



Working Towards a Barrier-free UMBC

Reducing Physical Barriers to Accessibility

March 30, 2026

Today's Discussion

Campus overview

Campus partnerships

Recently completed projects to improve accessibility

Current projects to improve accessibility

UMBC Emergency Management

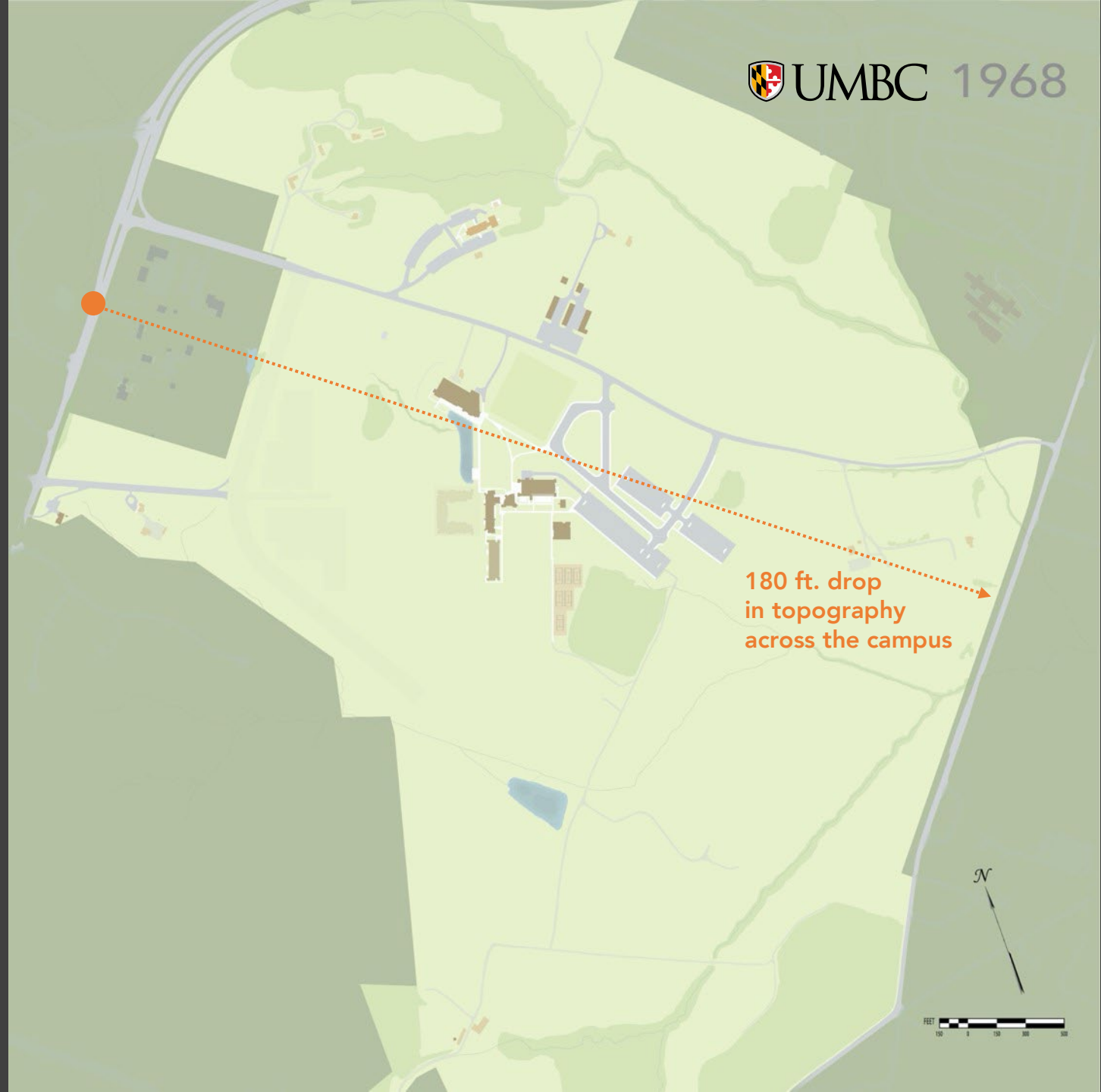


The UMBC Main Campus

The UMBC campus was located in rolling farmland, with Walker Avenue as its only access road.

Vestiges of the working farm, including chicken coops, were still visible in 1968.

