



## **FY23 CAPITAL BUDGET TESTIMONY**

**RONALD H. NOWACZYK, PRESIDENT**

### **SENATE BUDGET AND TAXATION COMMITTEE**

Capital Budget SubCommittee

*Sen. Craig J. Zucker, Chair*

Tuesday, March 15, 2022

### **HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

Capital Budget SubCommittee

*Del. Ben Barnes, Chair*

Wednesday, March 16, 2022



# FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

Ronald Nowaczyk, President

**T**hank you for the opportunity to brief you on our capital projects. To begin, I would like to thank the Governor and the General Assembly for continued support of Frostburg State University. This capital funding enables improvements that add to our students’ experiences, enhances excellence and collaboration, improves our facilities, and positively impacts the community.

## EDUCATION & HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

Progress continues on the Education & Health Sciences Building, which was made possible through previously approved funding. Unfortunately, supply chain issues have impacted our schedule for completion of the building. Most materials were purchased prior to the pandemic so we are not seeing an increase in the cost of the building, but we are seeing delays in the delivery of supplies. At this point, we anticipate at least a six-month delay in occupancy to January 2023.

### FSU’S BUILDINGS AT A GLANCE

Academic Building	Year Constructed
Old Main	1902
Lowndes Hall	1950
Pullen Hall	1959
Gunter Hall	1960
Framptom Hall	1965
Dunkle Hall	1969
Fine Arts	1969
Ort Library	1976
PE Center	1978
Guild Center (remodeled)	1986
Performing Arts Center	1993
Compton Science Center	2003
Gira Center	2014

## DEFERRED MAINTENANCE & INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

As Ms. Sara Baker noted in her analysis, Frostburg State University has a significant backlog in its facilities renewal projects, and we are very grateful to Gov. Hogan, USM Regents and the General Assembly for its recognition of the importance of these projects and to the Governor and General Assembly providing \$10 million in funding to allow us to take on these critical upgrades.

The majority of FSU buildings were built between 1960 and 1980, and those mechanical systems have surpassed their expected life. Issues caused by older infrastructure have affected academic, research, and residential properties, and, in some cases, the risk exists for longer-term disruptions. Potential energy efficiencies also have not been realized.

The major projects planned are:

- \$3 million for medium voltage upgrades, replacing oil switches, and relocating the substation to suitable above-ground, outside locations.
- \$4 million to replace roofs for the Pealer Performing Arts Center, Compton Science Center and Old Main.



Design for Education & Health Sciences Center, shown under construction on cover.

- \$1.5 million to replace the HVAC mechanical system that is shared by Dunkle Hall and Fine Arts, a system that is original to these 53-year-old buildings.
- \$1 million to replace windows in the Hitchins Administration Building and Fine Arts, original to these buildings built in the 1970s. New windows will improve energy efficiency, reduce moisture infiltration, and improve functionality.
- \$0.5 million to install a fiber line and duct bank from the Stangle maintenance building at the south end of campus to the Hitchins Administration Building in mid-campus. This investment will create a network redundancy and fiber loop that will protect the ability to provide service should a disruption occur to the existing system, a safety net that is even more important with the increased reliance on technology.



Proposed Regional Science Center - Old City Hall, Main Street, Frostburg, MD.

## LOOKING FORWARD

Frostburg State University is continuing to work on several projects to benefit the university and the region, which are consistent with our Facilities Master Plan.

## REGIONAL SCIENCE CENTER

Frostburg State University received title to the former City Hall on Main Street in Frostburg, allowing for the creation of a Regional Science Center. FSU has entered into an agreement with the national Challenger Center to provide realistic space travel and mission control simulation experiences for middle school students from across the state and region. FSU received \$3 million from the Governor's Capital Budget last session to pay for the design and renovation of the building. We are seeking additional funding to pay the national Challenger Center Network \$2.5 million for the purchase of equipment, installation, and training of staff to operate the simulations for school classes and others. To date, we have received approximately \$1 million, largely through philanthropy. We hope to have the center fully operational in the early spring of 2023.





Innovation Park/Center for Applied Research and Innovation.

## REGIONAL RECREATION CENTER

FSU has proposed a Regional Recreation Center Complex that would benefit the region's residents and FSU students. Public recreational facilities are lacking in Allegany and Garrett counties relative to other parts of Maryland and surrounding regions in Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Families in the area, with children engaged in organized sports, are often forced to travel out of state and drive more than an hour to recreation facilities. These travels have economic implications when families stay overnight, taking revenue out of state. The Regional Recreation Center would enhance the University's mission by renovating and expanding recreational facilities for FSU students and providing internship and employment opportunities for our students, while also supporting economic development and attracting additional spending in the region. The proposed complex has three components:

- A facility with indoor turf fields and supporting athletic amenities to draw tournaments and competitions to this region rather than to Morgantown, WV, or Altoona, PA.
- Improvements to existing outdoor fields (e.g., ADA-compliant stands, bathrooms, lighting, and turf fields).
- Renovation of the Cordts Physical Education Center, a 45-year-old building.



