



Maryland  
Hospital Association

November 11, 2024

The Honorable Helene Grady  
Secretary, Department of Budget & Management  
45 Calvert Street  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Secretary Grady:

On behalf of the Maryland Hospital Association's (MHA) member hospitals and health systems, we respectfully request the inclusion of 22 capital projects, totaling \$22.6 million, in the fiscal year 2026 capital budget. These projects were evaluated and recommended by MHA's Hospital Bond Project Review Committee and align with the Administration's [2024 state plan](#) to leave no one behind by ensuring world-class health systems for all Marylanders.

The 22 projects support communities across the state in Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Calvert, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George's, Washington, Wicomico, and Worcester counties, and Baltimore City.

The MHA Hospital Bond Project Review Committee's recommendations are above the planned Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funding level of \$8 million. On May 16, Governor Moore signed Senate Bill 973 into law, which codified MHA's Hospital Bond Program and increased the recommended annual appropriation to \$20 million. Senator Guzzone, chair of the Senate Budget & Taxation Committee, introduced the legislation to expand access to much-needed capital funding for hospitals. We request an increase in the out-year funding to \$20 million to align with the intent of SB 973.

Our FY 2026 funding request is \$2 million more than the \$20 million recommended by SB 973 because three hospitals deauthorized funding totaling \$2 million and another hospital will deauthorize funding during the 2025 session totaling \$800,000. These grants, awarded between 2019-2022, were impacted by the pandemic and were unable to move forward without extensive scope changes. After seeking guidance from the Department of Budget & Management, each hospital decided to deauthorize funding and put forward new project proposals during this year's application cycle.

Access to capital funding remains critical for hospitals as they work to meet their communities' needs. We appreciate your consideration and look forward to working collaboratively to improve health care and the health of all Marylanders.

Sincerely,



Melony G. Griffith  
President & CEO

cc: Dr. Laura Herrera Scott, Secretary, Maryland Department of Health  
Dr. Joshua Sharfstein, Chair, Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission  
Jon Kromm, Executive Director, Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission