TOPIC: The Universities at Shady Grove: Facilities Master Plan Update

COMMITTEE: Finance

DATE OF COMMITTEE MEETING: October 17, 2013 (presentation and information)

SUMMARY: The Universities at Shady Grove requests Board of Regents approval of this 2013 update to its 2003 Facilities Master Plan (FMP).

The Universities at Shady Grove (USG) is located in Montgomery County in Rockville, Maryland, at the southern edge of the Shady Grove Life Sciences Center. The campus is comprised of 52 acres with three buildings having over 300,000 gross square feet (GSF) of space, as well as one parking structure.

USG is the largest of the State's regional higher education centers with more than 4,000 students enrolled in 80 degree programs from nine different USM universities. Degree programs offered include both undergraduate (upper-level only) and graduate programs for both full-time and part-time students in day, evening and weekend formats. USG provides access to affordable higher education by bringing high-demand programs from USM institutions throughout the State to one central location in Montgomery County.

USG has used the 2003 FMP to guide its development. Several recommendations included in the approved plan have been implemented, including the Camille Kendall Academic Center (Building III) which opened in 2007 and the first parking garage which opened in 2009.

The FMP Update builds upon the 2003 plan and is based on USG’s mission and strategic plan. As USG has evolved since 2000, it has grown into a vibrant campus with a diverse student population that offers degree programs that meet the needs of the employers in the region. Key features of the Plan Update include: a new 220,000 GSF Biomedical Sciences & Engineering Education Building (BSE) to build the specialized space necessary for high-demand degree programs to meet the needs of the region's projected workforce in healthcare, biosciences, engineering and STEM education; a new 700-space parking structure; creation of a new gateway off of Shady Grove Road; and a commitment to sustainable practices. The Plan Update, like the 2003 FMP, is opportunity based. Planned projects are being phased to allow for multiple projects that will not disrupt normal activities on the growing campus.

The Plan Update builds upon the USG's commitment to evolve into a more sustainable campus. All aspects of the built environment have sustainability recommendations and requirements, including incorporation of a high level of LEED standards for new and major renovation projects, “greening” of the campus; improving and encouraging fuel-efficient and public transportation to reduce greenhouse gases on the commuter campus; certifying Buildings I and II under the LEED-EB program for existing buildings; and continual improvements to energy efficiency.

ALTERNATIVE(S): The FMP Update documents USG's long-term planning objectives and is consistent with the center'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 consider the Universities at Shady Grove Facilities Master Plan Update and materials as presented today for formal action at the Committee’s next meeting; subsequently recommending approval to the full Board of Regents for their December 2013 meeting, in accordance with the Board’s two-step approval process.

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**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

**DATE:**

**BOARD ACTION:**

**DATE:**

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

Facilities Master Plan (FMP) Update

October 4, 2013
Universities at Shady Grove

The Universities at Shady Grove (USG) is located in Montgomery County in Rockville, Maryland, at the southern edge of the Shady Grove Life Sciences Center. USG is the largest of the State’s regional higher education centers with more than 4,000 students enrolled in 80 degree programs from nine different USM universities. Degree programs offered include both undergraduate (upper-level only) and graduate programs for both full-time and part-time students in day, evening and weekend formats. USG provides access to affordable higher education by bringing high-demand programs from USM institutions throughout the State to one central location in Montgomery County. The campus is comprised of 52 acres with three buildings having over 300,000 gross square feet (GSF) of space, as well as one parking structure.

USG’s mission is:

“To support and expand pathways to affordable, high-quality public higher education that meet the distinctive needs of our region and are designed to support workforce and economic development in the state. To achieve these goals through partnerships and collaborations with academic, business, public sector and community organizations that promote student success, high academic achievement and professional advancement.”

USG has become nationally recognized for its academic/instructional model, one that is predicated on effective partnering among USM institutions, area community colleges, and local employers such as the Montgomery County Public Schools, Marriott International, Adventist Healthcare, Lockheed Martin and the federal government. Through its strong relationships with these partners, USG is able to expand access to advanced degrees that meet specific workforce needs and help assure students post-graduation career opportunities within the region.