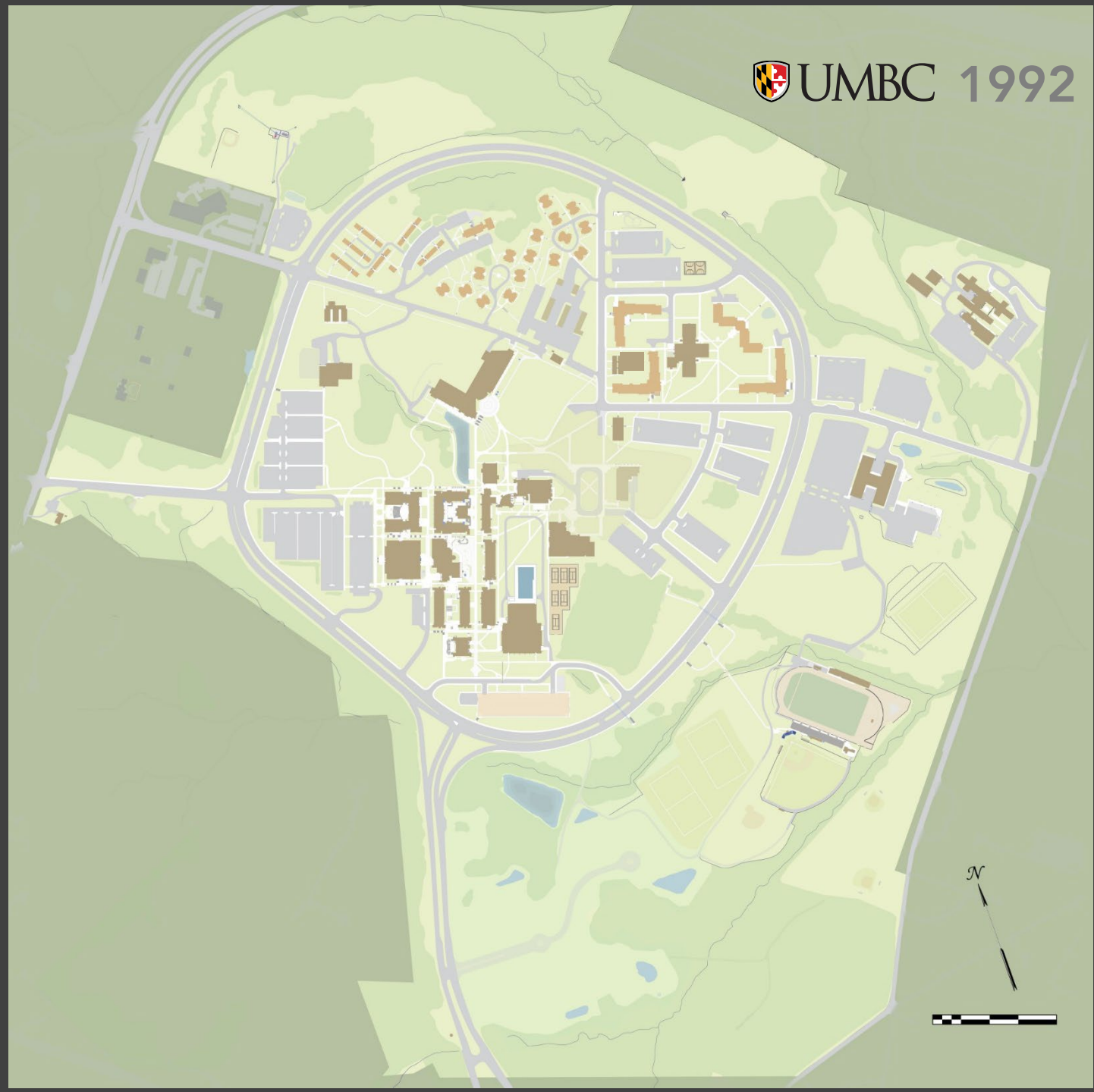
A 180 foot drop in topography across the site was a challenge to those that laid out the first campus buildings and remains one of the greatest physical challenges of our campus.



The UMBC Main Campus

The campus expanded rapidly in its first 25 years. Much of the academic core and most residences were designed and constructed prior to the adoption of the ADA Standards for Accessibility in 1992.

Since then, the university has been committed to retrofitting these early buildings, parking lots and pedestrian paths to comply with these and subsequent standards, making the campus more accessible for all.



The UMBC Main Campus

More than 14,000 students
(11% are registered with SDS!)

