

Interagency Commission on School Construction

Fiscal Year 2023 Capital Budget

Response to Department of Legislative Services Analysis

Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Capital Budget Subcommittee
Senator Craig J. Zucker, Chair
Tuesday, March 1, 2022

House Appropriations Committee
Capital Budget Subcommittee
Delegate Benjamin S. Barnes, Chair
Wednesday, March 2, 2022

Presenters:

- Robert Gorrell, IAC Executive Director
- Cassandra Viscarra, IAC Acting Deputy Director for Administration
- Alex Donahue, IAC Deputy Director for Field Operations
- Arabia Davis, IAC Funding Programs Manager
- Fred Mason, Chief, School Facilities Branch, Maryland State Department of Education

Thank you for your continuing support for public school construction in Maryland, and for the opportunity to report today on the capital budget for the Interagency Commission on School Construction (IAC). The Commission and their staff are tasked with a significant mission to achieve a safe, healthy, and educationally sufficient learning environment for every child attending a public school in Maryland.

The IAC has reviewed the draft budget analysis provided by the DLS analyst and concurs with the information provided, including the following recommendations:

1. Approve the Governor's \$6,109,000 general obligation bond fund authorization for the Aging Schools Program.
2. Approve the Governor's \$50,000,000 bond authorization for the Healthy School Facility Fund.
3. Approve the Governor's \$67,221,000 bond authorization for the Public School Construction Program.
4. Amend language to require that grants made under the Senator James E. "Ed" DeGrange Nonpublic Aging Schools Program must be expended within three years, at which point any unspent funds must be transferred to the Unreserved Statewide Contingency Fund. Also amend language to include additional requirements for program eligibility.
5. Approve the Governor's \$95,391,000 general obligation bond fund authorization for the Supplemental Capital Grant Program.



FY 2023 IAC Capital Budget Response

The IAC's programs are continuing to provide critical funding to all 24 Local Education Agencies and the Maryland School for the Blind. In FY 2022, the IAC approved 91 projects totaling \$370 million through the Capital Improvement Program, including funding for the Enrollment Growth and Relocatable Classroom (EGRC) program. The IAC also allocated an additional \$105 million through the Healthy School Facility Fund, including \$40 million in Federal ARPA funding, \$30 million from FY 2022, and \$35 million that carried over from FY 2021 and prior funding years. Through the Built to Learn Act program, the IAC has been making approvals on a rolling basis and so far has approved over \$700 million in funding since May 2021.

We look forward to continuing to work with the General Assembly and all of our stakeholders to provide funding as well as technical expertise and support to each of Maryland's LEAs to benefit every student in Maryland.