

STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION

August 7, 2024

TOPIC: Arapahoe Community College (ACC) Request for Additional Spending Authority for Health Program Integration and Annex Renovation Project

PRESENTED BY: Dr. Cheryl Calhoun, Provost, Vice President Instruction, ACC and Jason Schrock, Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services, ACC

RELATIONSHIP TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN:

- Transforming the Student and Workforce Experience.

EXPLANATION:

ACC initially received spending authority from the Board and the State for its Health Program Integration and Annex Renovation Project for FY 2021-22. The project was approved for \$11.2 million, with \$8.4 million in State funds and \$2.8 million in ACC general funds. ACC received additional spending authority for FY 2022-23 with a supplemental request that added \$3.5 million of cash funds reflecting a federal SLFRF backed grant from Arapahoe County. This project commenced construction in May 2023 and will be completed in August of 2024. ACC is requesting additional spending authority approval for the project to move forward in the State approval process for consideration from the Colorado Commission on Higher Education and the General Assembly's Capital Development Committee.

During construction design of the project, ACC learned that the scope and budget for its Health Program Integration and Annex Renovation project were not aligned due to a delay in the start of the project and inflation stemming from the COVID pandemic. As a result, to complete project, the college needed to utilize \$1.3 million of Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) funds to purchase HVAC system components, classroom audio-visual equipment, and scrubbable, movable, classroom furniture. In this same period, \$470,804 of college general funds were utilized to enable renovations to the corridors within the Annex project. These renovations were considered important for the project as the corridors are immediately visible to the public, prospective students, and the ACC campus community. Due to an oversight, ACC has spent the HEERF money and college general funds for project without first requesting spending authority from CCCS and the State, and regrets not having brought it forward in an earlier period.

The \$1.7 million requested spending authority would bring the total spending authority amount for the project to \$16.4 million.

Project Description

ACC's Annex project has involved extensive renovations and expansions across several key health-related program areas. The project has encompassed three nursing skills labs, one nurse aid skills lab, a physical therapy skills lab, five EMS skills labs, three EMS classrooms, six general classrooms, a mortuary science skills lab, and the Medical Office Technology/Medical Assistant Program skills lab/classroom. These updates significantly increased lab and classroom capacities, enabling larger student cohorts in various healthcare programs.

Deferred maintenance was also comprehensively addressed, including the installation of fire sprinklers, upgraded fire alarm devices, improved electrical services, and a new boiler. Other improvements included asbestos abatement, the replacement of rooftop HVAC units, and the addition of building automation controls. Accessibility was enhanced with a new elevator, upgraded ADA-compliant ramps, unisex/ADA-compliant restrooms, and upgraded entry doors and vestibules. Maintenance improvements included a new air compressor and vacuum system for the science labs, as well as extended elevator access to the roof level for worker safety.

Technological advancements were also a major focus, with increased security cameras, new IT closets, and upgraded classroom technology to support dynamic and remote learning. Enhanced simulation technology was implemented in EMS, nursing, and nurse aid skills labs, including mobile devices and a 270-degree simulation video room. Student amenities were significantly improved with new lounge areas, lockers, vending machines, and microwaves. The project also incorporated sustainable features like LED lighting, advanced HVAC controls, low-flow plumbing fixtures, and upgraded landscaping, aiming for USGBC LEED Silver certification.

ACC is currently seeking additional State funding for Phase II of the Annex project, which will include an addition directly connecting to and expanding the Health Program Integration and Annex Renovation area. This addition will contain large simulation areas including a two-story residence that will enable emergency medical technicians, law enforcement cadets, mortuary students, home-health aides, and medical assistants to practice the regularly occurring response into residential units which they will encounter in post-graduate professions. The project helps alleviate waitlists due to the excess demand for healthcare and law enforcement programs at ACC.

Phase II of the project was approved by the Board in June to move forward in the State approval process for consideration from the Colorado Commission on Higher Education and the General Assembly's Capital Development Committee. The project was prioritized second among the eight system projects. ACC is requesting \$37.2 million in State funds and will provide \$3.2 million of its own funds for the project under the request.

RECOMMENDATION:

ACC recommends the Board approve the Health Program Integration and Annex Renovation Project increase of \$1.7 million (for a total of \$16.4 million) to move forward in the State approval process for consideration from the Colorado Commission on Higher Education and the General Assembly's Capital Development Committee.