2,000+ faculty and staff

76 buildings with nearly 4.4 million
SF of space

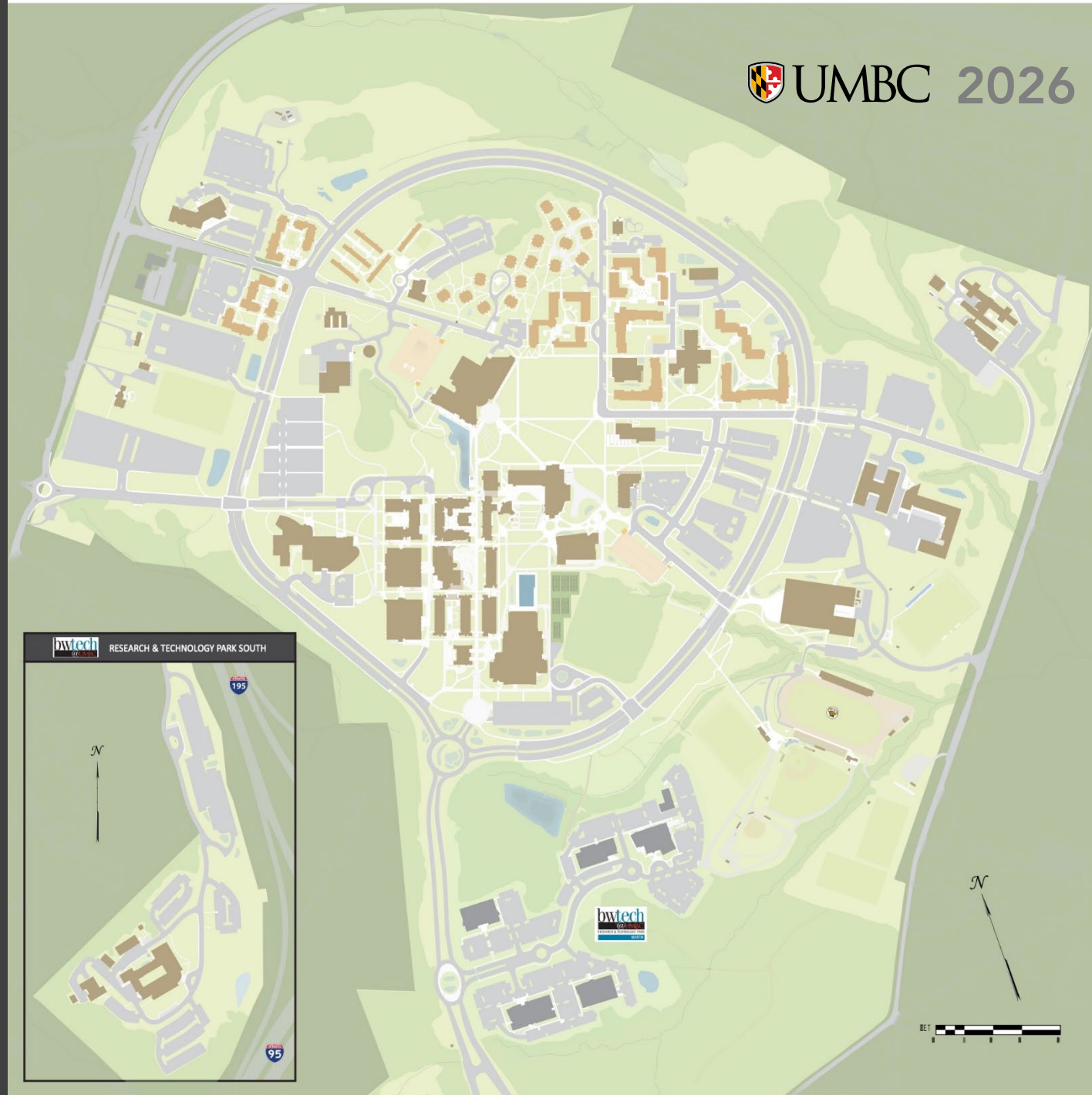
226 classrooms and class labs

8 distinct athletic facilities

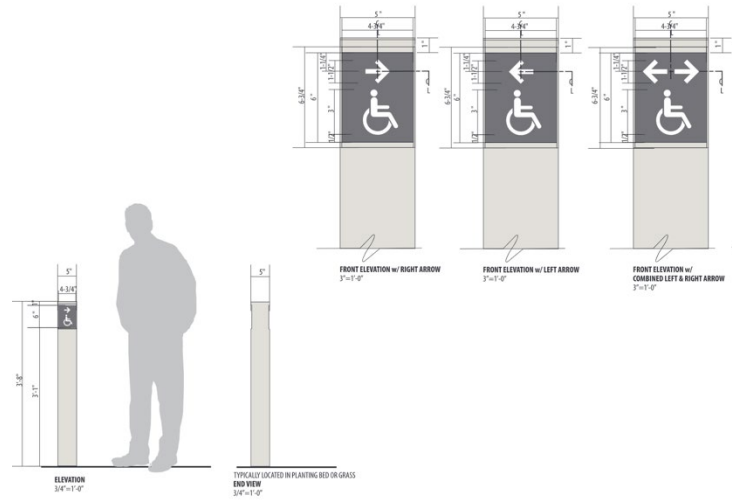
262 ADA-compliant restrooms

3 garages, more than 30 parking
lots and 190 accessible parking
spaces

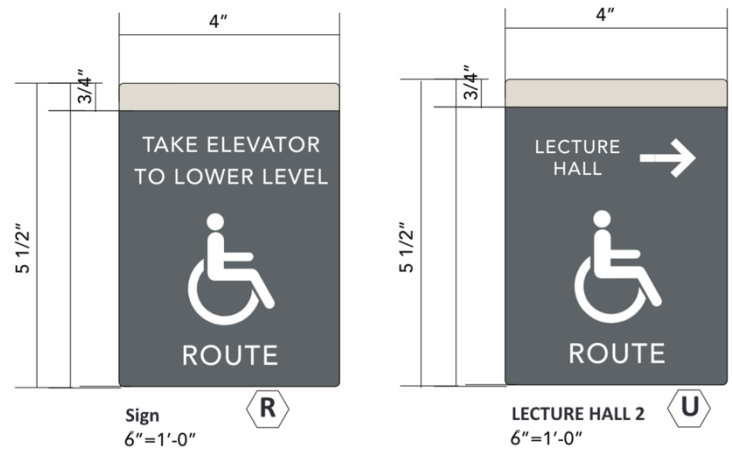
7 transit routes linking the campus
to the surrounding communities



