

INVESTING in Ohio's FUTURE

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS BUDGET | FISCAL YEARS 2023-2024

The approved capital budget prioritizes the needs of state government, K-12 schools, and higher education institutions, with particular emphasis given to each project's impact on jobs and economic growth. With the partnership of the DeWine-Husted Administration and the Ohio General Assembly, this budget focuses on creating jobs and growing Ohio's economy.

Given the state's strong fiscal position, the capital budget is structured so that the Office of Budget and Management can utilize at least \$1.5 billion to pay for capital projects with cash instead of issuing state bonds. Replacing all of the debt authorized in the capital budget with cash would save approximately \$1.6 billion in interest in upcoming years. In the short term, cash-funding the capital bill will avoid more than \$200 million of debt service each year in the next operating budget – that amounts to over \$400 million in the next budget. This capital improvements budget for fiscal years 2023-2024 includes:

1

\$105 million for safety grants to K-12 schools and campuses: \$100 million for K-12 schools and \$5 million for colleges and universities. In coordination with the Ohio Department of Public Safety, the Ohio Department of Education, and the Ohio Department of Higher Education, the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission will administer competitive grants to improve the safety and security of our public school buildings and campuses to protect Ohio's children today and into the future.

2

\$600 million for K-12 schools across Ohio for the construction and renovation of public-school buildings as part of the Rebuilding Ohio Schools Program administered by the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission. New construction and renovation of public-school buildings create modern spaces that promote successful learning experiences across the state.

3

\$515 million provides the largest investment in Natural Resources in Ohio history. Funds will provide for significant improvements in lodges, campgrounds, cabins, dams, trails, and natural areas, in addition to continuing the historic preservation of the Muskingum River Lock and Dam. Funding to improve and protect Ohio's natural resources ensures they are available for generations of memorable experiences.

4

\$191 million in direct funding for local and regional projects in Ohio's communities, including parks, trails, historical and cultural projects of local and state significance, projects at zoos, sports projects, and for construction and renovations for centers providing community services. Investment in local and regional projects throughout Ohio's communities helps maintain and promote healthy recreational activities, making it one of the reasons Ohio is the best place to live and raise a family.

5

\$100 million for the Clean Ohio program, to restore, protect, and connect Ohio's important natural and urban places by preserving green space and farmland, improving outdoor recreation, and protecting and enhancing river and stream corridors. Funding for the Clean Ohio program encourages protection and enhancement of nature as well as promoting economic development in Ohio.

6

\$50 million for construction and renovation of local jails plus **\$353 million** for improvements at state correctional institutions. Jail funding will be awarded to counties based on the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction inspection data and the ability to improve safety operations, while focusing on shared use. The bill also includes over **\$22 million** for structures at the State Fire Marshall's Academy to improve critical training for our first responders.

7

\$72 million for a new Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory, a completely new facility which will enable the department to ensure a high level of service to critical Ohio agriculture industries, continue protecting Ohioans from animal disease outbreaks, and maintain accreditation on several levels. Funding for the new Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory is critical in the defense against the threat of animal disease outbreaks to protect the health of Ohioans and those across the nation.

8

\$122 million for infrastructure renovations at both developmental centers and state behavioral health hospitals as well as infrastructure support for the provision of home and community-based services for those individuals with either developmental disabilities or behavioral health needs. Creating supportive environments for Ohioans with complex care needs supports long-term stabilization for each resident, while also supporting the health and safety of residents and staff.

9

\$482 million for the Public Works Commission to support needed improvements to roads, bridges, water supply, and other infrastructure in every region of the state. This funding addresses critical needs to improve the daily lives of Ohioans and strengthen our economy.

10

\$460 million for higher education infrastructure improvements across Ohio. The Inter-University Council of Ohio and the Ohio Association of Community Colleges delivered a strategic, comprehensive capital funding plan endorsed by each of the state's public higher education institutions. Funding for higher education is an investment to prepare a skilled workforce to meet the needs of Ohio's bright economic future.