

**TOPIC:** University of Maryland Eastern Shore: Construction of an Agricultural Research and Education Center

**COMMITTEE:** Finance

**DATE OF MEETING:** January 25, 2018

**SUMMARY:** The University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) requests Board approval for a construction project to establish an Agricultural Research and Education Center (AgREC) on its campus.

The proposed Center is planned as an agricultural research, teaching and extension facility totaling approximately 16,200 NASF and 23,100 GSF including: a small tiered auditorium, specialized research laboratories (Soil & Water Quality, Microbiology/Plant Pathology, Genomics/Molecular Biology, and Animal Science), and meeting rooms, as well as researcher, extension agent, and staff offices and support spaces. The project also encompasses three (3) Research Greenhouses, including a head house, that represent 6,000 NASF and 7,500 GSF of the total project, including: walk-in growth chambers, soil handling and plant preparation areas, washing stations for large and small pots/trays, and walk-in cold rooms for storing water, soil, and plant samples and seeds.

The project is expected to cost \$9.5 million dollars and the source of the funding will be as follows:

• USDA-NIFA 1890 CBG Program (in hand):	\$3,621,780.00
• USDA-NIFA 1890 CBG Program (anticipated in 2018):	\$ 806,689.00
• Insurance Recovery Damage to Hydroponic Greenhouse:	\$2,557,276.97
• Reimbursable Deductible for Greenhouse from State:	<u>\$2,500,000.00</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$9,485,745.97</b>

The insurance recovery dollars have been deposited in the UMES account and the State Director for Insurance, Ms. Joyce Miller, has confirmed the availability of reimbursable deductible of \$2.5 million.

The proposed project location for the new AgREC facility is the Hydroponic Greenhouse site, adjacent to and just east of the Food Science and Technology Center. The AgREC will replace a large commercial greenhouse that was partially destroyed by fire in 2011 and rendered unusable. The commercial greenhouse structures will be demolished. The new School of Pharmacy and Health Professions building will be located in the same locality. This prominent campus site is located directly north of and across College Backbone Road from the new academic building, the Engineering & Aviation Science Building. Convenient parking for the AgREC and the Food Science and Technology Center is a project requirement. Pedestrian connection is required to/from the proposed project and the Engineering & Aviation Science Building, as well as the Crop Research & Aquaculture Building located less than 100 yards further south on the UMES Research & Teaching farm.

- The proposed new AgREC facility will be one story structure.
- The teaching, research laboratory and office component of the project should respect the architecture and Class A brick construction that is characteristic of adjacent major academic buildings, e.g. Food Science & Technology and Engineering & Aviation Science.

- The research greenhouses and headhouse support spaces should incorporate and reflect best practices for these specialized facilities.
- The AgREC facility will need to be set back from Backbone Road so as not to be visually overwhelmed by the much larger Aviation Science & Engineering Building across the road. Landscaping, including mature trees, will also be required to mitigate the close presence of the large Engineering & Aviation Science building.
- Vehicular access will occur from Marion Road at the rear of the site, as is presently the case, as well as from Backbone Road into a new parking area on the western edge of the project site.
- At least forty (40) parking spaces will be required on site to accommodate the new AgREC facility and unmet parking capacity needs of the Food Science & Technology building. The project budget will determine the extent of the feasible parking capacity beyond the initial forty (40) parking spaces

This new facility will greatly enhance deliver of research, extension and teaching programs in agriculture at UMES and support economic development activities on the Eastern Shore, therefore also fulfilling the purposes which were originally envisaged when the Hydroponic Greenhouse was constructed.

**ALTERNATIVES:** The University could pass on this project and opportunity; however, that would suggest that no new teaching, research and extension facilities are required and that replacement of the dysfunctional Hydroponic Greenhouse is not required. That option presents no advantages and severely impedes institutional growth and mission delivery. Furthermore, it the thwarts advancement of the University’s 1890 Land-Grant mission, perpetuates outdated agricultural instructional and research facilities, and inhibits progress of agricultural research programs and facilities that should be replaced so they do not continue to deteriorate.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The sources of funds for this development are the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) 1890 Facilities Grant Program made available for land-grant institution teaching, research and extension education programs, Insurance Recovery from the damage to the hydroponic greenhouse and the reimbursible deductible from the State Treasurer. This funds are currently available to the University. There are no other anticipated capital costs associated with this development and operating costs are not expected to be significant.

**CHANCELLOR’S RECOMMENDATION:** That the Finance Committee recommend the Board of Regents approve for the University of Maryland Eastern Shore the construction of an Agricultural Research and Education Center in the amount shown for the purpose of agricultural research, teaching and extension including support for economic development activities on the Eastern Shore using USDA 1890 Land Grant Program.

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COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

DATE:

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BOARD ACTION:


DATE:

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SUBMITTED BY: Ellen Herbst (301) 445-1923

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# 2016–2025 Master Plan Sites for New Construction & Planned Renovations

**Sites for New Construction**  
 New Building Site  
 Potential Large Site  
 Planned Renovation

## Potential Sites for Academic New Construction

- NC2 New Frederick Douglass Library
- NC5 Pharmacy & Health Professions (Phases I & II)
- NC6 Agricultural Research and Education Center
- NC8 Academic Building
- NC9 Criminal Justice Center & Police Station
- NC12 Academic Building

## Potential Sites for Residential New Construction

- NC3 Residential Dorm
- NC4 Residential Dorm(s)
- NC10 Hawk's Landing Expansion
- NC11 Residential Dorm

## Potential Sites for Athletics New Construction

- NC12 Tawes Replacement
- NC14 Field House
- NC18 Potential Stadium Location (10,000 seat)

## Potential Sites for Specialty or Support New Construction

- NC1 Welcome Center
- NC7 Farm Support (replacement facilities)
- NC13 President's House (replacement)
- NC15 Expanded WESM Radio Station
- NC16 Potential Conference Center Option
- NC17 Potential Conference Center Option

## Planned Sites for Renovation

- R1 Kiah Hall Renovation
- R2 Carver Hall Renovation & Addition
- R3 Wilson Hall Renovation
- R4 Performing Arts Renovation & Addition
- R5 Trigg Hall Renovation
- R6 Arts & Technologies Building Renovation
- R7 J. T. Williams Building Renovation
- R8 Nuttle Hall Renovation
- R9 Murphy Hall & Annex Renovation
- R10 Court Plaza Renovation
- R11 Plaza Residence Renovation
- R12 University Terrace Renovation



**Agricultural  
Research &  
Education Center**