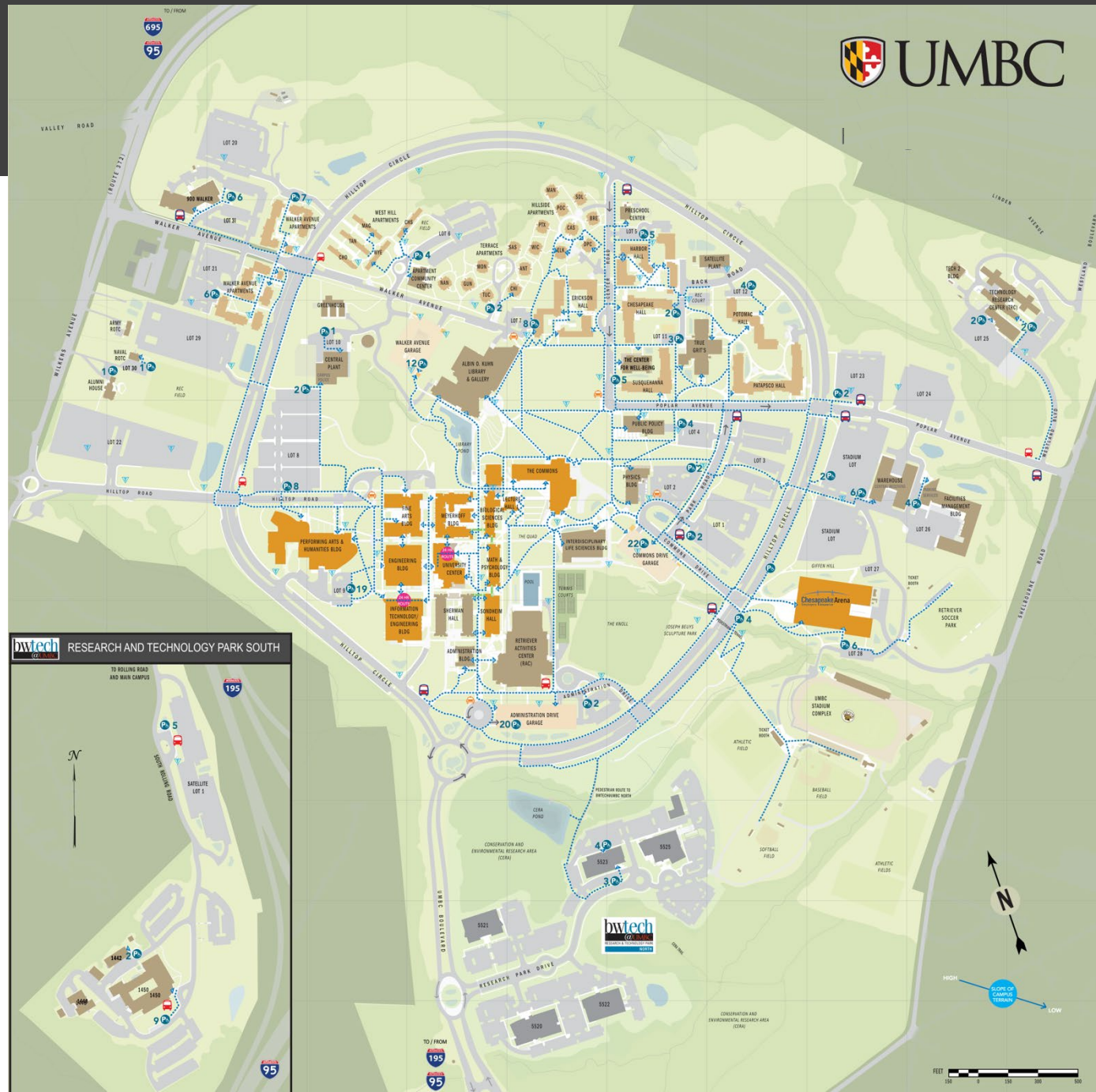
Navigating the Campus



Exterior Bollards

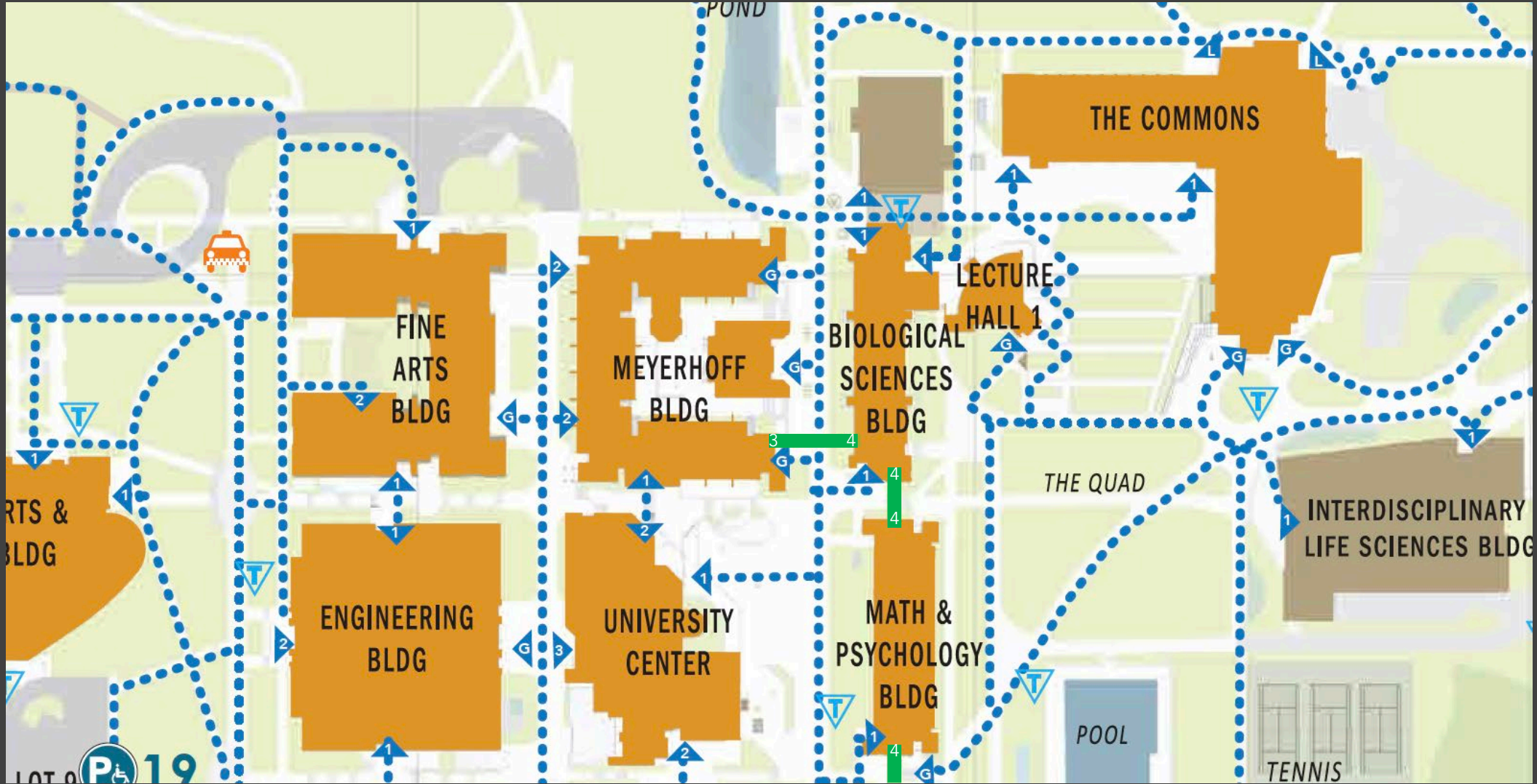


Interior Route Signage



Accessible Routes Map

Detail of Accessibility Routes Map



QR codes on Campus Map
Kiosks provide access to
Accessibility Routes Map



The image shows a kiosk interface for a campus map. The top section features a map of the campus with a north arrow and a scale bar (0 to 500 feet). Two large circular QR codes are overlaid on the map, labeled "Campus Map" and "Accessible Routes Map". Below the map is a "CAMPUS DIRECTORY" section with a grid of building names and numbers (9, 10, 11). At the bottom is a "LEGEND" section with various icons and their corresponding labels.

