Comprehensive Five-Year Capital Outlay Plan

FY 2015

Submitted November 1, 2013
Plan Overview

The FY2015 comprehensive five-year plan reflects adjustments to estimated project costs and program priorities outlined in the FY 2013 plan. Among the modifications, Muskegon Community College is requesting consideration of $4,646,835 as part of the $9,287,000 designated to meet its most pressing capital construction need – the construction of a Science Laboratory Center on campus.

Muskegon Community College has adequate cash reserves to meet the matching obligation for the $4,646,835 that has been set aside for this purpose. The College also has the ability to bond for the amount if necessary.

Muskegon Community College has a Facilities Master Plan and a Strategic Plan that are used to guide future funding requests [http://www.muskegoncc.edu/masterplan](http://www.muskegoncc.edu/masterplan) [http://www.muskegoncc.edu/pages/2661.asp](http://www.muskegoncc.edu/pages/2661.asp)

Since 1929, Muskegon Community College has been accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association (HLD/NCA).

Muskegon Community College looks forward to its continued and successful partnership with the State of Michigan and to meeting the needs of its students, the community and the state.
I. Mission Statement

Muskegon Community College, an associate degree-granting institution of higher education, is a center for lifelong learning which provides persons the opportunity to attain their educational goals by offering programs that respond to individual, community and global needs. To fulfill its mission, MCC is committed to:

1. Prepare students for successful transfer to four-year colleges and universities, and enable students to pursue higher-level degree opportunities through our local partnerships with university programs.

2. Prepare students in critical thinking, communication and long-term learning skills for the changing challenges of the future.

3. Develop technical and vocational skills necessary to enter and/or advance in the technologically sophisticated workplace of the 21st century.

4. Provide for the assessment and/or improvement of learning skills and attitudes necessary for a successful educational experience.

5. Meet the unique educational, cultural, and societal needs in the community through special courses, seminars, and exhibits.

6. Respond in a rapid fashion to the ever-changing educational and training needs of local and regional business and industry.

7. Stimulate intellectual curiosity, promote humanitarian values and enhance the general educational experiences necessary for persons to function as effective citizens.

8. Create an atmosphere where diversity is acknowledged and encouraged.

9. Provide comprehensive student services that are conducive to student learning and satisfaction in all facets of the college experience and appropriate to an open door community college.
II. Instructional Programming

a. Muskegon Community College offers a wide array of programs to students for a well-rounded education. The academic departments are dedicated to providing students with the tools, incentives, and knowledge required to get a great start on their career path and to build critical job skills.

1. Associate in Science and Arts Degree
Students wishing to major in a program that requires you to transfer to a four-year college, such as Social Work or Computer Science, should complete this degree enabling them to transfer to bachelor degree-granting colleges and universities with advanced standing. Students graduating from Muskegon Community College with an Associate in Science and Arts Degree are generally admitted to the bachelor degree-granting institutions with junior year standing.

2. Associates in Applied Science Degree
The Associate in Applied Science Programs (Business, Allied Health, Technology) were designed in conjunction with active advisory committees so that a student may reasonably expect employment upon successful completion of his/her degree work. The Associate in Applied Science Degree may also be used as a transfer degree to a limited number of baccalaureate programs, but A.A.S. degree programs are not specifically designed to transfer to four-year colleges or universities.

3. Certificates
Certificates are offered in many of the same occupationally-oriented programs as the Associate in Applied Science Degrees but are not as comprehensive in nature. These certificate programs were developed with the assistance of an advisory committee, and students may reasonably expect employment upon completion of these programs.

b. Unique characteristics of MCC's academic mission include:

1. Program Outreach
MCC currently has six extension centers throughout Muskegon, Newaygo, and Ottawa counties. The extension centers are Muskegon Area Career Technical Center, Fremont Quest High School, Newaygo County Regional Educational Service Agency (NCRESA), The Stream in the City of Newaygo, and the Grand Haven Community Center. In the fall of 2013, Muskegon Community College began offering classes in Hart (Oceana County) and Coopersville (Ottawa County). Muskegon Community College continues to offer high quality college courses in surrounding communities where there are very few post-secondary options. In addition to the traditional course format, many courses are available via Distance
Education (online). Taking courses online continues to be a convenient course option for working adults, students who live far away, and many others.

