

## University of Maryland Eastern Shore Fiscal Note HB 1522

The University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) would like to thank the Maryland General Assembly sponsors of HB1522 for their consideration and support.

As stated in the HB1522, UMES has suffered from decades of inadequate funding, especially when compared to its 1862 land-grant institution, University of Maryland College Park (UMCP). If UMES were funded the same amount per student as UMCP from 1987 to 2020, the state would have appropriated additional funds of more than \$321 million to UMES over that period.

University of Maryland Eastern Shore, a historically black land grant university (HBCU), is located in the town of Princess Anne, Maryland. The Town of Princess Anne also serves as the County seat for Somerset County. UMES is a teaching/research institution that nurtures and graduates leaders, particularly from among ethnic minorities. UMES is a growing, primarily residential university, with a teaching, research, and extension mission consistent with its legacy as an 1890 land grant institution. Today, the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education recognizes UMES as a “high-research activity” doctoral institution.



Antiquated HVAC unit in Carver Hall

The main entrance to the campus is located on Route 822 off Route 13 named the UMES Boulevard in the Town of Princess Anne. Since its original building on campus was constructed in 1898, the campus has grown to over 745 acres, and 89 buildings: the latter totaling nearly 1.8 million gross square feet and nearly 1.2 million net assignable square feet. Currently, approximately 280 acres of land has been dedicated to campus development, 25 acres allocated to the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute (MFRI), and the remaining 440+ acres are available for farming and agricultural research.

Over the next ten years, despite the construction of

new facilities, UMES will still experience a shortfall of needed non-residential space. It is also important to note that many of the classroom and residential spaces are in poor quality. Accordingly, UMES is committed to both new construction and as well as the realignment, reallocation, etc. of existing space on campus.



Research Lab in Carver Hall with water intrusion and mold

It is critical that space reallocation of UMES facilities be coordinated with capital construction, renovation, and alteration projects. Through reallocation of space, functionality can be improved, right-sizing can occur, campus space planning guideline surpluses and deficits can be resolved, and logically related functions can be spatially coordinated for improved efficiency and effectiveness. In reassigning, reallocating, and right-sizing space, UMES will strive to implement functional and organizational objectives for the campus and correct space deficiencies not addressed by new construction.



Primary Teaching Lab in Carver Hall – lacks modern equipment, proper ventilation, appropriate safety measures; students must be seated to work

This lack of funding over time presents itself most significantly through the deterioration of buildings and facilities on the campus. A 2021 study completed by Facilities Engineering Associates (FEA) shows that UMES has over \$100M in deferred maintenance related to existing structures on the campus. This significant deferred maintenance is most obvious because the campus is starting to have **significant health and safety issues** in the campus' oldest buildings such as Trigg Hall, Carver Hall, Wilson Hall, Fredrick Douglass Library, Waters Hall as well as other buildings throughout the campus. Presently, the STEM buildings (Carver Hall, Trigg Hall, etc.) exhibit unsafe environments and prohibit modern learning for our students. At UMES over 60% of our students study in the STEM fields, these students



Trigg Hall – deterioration of window, brick and wood exterior



Antiquated Fume Hood with mold and damage from water intrusion

need to be able to learn and conduct research in laboratories that have modern teaching facilities including modern health and safety equipment.

As shown in the included pictures, campus buildings suffer from deteriorated wall joints, windows that have exceeded their useful life, inadequate HVAC systems that require window units to maintain appropriate temperature in spaces, and roofs that need significant repair and/or replacement.

In Carver Hall, UMES' primary science building, the building has not been renovated in over 30 years due to lack of funding. This building suffers from water intrusion, inadequate HVAC systems, inadequate windows and doors, inadequate safety measures for conducting science, and lacks appropriate accommodations in classrooms and labs. Similar concerns exist

for the seven other buildings that make up the campus' historic academic oval, and these items need funding to be addressed. Within the last year, UMES submitted to the Department of Budget Management a plan to address these significant concerns that has not been approved for funding.



Carver Hall - Window deterioration and water intrusion



Exterior of Carver Hall; deterioration of brick

Buildings such as the Student Services Center which is now 20 years old, and Hazel Hall which is now 15 years old are starting to show signs of age. Providing adequate funding to the University would allow the University to maintain buildings at the first signs of wear instead of deferring them until the need is emergent. In addition, due to UMES' location between the Chesapeake Bay and the Atlantic Ocean, campus buildings are more susceptible to mold from water in the air as well as water intrusion, having modern, working HVAC systems are vital to prevent unsafe conditions in buildings. This funding would be used to assist with capital needs such as deferred maintenance allowing the University to begin to overcome the effects of the years of underfunding, aging, and deterioration.



Water intrusion in electrical room



Wilson Hall – Deterioration of window allowing water intrusion



Antiquated Lab in Carver Hall



Wilson Hall – Deterioration of Brick allowing water intrusion.



Wilson Hall - Deterioration of exterior facade



Carver Hall – water intrusion and issues of mold