TOPIC: Frostburg State University: Facilities Master Plan Update

COMMITTEE: Finance

DATE OF COMMITTEE MEETING: September 1, 2011 (presentation and information)
October 6, 2011 (Action)

SUMMARY: Frostburg State University requests Board of Regents approval of this update to its 2001 Facilities Master Plan (FMP).

Frostburg State University (FSU) is located in Allegany County in the mountains of western Maryland. The University is the State’s only institution of higher education west of Frederick. The University has an enrollment of 5,470, most of whom are undergraduate students. FSU awarded 767 undergraduate degrees and 229 graduate degrees in FY 2010, in 45 bachelor’s and 17 master’s degree programs. The campus is comprised of 265 acres with 45 buildings having over 1.5 million gross square feet of space.

The University used the 2001 FMP to guide its development of an updated plan in support of the University System of Maryland Strategic Plan, “Powering Maryland Forward” and the Frostburg State University Strategic Plan. Several recommendations included in the approved plan have been implemented including: demolition of Tawes Hall for the construction of the Center for Communication and Information Technology, renovation and addition to the Lane University Center. Additionally, the University has acquired several properties included in its acquisition zone.

The FMP Update builds upon the 2001 plan and is based on the University’s mission and Strategic Plan. The plan update is based on the fact that the current inventory of buildings does not meet the needs of the University’s academic and service programs. There is an urgent need for technologically enhanced instructional space as well as a need to reduce dependency on inappropriate space. Key features of the Master Plan Update include: construction of two new classroom buildings and a new residence hall, and the renovation of four existing buildings, all necessary for the University to fulfill its mission and address the backlog of facilities renewal and deferred maintenance. The Master Plan Update, like the 2001 FMP, is optimistic and is based on a commitment of adequate capital funding.

The Plan Update also builds upon the University’s commitment to evolve into a more sustainable campus. All aspects of the updated plan have sustainability recommendations and requirements, including incorporation of LEED standards for new and major renovation projects, “greening” of the campus and continual improvements to energy efficiency.

ALTERNATIVE(S): The FMP Update documents FSU’s long-term planning objectives and is consistent with the University’s mission, strategic plan and the 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 recommend that the Board of Regents approve the Frostburg State University Facilities Master Plan Update and materials as presented in September, 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: DATE:

BOARD ACTION: DATE:

SUBMITTED BY: Joseph F. Vivona (301) 445-1923