



**TOPIC:** University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC): Increase in Authorization for the Campus Traffic Safety & Circulation Improvements Project

**COMMITTEE:** Finance

**DATE OF COMMITTEE MEETING:** January 30, 2014

**SUMMARY:** UMBC requests authorization to increase by \$1,500,000 the total project cost to \$14,462,000. The State Legislature previously approved \$12,962,000 in capital funds for the design and construction of the Campus Traffic Safety and Circulation Improvements project along UMBC Boulevard and Hilltop Circle. Due to the importance of the project for effective and safe pedestrian and vehicle mobility on campus and so that the current project schedule can be maintained, the University proposes to cover the budget shortfall with appropriate self-support and auxiliary fund balances. Construction is scheduled to begin May 2014 to facilitate an August 2015 completion. Maintaining this schedule will insure that the safety and circulation improvements are in place for the start of the Fall 2015 semester.

Upon completion of the schematic design documents, the estimated project cost exceeded the available project budget even though the scope remained consistent with the approved program. The University worked with the project team to identify areas for economizing which would not sacrifice the project mission. The current design includes those features essential to: address vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle safety and circulation hazards; improve safety at the intersection of UMBC Boulevard and Research Park Drive; increase the carrying capacity on UMBC Boulevard; improve pedestrian access from visitor parking to the academic core; and maintain service access.

Deviations between the preliminary budgetary estimate and the schematic design estimate are primarily a result of stormwater management, hardscape features, and unforeseen conditions. The design incorporates expanded pedestrian and vehicular routes for safe and efficient access to and from visitor and staff parking. Unforeseen utility duct failures must be remedied. Expanded stormwater retention areas and stream management strategies are necessary to protect local watersheds and satisfy MDE requirements.

**CONTRACTOR:** Whiting-Turner Contracting Co., Baltimore, MD

**ALTERNATIVE(S):** Construction would be delayed by one or more years until state capital funding could be secured. During the delay, the current unsafe conditions will persist.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** Use of self-support/auxiliary fund balances, including parking and transportation funds.

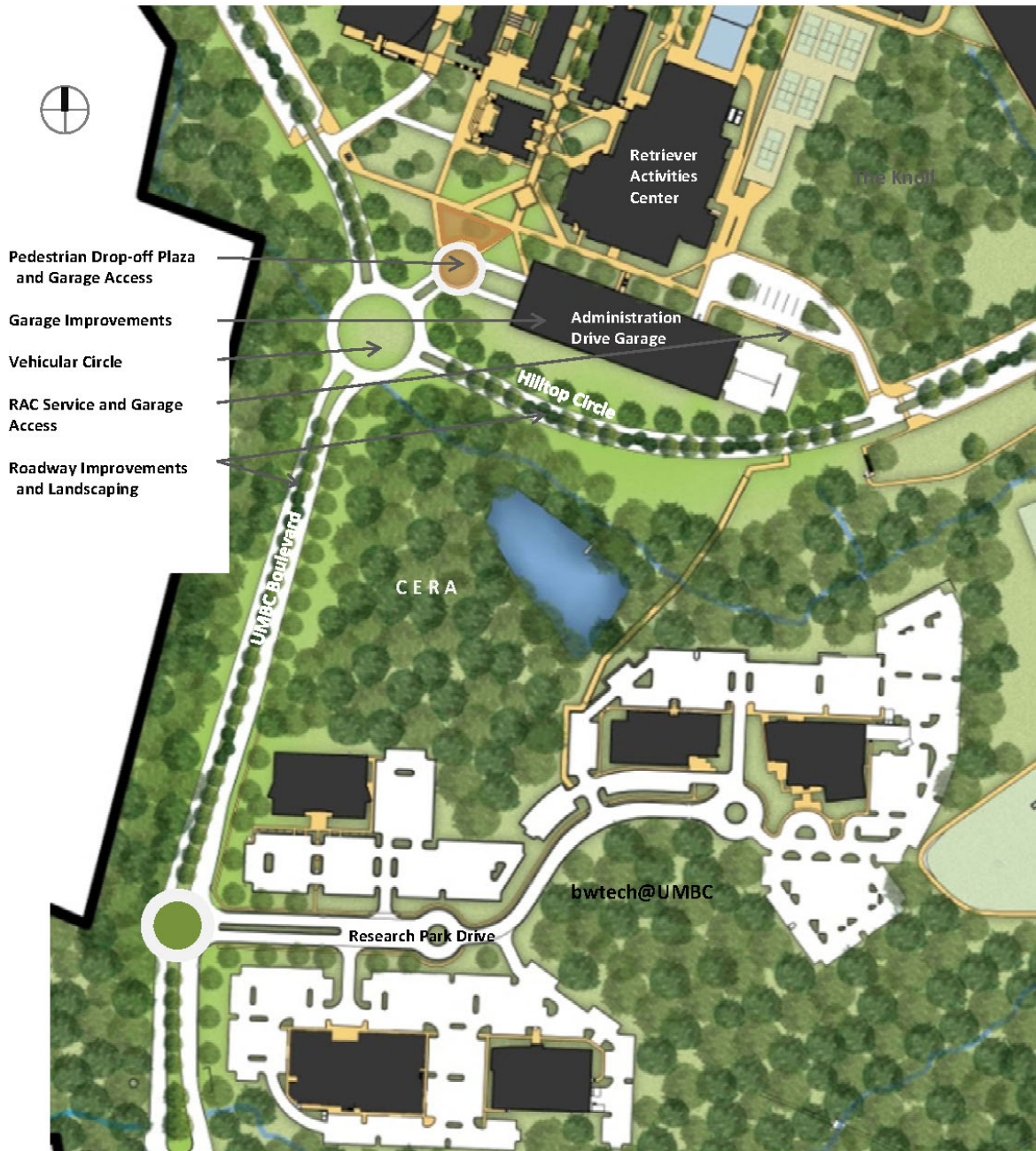
**CHANCELLOR’S RECOMMENDATION:** That the Finance Committee recommend that the Board of Regents approve an increase to the total project cost authorization for the Campus Traffic Safety & Circulation Improvements project from \$12,962,000 to \$14,462,000 as described above.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

BOARD ACTION: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Figure 4.7: Campus Traffic Safety and Circulation Improvements Proposed Concept



Rendering and Concept Plan by Ayers/Saint/Gross