

MEMORANDUM

TO: Planning, Housing and Economic Development Committee

FROM: Justina J. Ferber,  Legislative Analyst

SUBJECT: **Universities at Shady Grove Expansion Project**

Background

During FY12 budget deliberations, the Council approved an amendment to the Capital Improvements Program for \$100,000 for planning in FY12 for the Universities at Shady Grove (USG) Expansion Project. At that time, the PHED Committee suggested that a meeting be scheduled with University of Maryland officials to discuss the expansion plans in more detail.

The Universities at Shady Grove sought County support to provide campus capacity for a new building and long-term expansion capabilities of the campus to meet growing higher education and workforce development needs. The new building is to be funded by the State with the county contributing towards the creation of site capacity for enhanced bioscience educational opportunities in Montgomery County. The project will enable the County to assist the college in acquiring land for the USG expansion. Once the land is acquired, the State will construct a 220,000 square foot building that will house science and engineering classrooms as well as clinical training laboratories. FY12 funding will provide, appraisals, consultants to assist with property acquisition, and the development of feasibility studies. The planning phase of the project will include identification of relative responsibilities of the County and USG in facilitating the expansion of the campus.

The project is a move towards implementing several objectives of the Bioscience Strategy adopted by the County's Blue Ribbon Biosciences Task Force. The expanded education programs will be linked to the newly established Institute for Bioscience and Biotechnology Research (IBBR) on the USG campus and is part of the long-range plan to provide an additional campus for the University of Maryland Medical School. Programs will include health, allied health, science and engineering/technology in both traditional and bioscience areas with education degrees focused on science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Committee Discussion

Dr. Stewart Edelstein, Executive Director, USG, and Diane Swartz-Jones, ACAO, will join the Committee to discuss the expansion project.

Materials: Universities at Shady Grove Expansion Presentation by Dr Edelstein
(will be distributed as an addendum when received)