

Office of Budget and Management

Timothy S. Keen

Capital Budget Bill

John R. Kasich

Governor

Providing Fiscally Responsible Investments to Meet Ohio's Important Infrastructure Needs

Ohio's capital budget provides fiscally responsible investments to maintain and improve the state's educational and public-service infrastructure. The capital budget focuses on the most pressing maintenance and construction needs of state government, schools and higher education, with particular emphasis given to each investment's impact on jobs and economic growth.

Since the capital budget ultimately impacts the state operating budget through General Revenue Fund debt service, these recommendations are consistent with Gov. Kasich's commitment to prudent, restrained government spending that strategically targets state dollars in ways that help improve the lives of Ohioans and keep our state a leader in the competitive world economy.

<u>ABOUT THE PROCESS</u>: In the fall of 2013, the Office of Budget and Management issued capital budget planning guidance to state agencies, asking them to identify their most pressing priorities for infrastructure maintenance, repair and improvement. In addition, this planning utilized a widely applauded process Gov. Kasich had introduced for preparation of his first capital budget, calling upon the state's 37 public college and university presidents to collaborate on a single list of projects of most importance to the state. Similarly, the governor asked local leaders to work with the economic development community, arts community and others to provide advice about local needs. The end result was a collaborative process that thoughtfully identified important projects, while balancing the state's need for fiscal restraint.

The capital bill focuses on the following areas:

REBUILDING OHIO'S SCHOOLS

As in past years, the largest portion of capital appropriations (\$675 million) supports repairs, renovations and new primary and secondary education facilities across the state through the Ohio School Facilities Commission.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Ohio University President Roderick McDavis led a commission of university presidents to recommend a list of priority projects for consideration in the new capital budget. Ohio's college presidents unanimously approved a unified list of recommended projects totaling \$404.5 million. Another \$50 million will support projects of statewide benefit to the University System of Ohio.

SUPPORTING LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE

The capital budget will provide \$369 million for local infrastructure projects administered by the Ohio Public Works Commission through bond-backed funding as well as revolving loan funding. Examples include upgrades, replacement or new construction of water lines, storm and sanitary sewers, local roads, bridges and other infrastructure. An additional \$100 million supports the Clean Ohio program, which funds preservation of green space, farmland, open spaces and expanded recreational opportunities.

STATE AGENCIES' CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

More than \$574 million will support projects to help state agencies address their most urgent priorities for maintenance, renovations and cost-saving efficiencies. Examples include funding to the Department of Natural Resources for maintenance and repair of Ohio State Parks facilities and other department assets, and support for renovations, improvements and major maintenance projects at the state's adult corrections facilities.

Historical Funding Perspective

Biennium	GRF-Backed Debt	Other Sources	Total
2015-2016 Proposed	\$2,069.1	\$317.1	\$2,386.2
2013-2014	\$1,484.3	\$390.6	\$1,844.9
2005-2006	\$2,105.1	\$374.4	\$2,479.5