Reshaping The Campus to Improve Access and Services

STATEMENT OF NEED

Cape Cod Community College (CCCC) was established in 1961, the second of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' community colleges, and is currently celebrating “40 Years of Excellence.” From its humble beginnings in the renovated building of the former Hyannis State Teachers' College, with only 5 full-time and 6 part-time instructors and 166 students, the college has grown to an enrollment of as many as 4,000 students per semester. The main campus is in West Barnstable just off the Mid-Cape Highway, and there is a satellite center in downtown Hyannis. The main campus comprises 116 acres and 9 buildings totaling 305,494 square feet.

CCCC’s mission is “to provide accessible, affordable, relevant and rigorous academic programs that adapt to meet changing individual and societal needs for education and employment.” The College is committed to excellence in teaching and learning and provides academic preparation for transfer to four-year institutions, career preparation for entry into high demand occupational fields, developmental coursework and lifelong learning opportunities. It serves the diverse needs of the residents of Cape Cod, the Islands, and adjacent areas of Southeastern Massachusetts. It is the sole comprehensive college on Cape Cod, and provides the only access to higher education for many residents. Accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Inc., CCCC has an “open door” admissions policy.

CCCC provides liberal arts, technical, professional and occupational programs leading to certificates and associate degrees, as well as on site access to bachelor’s and advanced degree programs. It has transfer agreements with colleges and universities around the country, allowing its graduates to enter as juniors or above. In addition, five Bachelor’s Degree and eight Master’s Degree programs are offered on campus through partnerships with both private and public institutions throughout the Commonwealth.

The Need and the Plan

CCCC continues to grow, both in students and programs, and is currently one of the most challenged institutions in New England in terms of square footage per student. The fact that only about 50% of the college’s operating budget is provided by the Commonwealth provides another challenge. The college has retrofitted 5,500 square feet of classroom and common space in dozens of locations scattered throughout the campus for information technology (IT) labs and other purposes. Nevertheless, demand for IT learning by students and the need for a technically prepared workforce by employers in every sector continues to outpace CCCC’s capacity. As enrollment and demand for technology education continue to grow and add pressure to existing college facilities, the need for new space becomes even more critical.
Plans have been developed for a new 32,000 square foot Technology Building to meet the College’s and the community’s needs well into the twenty-first century. The project will include:

1. **A New Technology Building**
   - Both wireless and conventional technology
   - Multipurpose classrooms
   - Smart classroom technology with high speed internet connectivity
   - An innovative, flexible, and efficient design
   - Open labs and technical service areas surrounded by computer classrooms
   - Wireless classrooms with internet connectivity
   - Laptop plug-in capability to allow student-owned or college-owned computer usage

2. **Campus Renovations**

   The space in the new technology building will free up other space on campus, which will then be renovated to meet the needs of many other programs. Plans include:

   - Retrofitting current classrooms as Smart Classrooms;
   - Distance Learning Facilities;
   - Academy for Life Long Learning space expansion. One of CCCC’s most important and fastest-growing programs, the Academy was formed to promote an often-overlooked resource on Cape Cod – the skills, wit and wisdom of our retired population;
   - A Workforce Education Resource Center, made-to-order contract training for local businesses;
   - Nickerson Historical Room in the Library, Cape Cod history and genealogy resource center;
   - Parking Expansion.

The total cost to construct and furnish the new building as well as campus renovations will be $9.7 million, of which the Commonwealth of Massachusetts will provide $5.7 million. The remaining $4 million must be raised from the private sector through a capital campaign.