CAMPUS DIRECTORY

Building Name	Building Number
Administration Drive Garage	11
Commons Drive Garage	11
Historic Commons Garage	11
SAE 1	11
SAE 2	11
SAE 3	11
SAE 4	11
SAE 5	11
SAE 6	11
SAE 7	11
SAE 8	11
SAE 9	11
SAE 10	11
SAE 11	11
SAE 12	11
SAE 13	11
SAE 14	11
SAE 15	11
SAE 16	11
SAE 17	11
SAE 18	11
SAE 19	11
SAE 20	11
SAE 21	11
SAE 22	11
SAE 23	11
SAE 24	11
SAE 25	11
SAE 26	11
SAE 27	11
SAE 28	11
SAE 29	11
SAE 30	11
SAE 31	11
SAE 32	11
SAE 33	11
SAE 34	11
SAE 35	11
SAE 36	11
SAE 37	11
SAE 38	11
SAE 39	11
SAE 40	11
SAE 41	11
SAE 42	11
SAE 43	11
SAE 44	11
SAE 45	11
SAE 46	11
SAE 47	11
SAE 48	11
SAE 49	11
SAE 50	11

LEGEND

- Visitor Parking
- Event Parking
- Accessible Parking
- Information Desk/Vehicular Kiosk
- Dining Locations
- ATM
- University Health Services
- Emergency Phone
- MTA Bus Stop Only
- MTA and UMBC Shuttle Bus Stop
- UMBC Shuttle Bus Stop Only
- Taxi Pickup Area
- Bicycle Rack

Sherman Hall Renewal Update: Routes Open & Closed

Open: Sidewalks on the ITE side of Sherman Hall and access from the University Center plaza.

Closed (Oct 13, 2025–Jan 2027):
Academic Row between Sherman
and Sondheim.

Detour: Use the Sondheim side
closest to the RAC; accessible
route available through Sondheim
Hall.



To identify, address and remove barriers to accessibility on campus, FM collaborates with the Office of Accessibility and Disability Services and many other campus partners.

Provides key insights from faculty, staff, and students as the Office of Accessibility and Disability Services engages directly with many students.

Proactively coordinate alternative routes and critical messaging during construction and planned maintenance.

Share ideas and develop priorities for future projects, proposals, and improvements.



Facilities Management also:

Prepares and submits to MDOD the **Campus Accessibility Transition Plan**.

Monitors and reviews repair reports via the **ReADY** Request system and Work Control to target systems, like elevators, with chronic maintenance issues.

Place a Work Order:

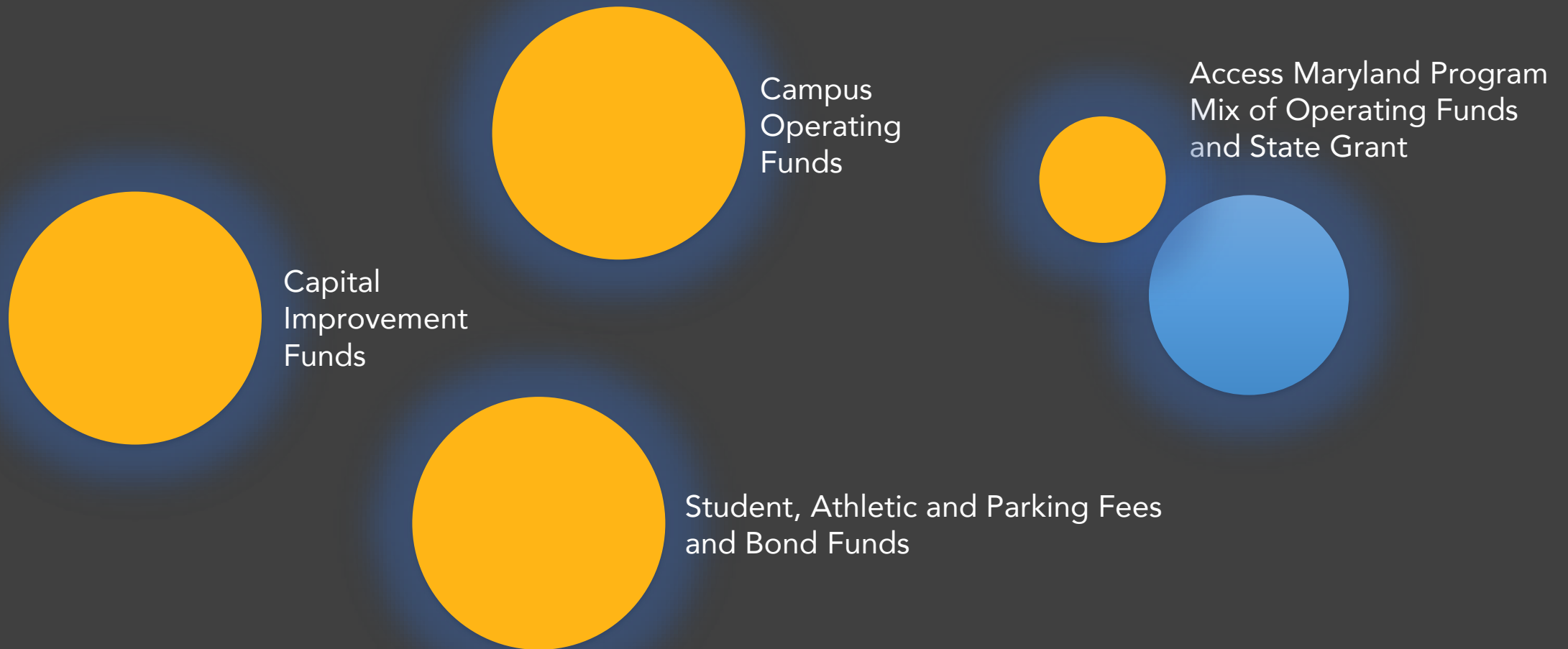
umbc.assetworks.cloud/ready/
410-455-2550

Make updates and improvements to our existing facilities that were constructed prior to the passing of the ADA standards.

