TOPIC: University of Baltimore: Facilities Master Plan Update

COMMITTEE: Finance

DATE OF COMMITTEE MEETING: March 17, 2011 (presentation and information)
June 14, 2011 (action)

SUMMARY: The University of Baltimore (UB) requests Board of Regents approval of this 2010 update to its 2004–2014 Facilities Master Plan (FMP).

The University of Baltimore is strategically positioned in the geographic center of Baltimore City. With over 6,500 students, the University provides accessible, quality undergraduate, graduate and law education as well as resources for local, regional and statewide communities and businesses through outreach and partnerships. Receiving the Carnegie Foundation’s “community engaged” classification, UB has helped lead the recent social and economic revitalization of midtown.

The campus is comprised of 11.5 acres spanning 6 blocks, consisting of 12 buildings with an average age of 62 years old, containing 872,052 gross square feet (GSF) of academic, auxiliary and parking facilities. Per the fall 2010 SGAP report, the University has a space deficit of 101,206 net assignable square feet or about 127,000 GSF.

Since the 2004 FMP was approved, UB opened the signature Student Center, completed the renovation of the historic Liberal Arts and Policy Building, oversaw the construction and opening of the $77 million public/private partnership with Bozzuto Development Group known as The Fitzgerald at UB Midtown, completed design and initiated construction of the new John and Francis Angelos Law Center, and began the campus streetscape project. Most significantly, in 2007, UB welcomed its first freshman class in 32 years, marking the University’s return to four year undergraduate education. Undergraduate enrollment increased by 33.7% in the past 4 years. Overall growth of 1,553 students since 2006 has, however, limited the University’s efforts to significantly cut the existing campus space deficit.

The 2010 FMP supports the University’s mission and 2008-2012 Strategic Plan. The plan builds upon the framework established in the 2004 FMP and addresses physical planning aspects associated with the University’s planned enrollment growth. Through new construction, renovation, acquisition and disposal, the 2010 FMP addresses the existing space deficit and provides the additional academic and auxiliary space to support future enrollment growth.

The 2010 FMP advances the University’s commitment to develop a more sustainable urban campus. The Campus Climate Action Plan aspires to achieve carbon neutrality by 2040. Ongoing initiatives will include promoting the campus as a public transit hub, pursuing energy conservation initiatives and renewable energy alternatives, and advancing the new law school design to meet the highest standards of sustainable design.

ALTERNATIVE(S): The 2010 FMP documents institutional long term planning objectives and is consistent with the 2004 FMP, the University’s mission, strategic plan and the current enrollment growth projections. Unanticipated enrollment growth, the development of detailed facility programs, and a desire to meet unexpected State of Maryland workforce and societal needs may require additional master plan studies in the future.
FISCAL IMPACT: The Facilities Master Plan 2010 will present a challenge to the capital and operating budgets to secure funding to support the Plan. Approval of the Plan 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 recommend that the Board of Regents approve the University of Baltimore’s Facilities Master Plan Update and materials as presented in March.

Approval of the Plan 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: 

DATE:

BOARD ACTION: 

DATE:

SUBMITTED BY: Joseph F. Vivona 

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