2. Continuing Education
Continuing Education (CE) provides lifelong learning opportunities to enrich and extend the student’s knowledge and experiences. The CE programs may be available on our campus or completely online. Continuing Education Unit credits (CEUs) may be offered for professions that require regular upgrading for certification. Special seminars to meet the training needs of specific organizations can be arranged. Information about courses, workshops, seminars, and special events is published twice each year in the OPTIONS Continuing Education/Community Services Schedule of Classes. Copies are distributed to the public and are available at the College and online.

3. Lakeshore Business and Industrial Service Center
The Center provides customized instruction in virtually every area for local business and industry through workshops, seminars, college classes and consulting services. Training may be held on campus or at the workplace, depending on the particular needs of the company. Instructors and trainers are selected from the College faculty, area working professionals and specialty consultants. Training may be for either college credit or non-credit. Staff members from the Business and Industrial Service Center are available to help design specialized courses and provide resources and materials for business needs.

4. Articulated Agreements
The purpose of articulated credit is to provide a mechanism which will enable advanced technology credit to transfer to Muskegon Community College, thereby granting equivalent college credits to students for identified task competencies achieved in secondary programs. "Articulation" means the process by which Advanced Technical Credit will be approved and accepted from one educational institution to another. Muskegon Community College has signed Articulated Agreements with the following higher education partners: Western Michigan University, Grand Valley State University, Ferris State University and recently North Western Michigan College. These agreements continue to give our students the ability to seamlessly transfer to four-year programs.

5. Direct Credit
Direct credit opportunities are available for many courses at local career tech. centers. The College has a good working relationship with tech. center staff who assist in making college courses available to high school students on a ‘for credit’ basis.
6. Workforce Development
MCC is involved in collaborative efforts with community colleges, colleges/universities and MI Works agencies. We have several initiatives that expand into several counties; impacting local workforce development.

7. Early College
Muskegon Community College is the higher education provider for three local early colleges. The ECMC (Early College of Muskegon County) is now in its second year of operation with over 120 students. The Newaygo Early College started in the fall of 2013 with 30 students, and the North Ottawa Early College started in the fall with 20 students. Each of these early college programs is fulfilling an important community need by providing college credits and associates degrees to area high school students.

8. Community Activities
The college facilities are also widely used by community members, business and industry groups, and the local pre-K through 12th grade schools for special programs or events. These events are tracked by the campus Conference and Catering Services staff. Thousands of community members visit the college annually.

a. The Hendrik Meijer Library/Information Technology Center, according to its mission statement, “extends its services to the community and serves as a catalyst in the lifelong learning goals of the citizens of Muskegon County and the greater West Michigan area.” Since its opening in January 2006, the library has issued thousands of guest library cards to area patrons, public school students, as well as students of the university extension centers at the college.

b. The Kasey Hartz Natural Area not only provides a nature trail for simple enjoyment, but people can learn firsthand the interrelationships between the physical and biological aspects of the environment in which they live. It is visited yearly by numerous community groups for scheduled guided tours, as well as families and individuals for an enjoyable nature walk. Part of the area is wheelchair accessible, and handicapped parking is available. Over the past few years the nature trail has hosted visits from nearly 120 different groups.

c. The University Park Golf Course is a public golf course owned by Muskegon Community College and used by physical education classes, cross country teams, and the MCC golf team. It has its own driving range, putting green, golf pro, and golf shop. The public course is used by the community for golf leagues and tournaments, as well as for scheduled fundraising events.
d. The Carr-Fles Planetarium was recently remodeled and updated. It features free public showings two evenings each week and also offers eleven different special showings for organized groups and schools. The showings average twenty-six persons with a total count of over 4,000 attendees for each of the past three years.

e. The Muskegon Community College Observatory is located off campus and, while it was created mainly to complement the College’s astronomy program, it also serves as a resource for area recreational stargazers.

c. **New programming identified by the College and community as desired and currently being implemented includes:**

1. **Auto Body Repair**  
Muskegon Community College has been collaborating with the Muskegon Area Career Tech. Center to offer a two-year degree in Auto Body Repair and Refinishing. The Tech. Center has a fully equipped lab that the College will rent. The high school program will also serve as a feeder for the new two-year Associates’ Degree program. Auto Body Repair and Refinishing is a growing field where students can learn useful skills and earn a high wage.