Hosts public outreach, like our accessibility forums, to receive input from the campus community.



How are improvements funded?



How are improvements funded?

Capital Improvement funds (CIP) allow us to build new and renovate existing State-supported buildings, like our academic buildings.

CIP Funds used to renovate:

- Sherman Hall

CIP Funds used to design and construct new buildings that replace older and highly retro-fitted facilities:

- Center for Well-being replaced the SDSC trailers
- The ILSB on the site of the Academic Services Building

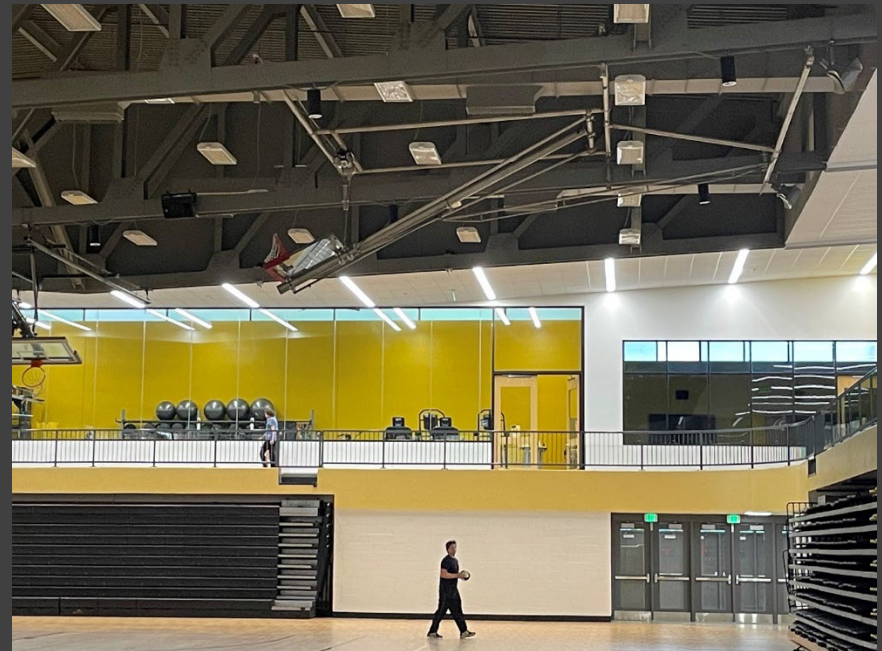
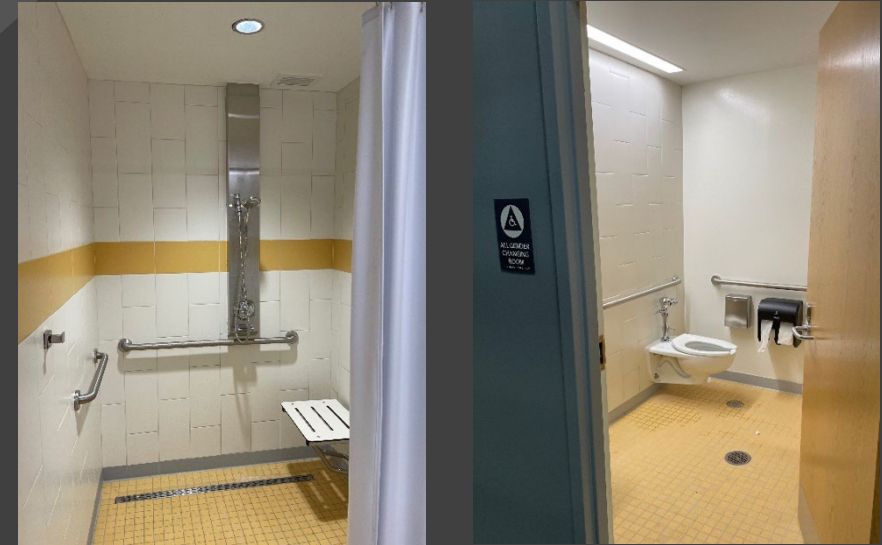


How are improvements funded?

Student, Athletic, and Parking fees are used to make improvements within auxiliary facilities (athletic, parking, residential, student life, and dining).

Auxiliary or Bond Funds used to renovate:

- the Stadium Complex and build the fan amenities building
- all the student residence halls
- True Grits dining hall
- The RAC (Retriever Activities Center) and build the Arena



How are improvements funded?

