

Supporting Oregon's Public University Students



2023 University Capital Construction Talking Points

The Ask

Oregon's public universities support the Higher Education Coordinating Commission's (HECC) request of \$90 million for Capital Improvement and Renewal (CI&R) and \$488.2 million in state Article XI-Q and Article XI-G bonds.

This investment will leverage \$127.8 million in institutional and gift funds in support of construction projects focused on completing urgent renovations and intentional modernization to improve students' learning environment and reduce the backlog of CI&R work.

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Why this investment is needed

- Oregon's public university graduates are essential to the future well-being of our state. It is critical that Oregon's public universities educate and support current and future generations of students in facilities that are safe, modern learning environments.
- The proposed 2023 projects focus on completing urgent and intentional campus improvements that will enhance student success, increase innovation and research opportunities, and reduce the backlog of Capital Improvement and Renewal (CI&R) work.
- Nearly half of the state's capital assets can be found on public university campuses and nearly half of those buildings are over 30 years old. As our buildings age, rising maintenance costs have led to a backlog of repairs that impact our ability to deliver important programs, create space for discovery and research, and serve students to assist them in meeting their full potential. We support the Higher Education Coordinating Commission's request for \$90 million for CI&R.
- State investments are an important way to ensure public universities can undertake construction projects that provide family-wage jobs across the state and enable Oregon to build a diverse, highly skilled workforce.



The Oregon Council of Presidents (OCOP) fosters collaboration among Oregon's public universities, as well as other partners in education, research, economic development and public services. For more information about OCOP, please contact Dana Richardson at richardson@mail.wou.edu.