2. **Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)**  
Muskegon Community College is planning to offer additional levels of certification for the EMT program. This program is in high demand in Michigan. The training is limited in duration and the starting wage is above average.

3. **Engineering**  
MCC is currently exploring options for a 2+3 agreement with Grand Valley State University for the new Associate’s Degree in Engineering. Once this agreement is completed, similar partnerships will be looked at with other four-year universities.

4. **Distance Education**  
Muskegon Community College recently received approval from the Higher Learning Commission to offer to offer 100% of its programs online. With this permission, the College is planning to move one or more degree programs fully online. Many other community colleges in Michigan have already taken this step, and students appreciate the flexibility and other benefits provided by online classes.
d. Economic Development Impact of current/future programs

Muskegon Community College will continue to have a major impact on the economic environment in West Michigan. The new Science Laboratory Center will provide high quality training to a greater number of students who will become productive and contributing members of society. The College will continue its close partnership with local business and industry as it provides specialized training and other collaborative opportunities. Efforts continue to re-train workers impacted by foreign trade through the TAA grant program. This program provides highly needed CAD and CNC training to unemployed workers in an accelerated format. Close relationships with local business and industry leaders will help these students to quickly find quality employment opportunities.

III. Staffing and Enrollment

a. Approximately 35% of Muskegon Community College students enrolled during the fall 2013 term attended full-time (12 or more credits).

b. The fall 2013 enrollment was 4,882 total students. There were 3,287 in-district students and 1,572 out-of-district students. High school seniors numbered 839, which was a 29% increase over high school seniors from last year. Program enrollment is expected to rise slightly in the next five years. The College is currently working to develop a number of high-quality Distance Education programs. These programs will enable more working adults to earn a college degree in a flexible manner.

Decline by selected program, Fall 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Program</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounting/Office Management</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate in Arts And Science - Liberal Arts/General</td>
<td>1652</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadcasting &amp; Multimedia</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Programming/Applications</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Aided Draft-Design</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Networking Technology</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
<td>291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Childhood Education</td>
<td>260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronics Technology</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graphic Design</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial/Manufacturing Technology</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Management/Marketing | 64
Medical Office Programs | 18
Nursing | 290
Business/Office Systems Education | 6
Respiratory Therapy | 151
Automotive Technology | 110
Computer Applications | 45
Machining Technology | 62
Welding Technology | 75
Other: Guest students | 280

c. Enrollment is projected to remain steady through 2016.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall 2012</th>
<th>Fall 2013</th>
<th>Fall 2014</th>
<th>Fall 2015</th>
<th>Fall 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5095</td>
<td>4875</td>
<td>4932</td>
<td>4982</td>
<td>5032</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

