students;
- Plans related to the multi-use potential for the site(s) and how portions of the site(s) not related to the Museum of Art would be developed;
- Financial capability of the development team to deliver a project of this scale; and
- Experience of the development teams with projects of a similar scale/type and their ability to accomplish a project for one of the nation's top collegiate collections.

Following review of the submittals and on-campus interviews of the top candidates, the University will return to the Board of Regents with results of the RFQ process, which is anticipated by the end of the 2014 summer. The University will then enter into a multi-month negotiation phase with the successful development team. This phase of the project will include selection of a design consultant team, completion of the schematic design and the establishment of a proposed lease agreement. The lease agreement and schematic design will be presented for Board consideration as they are completed, consistent with Board policies.