

Wes Moore Governor

Aruna Miller Lt. Governor

Mary Pat Seurkamp, Ph.D. Chair

Maryland Higher Education Commission FY 2024 Capital Budget Maryland Higher Education Commission - Capital Response to Department of Legislative Services Analysis

> Senate Budget and Taxation Subcommittee on Capital Budget Senator Craig J. Zucker, Chair February 28, 2023

> House Appropriations Subcommittee on Capital Budget Delegate Mark S. Chang, Chair March 1, 2023

PAYGO Recommended Actions

(Pg. 2) 1. Concur with the Governor's allowance.

MHEC Response: MHEC concurs with the recommended action.

GO Bond Recommended Actions

(Pg. 2) 1. Approve all authorizations and the preauthorizations for the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

MHEC Response: MHEC concurs with the recommended action.

Community College Construction Grant Program

(Pg. 3) MHEC should comment on the factors that have prevented the CCCGP from being funded at the full \$80 million annual planned funding level in recent fiscal years.

MHEC Response: One factor is that colleges have requested a smaller number of less expensive projects in the last few years. This is partially due to when colleges individually have planned to complete their projects and partially due to when they have been able to secure matching commitments from their sponsoring counties. However, based on five year capital improvement plans submitted to MHEC by the colleges, and subject to program approval and matching commitments from sponsoring counties, it is anticipated that the number and cost of projects to be requested in future years will once again increase such that the \$80 million planned amount will be required.

The other factor is that schedule adjustments due to supply chain issues and other circumstances have necessitated that funding planned for some projects be pre-authorized in future years. For example, last year it was anticipated that fiscal 2024 was going to be the final year that funding would be needed for the

Harford Community College Chesapeake Welcome Center and the Prince George's Community College Marlboro Hall Renovation/Expansion projects. However, timelines for both of these projects have been extended well into fiscal 2025. Significant funding for each of these projects is now recommended to be pre-authorized in fiscal 2025 rather than being authorized in fiscal 2024 as previously planned.