The state has appropriated nearly $126 million in capital improvements funding to University of Missouri – Columbia over the last decade, but nearly $70 million, or approximately 56%, has been restricted or vetoed.
The University of Missouri-Columbia (MU) is a selective institution that offers a broad range of undergraduate, graduate, doctoral, and professional degrees. Approximately 31,000 students attend MU. About three-quarters are undergraduates, 20% are graduate students, and 4% are enrolled in professional programs.

Capital Improvement & Facilities History

The University of Missouri-Columbia has been appropriated more than $160 million in capital improvement funds over the past 10 years, but $70 million has been restricted or vetoed. MU was one of the many higher education institutions expecting federal stimulus funds in 2010, but construction of the Ellis Fischel Cancer Center had to be postponed when that $31 million was restricted.

Due to significant revenue declines, Governor Nixon’s administration restricted nearly all capital improvement projects funded by federal stimulus funds. In fiscal year 2015, MU received the first of higher education’s portion of Board of Public Building bonds to reconstruct Lafferre Hall, but various other projects were vetoed or restricted during the same year. MU received additional Board of Public Buildings the following year to complete Stewart Hall renovations. The only funding the university has received since then is $5 million for the expansion of the Thompson Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders.

Facility Challenges

The MU campus consists of 789 Education & General Buildings and 185 Auxiliary Buildings with over 19.5 million gross square feet. The campus is diverse with the historic Francis Quadrangle, more modern buildings on the Carnahan Quadrangle, a medical center, high tech laboratories, and agriculture plots, and a significant portion of the campus is designated as a Botanical Garden. The campus operates a highly efficient combined cooling, heating, and power system with a reliable utility service greater than 99.995% and 37% of the energy used is from biomass, wind, or solar. The campus’s long-standing energy conservation and efficiency programs have yielded a 21% reduction in energy use per square foot in education and general space yielding an annual cost avoidance of over $9.4 million with cumulative cost avoidance of $85 million since the formal inception of the program in 1990.

"We are stewards and builders of a priceless state resource, a unique physical infrastructure and scholarly environment in which our tightly interlocked missions of teaching, research, service and economic development work together on behalf of all citizens."
However, over 40% of the E&G buildings on the main campus have not had a major renovation in over 50 years and another 28% of the buildings have not had a major renovation in over 25 years. Approximately 50% of the total gross square feet of E&G buildings on campus has a rating of below average or worse. Currently, the campus has over $780 million in facilities needs including over $404 million in deferred maintenance. A significant portion of the deferred maintenance is building systems (i.e. mechanical, electrical, plumbing, etc.) as well as interior finishes (i.e. painting, floor systems, ceiling systems, etc.).
Capital Priorities

The Board of Curators and the University of Missouri-Columbia have identified the following as the university’s top priority for the future. The total state request for this project is about $50 million.

1. Translational Precision Medicine Complex (TPMC)

Translational medicine brings researchers and clinicians together in a multidisciplinary, collaborative setting supported by advanced technology and data analysis tools. The National Institute of Health has identified translational medicine research as a major focus for grant funding. The TPMC will integrate multidisciplinary laboratory space with advanced analytical instrumentation, computational processing, and pilot scale manufacturing under one roof. This provides the synergistic platform needed for integration of biomedical, electrical, biomolecular, mechanical, and industrial engineering with both veterinary and human medicine.

The space utilization study completed in 2017 indicated MU has a current research space deficit of 4%, according to the study’s square footage calculations. A significant portion of the existing research space needs renovations to support today’s research demands. Thirty percent of the current research space at MU is located in buildings with a facilities condition needs index of 0.40 or higher (poor condition). Poor space results in low productivity and increased cost for that space. The potential for additional research funding and faculty recruitment and retention increases with a cutting edge facility such as the TPMC, thus increasing MU’s standing in the Association of American Universities (AAU). MU’s success in this realm will place Missouri at the forefront of precision medicine due to the number of engineers and clinicians uniquely equipped with skills to succeed in this new frontier of health care. Research discoveries have the potential to lead to new companies and high-paying job creation for the state. The consequences of inaction on this facility include a potential decline in AAU status and the inability to achieve the strategic mission.

The University of Missouri initiated exploration of project delivery through use of a public/private partnership. In conjunction with that effort, planning activities progress both for the building and research collaborations.

Click [here](#) for campus map.
Click [here](#) for Google view.
Click [here](#) for virtual tour.