d. Enrollment patterns have remained steady over the last five years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall 2009</th>
<th>Fall 2010</th>
<th>Fall 2011</th>
<th>Fall 2012</th>
<th>Fall 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5144</td>
<td>5311</td>
<td>5168</td>
<td>5095</td>
<td>4875</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gender as Percentage of Enrollment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Fall 2009</th>
<th>Fall 2010</th>
<th>Fall 2011</th>
<th>Fall 2012</th>
<th>Fall 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Men</td>
<td>2358</td>
<td>2418</td>
<td>2308</td>
<td>2273</td>
<td>2182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Women</td>
<td>2786</td>
<td>2893</td>
<td>2860</td>
<td>2808</td>
<td>2685</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollment</td>
<td>5144</td>
<td>5311</td>
<td>5168</td>
<td>5095</td>
<td>4875</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Race/Ethnicity as Percentage of Enrollment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fall 2009</th>
<th>Fall 2010</th>
<th>Fall 2011</th>
<th>Fall 2012</th>
<th>Fall 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>9.27%</td>
<td>9.32%</td>
<td>9.42%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian or Alaska Native</td>
<td>1.26%</td>
<td>1.30%</td>
<td>1.39%</td>
<td>2.43%</td>
<td>2.66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian American/Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander</td>
<td>0.62%</td>
<td>0.83%</td>
<td>0.93%</td>
<td>1.02%</td>
<td>1.14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>3.73%</td>
<td>4.27%</td>
<td>4.58%</td>
<td>2.92%</td>
<td>2.72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White non-Hispanic</td>
<td>68.48%</td>
<td>66.43%</td>
<td>69.28%</td>
<td>72.8%</td>
<td>75.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race/ethnicity unknown</td>
<td>16.41%*</td>
<td>15.97%</td>
<td>12.44%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>6.84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two or more races</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.71%</td>
<td>1.88%</td>
<td>0.84%</td>
<td>0.94%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Beginning in 2009, federal regulations required a change in race/ethnicity collection. The new, two-part application question, as well as the conversion of previous students to new racial/ethnic categories, has resulted in more students of unknown race/ethnicity.

In the fall of 2013, there were 94 full time, and 197 adjunct instructors teaching for the college.

e. Future staffing needs are projected to remain constant over the next five years. Currently new staff and faculty are hired to fill vacancies or to begin a new program.

f. The average class size for the 2012-2013 academic year was 30 students/class.
IV. Facility Assessment

A professionally developed comprehensive facilities assessment was performed by Tower Pinkster and completed in August of 2010 as part of the 2010 Facilities Master Plan. The entire 2010 Facilities Master plan is appended to this Comprehensive 5-Year Capital Outlay Plan.

a. A summary description of each facility (administrative, classroom, biology, hospital, etc.) can be found in Section 5 of the 2010 Facilities Master Plan.

b. Building and classroom utilization rates can be found in 4.C. of the 2010 Facilities Master Plan.

c. Mandated facility requirements for programs that require them would be met, in particular for the Science Laboratory Center.

d. Section 5 of the 2010 Facilities Master Plan describes the functionality of existing structures and space allocation to program areas served.

e. The Replacement value of existing facilities based on the insured value of structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building/Structure</th>
<th>Year Occupied</th>
<th>Gross Square Feet</th>
<th>Replacement Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Main Building</td>
<td>1967</td>
<td>231,055</td>
<td>$40,059,817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Building</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>41,957</td>
<td>$396,211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gymnasium</td>
<td>1968</td>
<td>19,782</td>
<td>$2,902,029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for Higher Education</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>112,000</td>
<td>$17,694,732</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine Arts</td>
<td>1975</td>
<td>6,954</td>
<td>$1,459,997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>1972</td>
<td>13,116</td>
<td>$1,278,466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf Course Pro Shop</td>
<td>1972</td>
<td>719</td>
<td>$264,226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf Course Maintenance</td>
<td>1972</td>
<td>2,400</td>
<td>$105,071</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf Course Pump House</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td>1,250</td>
<td>$53,768</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grounds Equipment Garage</td>
<td>1975</td>
<td>484</td>
<td>$7,785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>40,688</td>
<td>$7,042,019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>470,405</td>
<td>$71,264,121</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

f. Utility system condition (i.e., heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC), water and sewage, electrical, etc.) of existing facilities can be found in Section 5 of the 2010 Facilities Master Plan.

g. Facility infrastructure condition (i.e. roads, bridges, parking structures, lots, etc.) can be found in Section 5 of the 2010 Facilities Master Plan.

h. The adequacy of existing utilities and infrastructure systems to current and 5-year projected programmatic needs is described in Section 5 of the 2010 Facilities Master Plan.
i. The institution has an enterprise-wide energy plan that was developed by Siemens in 2009 and is currently being implemented. Included in this plan were audits on all existing facilities. The goals of the plan include a cost savings to the institution of $1,460,415 through 2025.

j. The 2010 Facility Master Plan Section 6 describes land owned by Muskegon Community College and determinations on which capital projects could be carried out on land currently owned by the institution.

k. On December 1, 2009 MCC entered a lease with the State of Michigan and the State Building Authority for Phase II of the Student One Stop Center. This lease continues for a period not to exceed 35 years from the date of the agreement.