USG’s mission and its future growth are in close alignment with key elements of both the Maryland State Plan for Postsecondary Education and the USM Strategic Plan; providing access to a high quality, affordable education, improving the state’s workforce through targeted academic and professional degree programs, and focusing on comprehensive, high quality services that place students at the center of the learning process to insure retention and degree completion.

USG’s future growth is intimately tied to the future of Montgomery County and the surrounding region. With the most educated workforce in Maryland, the county houses the largest collection of health, bioscience and information technology companies in the state. This region continues to experience increased need for trained scientists, research support staff and other highly skilled knowledge workers. In addition, growing the number of locally-educated STEMM graduates in the region is dependent on increasing the number of teachers who are trained in STEMM areas.
Purpose of the Update to the Master Plan

USG has used the 2003 FMP to guide its development. Several recommendations included in the approved plan have been implemented, including the Camille Kendall Academic Center (Building III) opened in 2007 and the first parking garage opened in 2009.

The FMP Update builds upon the 2003 plan and is based on USG’s mission and strategic plan. As USG has evolved since 2000, it has grown into a vibrant campus with a diverse student population that offers degree programs that meet the need of the employers in the region. Key features of the Plan Update include: a new 220,000 GSF Biomedical Sciences & Engineering Education Building (BSE) to build the specialized space necessary for high-demand degree programs to meet the needs of the region’s projected workforce in healthcare, biosciences, engineering and STEM education; a new 700-space parking structure; creation of a new gateway off of Shady Grove Road; and commitment to sustainable practices. The Plan Update, like the 2003 FMP, is opportunity based. Planned projects are being phased to allow for multiple projects that will not disrupt normal activities on this growing campus.

The Plan Update builds upon the USG’s commitment to evolve into a more sustainable campus. All aspects of the built environment have sustainability recommendations and requirements, including incorporation of a high level of LEED standards for new and major renovation projects, “greening” of the campus; improving & encouraging fuel-efficient and public transportation to reduce greenhouse gasses on this commuter campus; certifying Buildings I and II under the LEED-EB program for existing buildings; and continual improvements to energy efficiency.

The previous Master Plan that was approved was for 980,000 gross square feet (GSF). The update remains consistent with the previous Master Plan 980,000 gross square feet (GSF) proposed build out.

The update follows the previous framework for guiding the future fiscal development on the site for the next ten years and beyond for academic and research facilities, parking, roads, utilities, infrastructure and open space. The updated plan continues with the development opportunities that the previous plan defined.
Master Plan Summary

USG continues to support the four major elements of the vision of the campus, as per the original Master Plan:

- The University System of Maryland promotes the creation of a 21st Century learning/teaching and research environment.
- The University System of Maryland supports the linkage between Shady Grove Center and the Shady Grove Live Sciences Center.
- The University System of Maryland promotes ecological stewardship.
- The University System of Maryland supports responsible development.
The Master Plan provides guidelines as to planning the campus for further growth and expansion. This was done in accordance with seven Design Principles:

1. To create an open space network that respects, augments and amplifies existing site natural amenities; an open space system that is ordered, park-like and accommodating of passive recreation; and an open space network that is pedestrian oriented, predominantly vehicle free and unifies facilities.
2. To create a pedestrian environment that is auto-free and is linked to the surrounding community.
3. To create a vehicular circulation, service and parking system that will separate pedestrian and vehicles without compromising necessary access to facilities.
4. To create a total development of buildings, roads and infrastructure on the site that will be commensurate with Sustainable Design and Smart Growth objectives
5. To create a development plan that balances density and open space and provides for future flexibility in development of the site.
6. To create a Landscaping Plan that enhances the open space system and provides a gradual transition from the natural areas of the site to the man-made.
7. To create building guidelines that establishes human scaled spaces and consistent massing and architectural expression with existing development to guide development into the future.

Below is a current diagram of locations of planned capital projects: