Fiscal Year 2024-25 Capital Construction Request

Education

West Hall Renovation and Addition, Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind

PROGRAM PLAN STATUS

2025-016

Approved Program PlanNoDate Approved:

PRIORITY NUMBERS

Prioritized By	Priority	
CSDB	1 of 1	
OSPB	4 of 62	Recommended for funding.

PRIOR APPROPRIATIONS AND REQUEST INFORMATION

Fund Source	Prior Approp.	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26	Future Requests	<u>Total Costs</u>
CCF	\$0	\$10,161,480	\$10,500,420	\$0	\$20,661,900
CF	\$0	\$8,313,937	\$8,591,251	\$0	\$16,905,188
Total	\$0	\$18,475,417	\$19,091,671	\$0	\$37,567,088

ITEMIZED COST INFORMATION

Cost Item	Prior Approp.	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26	Future Requests	Total Cost
Land Acquisition	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Professional Services	\$0	\$2,330,000	\$837,000	\$0	\$3,167,000
Construction	\$0	\$13,679,567	\$16,446,083	\$0	\$30,125,650
Equipment	\$0	\$619,471	\$700,000	\$0	\$1,319,471
Miscellaneous	\$0	\$166,796	\$199,461	\$0	\$366,257
Contingency	\$0	\$1,679,583	\$909,127	\$0	\$2,588,710
Total	\$0	\$18,475,417	\$19,091,671	\$0	\$37,567,088

PROJECT STATUS

This is a new, never-before-requested project.

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION / SCOPE OF WORK

The Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind (CSDB) in the Department of Education is requesting a combination of state funds and cash funds spending authority for a two-phase project to complete a renovation and addition to West Hall. The project will enable the relocation of the School for the Blind, the Early Education Program, and the Little Language Learners program to accommodate their growing populations.

Additional work includes:

- replacing a playground that is out of ADA compliance;
- expanding the chiller plant and replacing the chiller and pump equipment;
- installing electric vehicle charging stations; and
- installing solar panels on the chiller plant roof.

Phase I remodels 17,256 GSF in West Hall, adds a secured entry vestibule, and installs an elevator for ADA access. Phase II constructs the 10,800-GSF addition, expands the chiller plant, replaces the playground, adds the charging stations, and installs the solar panels.

Cost assumption. The school contracted with an independent firm to develop cost estimates. The cost per GSF for the entire project is \$1,339, and it accounts for inflation at 8 percent per year. The project complies with Art in Public Places and High Performance Certification Program requirements.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

Constructed in 1931, West Hall has never had a major renovation. It is not served by the campus' chilled water system and past roof leaks have caused water damage throughout the building. Renovating and expanding the building allows the School for the Blind, the Early Education Program, and the Little Language Learners Program to relocate to more conducive spaces and bring the entire building up to ADA compliance. According to the school, existing education spaces are overcrowded, lack sufficient storage, and lack appropriate bathrooms for the size of the student population. The project not only ameliorates the space concerns, but gives these programs the capacity to grow to meet demand.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

CSDB, founded in 1874, is a residential campus serving preschool through 12th grade students. The School for the Blind provides education and services to students with visual impairments. The Little Language Learners Program supports children aged 1.5 to 3 years off all hearing levels with curriculum based in both American Sign Language and English. The Early Education Program focuses on experiential learning opportunities for hearing- or visually-impaired students aged 3-7.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

	Start Date	Completion Date	
Design	June 2024	February 2025	
Construction	June 2025	December 2026	
Equipment	May 2026	December 2026	
Occupancy	January 2027		

SOURCE OF CASH FUNDS

The source of cash funds for this project is from a Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) grant. For informational purposes, BEST grant applications are due February 5, 2024, and the State Board of Education approves the department's prioritized grant list by June 20, 2024. The availability of cash funds for this project is likely to be determined after the FY 2024-25 Long Bill takes effect.

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OPERATING BUDGET

The project is expected to increase operating costs due to the added square footage, which may be offset by operating efficiencies from improving building systems. The school anticipates no change in overall workload from the project.

STAFF QUESTIONS AND ISSUES

None.