TOPIC: Bowie State University: Facilities Master Plan Update

COMMITTEE: Finance

DATE OF COMMITTEE MEETING: October 6, 2011 (presentation and information)

SUMMARY: Bowie State University requests Board of Regents approval of this update to its 2002 Facilities Master Plan (FMP).

Bowie State University (BSU) is in a bucolic setting centrally located on a scenic and serene wooded tract next to the City of Bowie, between the metropolitan areas of Baltimore (25 miles), Washington D.C. (17 miles), and Annapolis (15 miles). Established in 1865, BSU is the oldest of the four Historically Black Institutions of higher learning in the State of Maryland and the fifth oldest in the nation. Offering 20 bachelor’s degree programs, 20 master’s degree programs, and two doctoral degree programs, BSU is one of 11 degree-granting institutions in the University System of Maryland (USM). The campus is comprised of 342 acres, consisting of 23 buildings with over 1.3 million gross square feet (GSF) of academic and auxiliary space. As per the fall 2009 SGAP report, the university has a space deficit of 370,000 net assignable square feet or about 600,000 GSF.

The University has followed the 2002 FMP. Since the previous 2002-2012 Facilities Master Plan, dated June 2004, the University has undertaken several capital projects. Those include: Site Development—development of the primary quadrangles, open spaces, walkways, street lighting, water service, completion of Loop Road and a 325 car parking lot; New Computer Science Building; Center for Business & Graduate Studies; Christa McAullife Residential Community; replacement of the campus main electrical switchgear; installation of turf on the athletic field; campus storm water management (currently under construction); Fine & Performing Arts Center (currently under construction); Campus Wide Electrical Upgrades (currently under construction); roof replacement (on-going); and campus wide technology upgrades. The campus facilities inventory includes 23 buildings that contain approximately 1.4 million gross square feet, which is about 830,000 net assignable square feet. However, the University has seen an enrollment growth of about 13% in the last five years and expects growth to approach 34% by the end of the plan period 2020. When space deficits and surpluses were computed as a result of enrollment and staffing projections against the space inventory, the outcome was a projected 2019 overall space deficit of 112, 578 NASF.

Bowie State University’s Facilities Master Plan update is based on the University’s mission and Strategic Plan. The update addresses the accomplishments, needs and aspirations of Bowie State University at a time of historic and projected enrollment growth, growing facilities needs, and an economic downturn with impacts on public budgets. The Plan acknowledges the current fiscal realities facing capital planning while keeping the needs of the institution as paramount, within the long-range vision. This FMP should be viewed as a fluid document that is a conceptual tool and guide for making decisions regarding Bowie State University’s physical resources.

The plan was developed through a collaborative effort on the campus that involved faculty, staff, student representatives, Prince George’s County, and the City of Bowie. It builds upon the university’s commitment to evolve into a more sustainable campus including incorporation of
LEED standards for new and major renovation projects, greening of the campus and continual improvements to energy efficiency.

The Master Plan addresses the physical infrastructure to accommodate the growth in the changing character of the University and the deficit in quality academic facilities resulting from twenty years during which no new buildings were opened (1979 and 2000). The Plan gives particular attention to functional efficiency and aesthetics as it envisions a campus that will eventually house up to three thousand students and may grow to an enrollment well over 7,300. The needs of a rich and textured campus environment to also support academic and student life are evident from the proposed Student Center, Natural Sciences, Residence Halls, Steam Plant Renovation (Public Safety), McKeldin Gymnasium Renovation (Fitness Center), Humanities Building, Thurgood Marshall Library Renovation, Facilities & Maintenance Building, Stadium Expansion, and Athletic Fields projects.

Proposed capital projects include a new Natural Sciences Building, a Humanities Building and a building for the School of Education in addition to the other student life buildings previously mentioned. With the future expansion of high quality academic programs and an environment that welcomes all people, Bowie State University will fulfill the promise it holds for Maryland.

**ALTERNATIVE(S):** The FMP update documents BSU’s institutional long term planning objectives and is consistent with the 2002 FMP, the University’s mission, strategic plan, academic plan, and current enrollment growth projections.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The FMP Update will present a challenge to the capital and operating budgets to implement. Approval of the Plan Update does not imply approval of capital projects or funding. These items will be reviewed through the normal procedures of the capital and operating budget processes.

**CHANCELLOR’S RECOMMENDATION:** That the Finance Committee consider Bowie State University Facilities Master Plan Update and materials as presented today for formal action at the Committee’s next meeting in November, in accordance with the Board’s two-step approval process.

Approval of the Plan Update does not imply approval of capital projects or funding. These items will be reviewed through the normal procedures of the capital and operating budget processes.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** Accepted for information purposes.

**DATE:** 10/06/11

**BOARD ACTION:**

**DATE:**

**SUBMITTED BY:**