Muskegon Community College Facilities Master Plan
http://www.muskegoncc.edu/masterplan)
V. Implementation Plan

a. **Science Laboratory Center** - Constructed in 1965, the life and physical sciences laboratories at Muskegon Community College (MCC) are too small and inadequate to meet current and anticipated needs. Moreover, the labs are able to accommodate only a few students with disabilities at a time. Constructing a 16,500 sq. ft. Science Laboratory Center will allow our students to obtain the 21st century skill sets necessary to compete. This two-level addition to the current science wing located on the northwest side of the main campus will better serve students as they study the disciplines of astronomy, biology, chemistry, physics, physical science, and geology. Existing labs and science classrooms will be renovated to modernize and update these important spaces.

   Estimated project cost – $9,287,000

Muskegon Community College has adequate cash reserves to meet the matching obligation for the $4,646,835 that has been set aside for this purpose. The College also has the ability to bond for the amount if necessary.

2. **Arts Department Renovation** - The proposed project would renovate the art department and move this area from the current pole barn-type building it is currently housed in. These renovations will modernize and update this area and make the area accessible for students with disabilities. The art department is very popular with students who desire to transfer to a four-year college where courses in art are needed.

   Estimated project cost – $5,900,000

3. **MCC Downtown Center** - This project involves renovating a 35,000 sq. ft. building within the downtown core. Initial planning calls for moving Business programs and selected Tech. Dept. programs to this new site. The advantages of such a location would be to provide new opportunities for students that are close to existing business and industry locations.

   Estimated project cost – $7,200,000

4. **Health and Physical Education Center** - As the single most heavily used facility on campus, the Bartels-Rode Gymnasium is a major resource for students, faculty and the community. Existing facilities are already too small to handle existing staff needs, instructional needs, and appropriate student/athlete needs. The growing MCC enrollment only exacerbates this problem, as more students require Physical Education credits and desire choices for recreational, intramural, and wellness programming. The proposed expansion includes approximately 27,000 sq. ft. of new space, as
well as renovation of the existing 17,500 sq. ft. facility. The expanded area would include a new gym floor area, locker rooms, a training room, offices, three classrooms for instruction, a new fitness center, a climbing wall, a lobby space, a laundry facility, storage for indoor and outdoor equipment, toilet rooms, and appropriate mechanical, electrical, and custodial space.

Estimated project cost – $6,100,000

b. The institution’s current deferred maintenance backlog is estimated to consist of 62 projects totaling over $4,940,000. This backlog is not expected to have an immediate programmatic impact and is expected to be dealt with over the next five years.

c. There are no on-going projects financed with State Building Authority resources at Muskegon Community College.

d. The Siemens plan, currently being implemented identifies an operational “savings” of $1,460,415 that would be realized through completion of deferred maintenance items identified in their plan.

e. MCC is actively pursuing an increase in the extension centers administered by the institution. In these centers, leases are being implemented as an alternative to new infrastructure.

f. There are no items for major maintenance in excess of $1,000,000 scheduled for fiscal year 2013 through fiscal year 2017 at this time.

g. There is over $700,000 of non-routine maintenance the institution has budgeted for in its current fiscal year which will be financed almost entirely by MCC's Plant Fund.
FISCAL YEAR 2015
CAPITAL OUTLAY PROJECT REQUEST

Institution Name: Muskegon Community College

Project Title: Science Laboratory Center

Project Focus: Academic

Type of Project: Renovation and New Construction

Program Focus of Occupants: Science and Allied Health faculty and students

Approximate Square Footage: 16,500

Total Estimated Cost: $9,287,000

Estimated Start/Completion Dates: January 2014 – March 2015

Is the Five-Year Plan posted on the institution’s public internet site? Yes

Is the requested project the top priority in the Five-Year Capital Outlay Plan? Yes

Is the requested project focused on a single, stand-alone facility? Yes

Please provide detailed, yet appropriately concise responses to the following questions that will enhance our understanding of the requested project:

1. Describe the project purpose.

The purpose is to replace old, outdated science labs to give more students the opportunity to be adequately trained to secure employment in high-demand fields in Michigan.