Innovation Park/FSU Research Center

## INNOVATION PARK



The generational loss in economic vitality, which has been driven by the decline in large manufacturing employment in Western Maryland, requires a change of focus and strategy. To succeed, any new approach must assure that activity in new industry sectors builds on existing assets in the region and brings in new resources and opportunities. The development of the Western Maryland Advanced Technology Center at the Frostburg State University Innovation Park is designed to bring this new strategy to fruition by building new capacity in the region's biotech laboratory sciences and IT/cyber security sectors, as well as establishing leadership in the clean energy and waste-to-value sector. A focus on development of Centers of Excellence and workforce education and training, in combination with manufacture or deployment of leading-edge technology and products in each field, will make Western Maryland and Frostburg State University a hub for several industries well into the future.

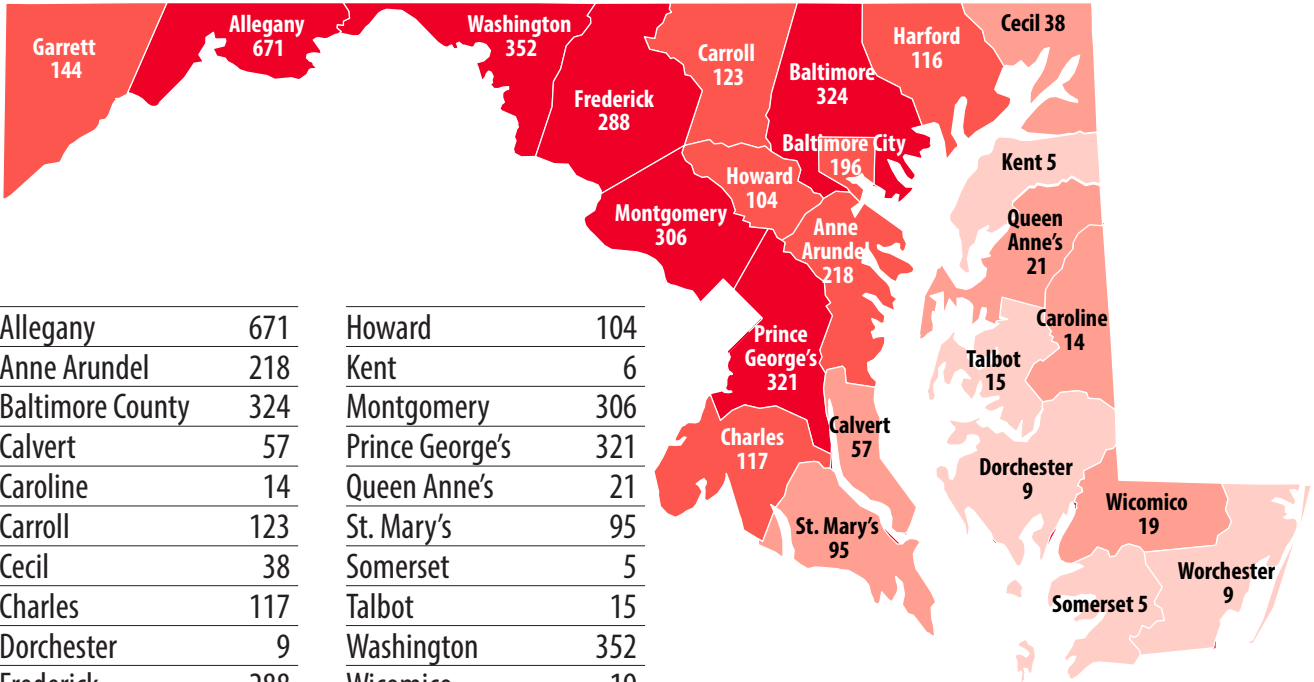
## MULTICULTURAL CENTER

The "Lincoln School" building has historical significance in that it was functioned as a school for local African American students prior to the Brown v. Board of Education decision. It continued to serve as a school in subsequent years and then as the home of the FSU Police Department. Renovation of the building, renamed the Adams/Wyche Multicultural Center at Lincoln School, has begun, in part with facilities renewal funding. FSU also received a private gift to cover 50% of the renovation costs. Asbestos abatement and demolition work inside the building are under way. In late March, plans will be determined for the design of the center. The building, which will be designed to be inclusive, historically significant, and student-centered, will also become home to the FSU Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. We anticipate the building (less than 2,000 sq. ft.) to serve as a community and campus meeting center.

*Thank you for the opportunity to testify, and I urge you to support the Governor's capital budget for Frostburg State University.*

# ADDITIONAL DATA

## Student Enrollment by Maryland County Fall 2021



Allegany	671	Howard	104
Anne Arundel	218	Kent	6
Baltimore County	324	Montgomery	306
Calvert	57	Prince George's	321
Caroline	14	Queen Anne's	21
Carroll	123	St. Mary's	95
Cecil	38	Somerset	5
Charles	117	Talbot	15
Dorchester	9	Washington	352
Frederick	288	Wicomico	19
Garrett	144	Worcester	9
Harford	116	Baltimore City	196

Maryland Residents 3,568

# 80%

Maryland Residents

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