

Maryland Association of Community Colleges
R62I0005- Capital Community College Facilities Grant Program
Fiscal Year 2021 Capital Budget
Response to Department of Legislative Services Budget Analysis

Senate Budget and Taxation Committee Capital Budget Subcommittee Senator Douglas Peters, Chair 3/2/20

House Appropriations Committee Capital Budget Subcommittee Delegate Mark Chang, Chair 3/4/20

Testimony Submitted by Dr. Bernard Sadusky, Executive Director

**Position:** Support

The Maryland Association of Community Colleges, representing all of Maryland's 16 community colleges support the Governor's capital improvement budget for our colleges and request additional consideration for the following projects:

Prince George's Community College Largo Student Center Reno./Add.

Hagerstown Community College Center for Business & Entrepreneurial Studies

Hagerstown Community College LRC Roof & Metal Replacement

The presidents or an appointed representative from each college is here to address these projects.

## **Analyst's Recommendations:**

PAYGO Recommendation- Agree GO Bond- Agree BRFA-Agree

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Testimony Submitted by
Ms. Terri Bacote-Charles, Vice President for Administrative and Financial Services

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today. I am Terri Bacote-Charles, Vice President for Administrative and Financial Services at Prince George's Community College and here to provide testimony on the capital needs of the College. Dr. Charlene Dukes, the president and I, too, share in Dr. Sadusky's appreciation for the \$80M worth of capital projects slated to receive funding in 2021, and we hope, that unlike previous years, this funding will remain intact and allow us to teach and educate students in 21<sup>st</sup> Century facilities. Prince George's Community College has been the beneficiary of state and county funding to modernize our campus, beginning with some of oldest classroom buildings, erected in 1967 at the Largo Campus.

We are here today because of administrative decisions made regarding the scope and design of Largo Student Center, a facility that opened its doors to our student body in the 1970's. It is the place on campus that serves as a focal point for the close to 40,000 students we serve today. And, as you can imagine, the needs of students have changed in almost 40 years. It is a building with a footprint and user-friendliness that does not meet the needs of today's students, from a

variety of perspectives. It lacks the space layout necessary for student and faculty engagement and sufficient group learning. It is not technologically enhanced and does not support the advanced and state-of-the art ways in which students expect to learn, think, collaborate, and grow in a collegiate environment.

We came to you during the 2019 General Assembly and requested your support for the additional \$1.5M to initiate planning. You supported our need and added \$1.5M of the \$3M total needed to plan and design Largo Student Center. We come before you because the additional \$1.5M is not included in the Governor's 2021 Capital Budget. It is important to note that community colleges have lost \$80M in capital funding over the past years

The total project always included space to meet the future needs of students engaged in learning. After lengthy discussion and an appeal process with the Department of Budget and Management, we shared that the intent of all space at the College is for students, whether we label it "Student Engagement" or "Meeting Rooms/Breakout Rooms." We have been informed that the state will not support square footage that they reference as "Assembly Space," and we have worked to clarify that it is collaborative learning spaces that magnifies how students learn and engage in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. All of the space in the proposed renovation/construction is integral to learning and serves the instructional needs of students. As the role of community colleges continues to expand, students arrive with an expectation of both the intellectual environment and the physical spaces that create synergy and collaboration.

The total project cost, inclusive of design and construction is \$64M, and Prince George's County has committed to its full share of \$23.4M. To date, the state has approved a \$53.8M project that removes 11, 422 square feet, leaving the College with a state supported gap of \$7.8M.

Once again, we are asking for your support for the \$1.5M to be included in this year's capital budget request for Maryland's community colleges and for full funding of Largo Student Center at \$64M.

Thank you for your support.



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Testimony Submitted by Dr. James Klauber

Members of the House and Senate Committees, thank you for accepting my testimony on this important legislation. Hagerstown Community College has two current projects that are currently pending before you. First, the renovation of the Center for Business and Entrepreneurial Studies bids have exceeded the allocated funding in the Governor's budget. The second project is the LRC Roof and Metal Panel Replacement which was eliminated completely by the Governor in his budget. We would request that both items be restored.

## **Center for Business and Entrepreneurial Studies**

This project has already gone to bid, and the bids received by the College were higher than expected. It is my belief that the project was underestimated at the time it was turned in to the state. The MACC request of \$2,333,000 is more representative of the actual cost from the bids received. We would ask that this difference be restored.

## **LRC Roof and Metal Panel Replacement**

The LRC roof is beyond its life expectancy and is leaking in numerous locations. The College is ready to move forward in FY 21 with the project if state funding is made available. We would respectfully ask for your consideration of \$1,115,372 to include this project in the fiscal 21 budget.