2. Describe the scope of the project.

The plan is to construct a 16,500 square foot science laboratory center to give current and future students the best science training possible in a modern facility. In addition, the plan calls for renovating existing lab and science spaces to allow more students to enroll in these high-demand programs.

3. How does the project enhance the core academic and/or research mission of the institution?

The science laboratory addition and renovation will meet the needs of students in several growing academic programs in the STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) fields. The project will increase the capacity to enroll more students interested in these programs and modernize outdated spaces. Once completed, the project will allow students to have a high-quality learning experience in a modern facility.
4. How does the project enhance Michigan’s talent enhancement, job creation and economic growth initiatives on a local, regional and/or statewide basis?

The project will assist students, community members, and unemployed workers in being trained for high-paying careers in Nursing, Respiratory Therapy, EMT, and STEM fields. Graduates will have the current skills to remain competitive in finding stable employment.

5. How does the institution measure utilization of its existing facilities, and how does it compare relative to established benchmarks? How does the project help to improve the utilization of existing space and infrastructure, or support the need for additional space and infrastructure?

The College has a Facilities Master Plan that is used in conjunction with the College Strategic Plan. Both of these documents highlight the need for new and updated space for science and Allied Health programs. Adding the new space will allow more students to enroll in popular and high-demand programs in the health and science fields. This will be a benefit to the community and the State of Michigan by increasing the number of skilled workers earning a good salary. Adding the new Science Laboratory Center will provide needed space to enroll more students in these popular and worthwhile programs.

6. Does the project address or mitigate any current life/safety deficiencies relative to existing facilities? If yes, please explain.

The current science and Allied Health spaces are outdated and were not designed to accommodate students with disabilities. Adding the new space and renovating existing space will allow more students to enroll in these programs and make the areas accessible for students with disabilities.

7. How does the institution intend to integrate sustainable design principles to enhance the efficiency and operations of the facility?

The plans call for energy efficient construction practices and design principles to be part of the new construction and the remodeling of existing space. These modifications will enhance the efficiency of the space and help to keep operating costs low.

8. Are match resources currently available for the project? If yes, what is the source of the match resources? If no, identify the intended source and the estimated timeline for securing said resources?

Yes, the College currently has cash reserves of eleven million dollars in investments. In addition, the College has the ability to issue bonds if needed.

9. If authorized for construction, the state typically provides a maximum of 75% of the total cost for university projects and 50% of the total cost for community college projects. Does the institution intend to commit additional resources that would reduce the state share from the amounts indicated? If so, by what amount?

No, the College is planning on the 50% state match as part of this important project.

10. Will the completed project increase operating costs to the institution? If yes, please provide an estimated cost (annually, and over a five-year periods) and indicate whether the institution has identified available funds to support the additional cost.

The new building will cost about $132,000 per year to operate and maintain. The College plans to cover this cost through an increase in student fees and by the increased revenue that results
from increased enrollment. The additional revenue will pay for utilities, insurances, maintenance, security, etc.

11. **What impact, if any, will the project have on tuition costs?**

No impact is expected for tuition costs.

12. **If this project is not authorized, what are the impacts to the institution and its students?**

If the project is not funded, students will be forced to continue to use outdated labs and equipment. The College will be behind in competing with more expensive private colleges, and the College will have to limit access to high-demand and popular programs. Overall, the community and students will be less competitive in terms of employment skills and future job opportunities.

13. **What alternatives to this project were considered? Why is the requested project preferable to those alternatives?**

Renovating current space was considered, but this alternative would decrease the number of labs available during construction and would not provide the space needed to meet growing student demand. The new Science Laboratory Center would provide the needed space and give more students current training in the STEM areas and high-demand Allied Health programs. The new space would be a huge benefit to the West Michigan community and the State of Michigan in terms of training more workers in high-demand fields.