Campus Operating funds are used for small renovations and improvements to buildings and outdoor areas, and maintenance.

Operating Funds used to support:

- Partial building renovations
- Lecture Hall renovations
- Elevator replacements
- Restroom compliance and creation of all-gender restrooms
- Site improvements



How are improvements funded?

The **Access Maryland Program** is administered by the Maryland Department of Disabilities (MDOD), it provides funding to make targeted accessibility upgrades to state-owned facilities.

Current Access MD Funded Project:

- Renovation of Meyerhoff (4) Chemistry Teaching Labs – Phase II

Newly awarded Access MD Project for FY27:

- Renovation of Biological Sciences Building (8) Teaching Labs



Recently Completed accessibility improvements

Engineering 027 Lecture Hall Full renovation completed in summer 2025

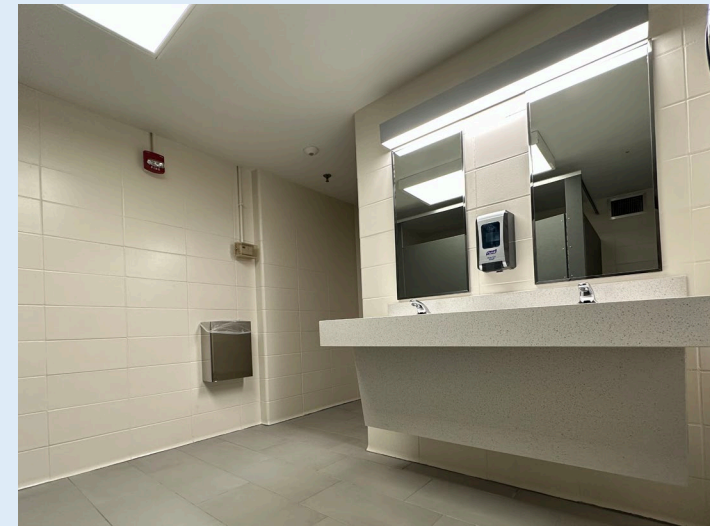
- new accessible seating locations
- AV technology improvements
- lobby improvements



Recently Completed accessibility improvements

Biological Sciences Building Restroom Accessibility Full renovation completed in summer 2025

- upgraded four restrooms on the 2nd and 3rd floors to be compliant with the ADA standards
- upgraded four drinking fountains on the 2nd and 3rd floors to be compliant with the ADA standards
- Access Maryland Project



Recently Completed accessibility improvements

Meyerhoff Chemistry Teaching Labs Accessibility Modifications Phase I Full renovation completed to three (3) labs in summer 2025

- modified three existing teaching labs and undergraduate research lab to allow for inclusive participation in critical chemistry and biochemistry lab courses and research opportunities
- modifications to three more existing teaching labs planned for summer 2026
- Access Maryland Project

Recently Completed accessibility improvements

Patapsco Hall All-Gender Restrooms Accessibility Full renovation completed in summer 2025

- upgraded two basement level restrooms to be all-gender and compliant with the ADA standards
- converted one closet to an all-gender and ADA compliant restroom

Ongoing Initiatives accessibility improvements

Elevator and Assisted Doors Maintenance and Repairs

- Over the last five years FM has contracted with a specialty elevator maintenance firm with the express purpose of reducing elevator down-time. FM has received good feedback on this approach.
- The main campus has 60 elevators, 5 chair lifts. Today we have only 1 elevator down for repairs, before fall 2020 it would be 12-20 at any given time.
- In addition, we now have a specialist door operator contractor that allows us to be more proactive in regular maintenance and rapid in response to repairs. The campus has over 300 operable doors.

Place a Work Order: umbc.assetworks.cloud/ready/ 410-455-2550



Recently Completed accessibility improvements

Elevator Phased Upgrades and Replacements

Over the 10 years 18 elevators have been modernized to received ADA upgrades as part of a general elevator rebuilds.

- Biological Sciences Building
 - south elevator: completed June 2025
 - north elevator: completed August 2025
- University Center
 - service/passenger elevator: completed July 2025
 - main elevator: completed September 2025
 - mailroom elevator: completed December 2025

Current Projects in design or construction

Elevator Phased Upgrades and Replacements

- Engineering Building
 - Phase I construction starts in April 2026 – Aug 2026
 - Phase II construction starts in Aug 2026 – Dec 2026
- Meyerhoff Chemistry Building
 - Phase I construction starts in April 2026 – Aug 2026
 - Phase II construction starts in Aug 2026 – Dec 2026
- Erickson Hall
 - construction start in summer 2027
- Harbor Hall
 - construction start in summer 2027

***The North Elevator (Fine Arts side)
OUT OF SERVICE APRIL 1st ***

***The North Elevator (Library side)
OUT OF SERVICE APRIL 27th ***

Current Projects in design or construction

Engineering Building Accessible All-Gender Restroom Ground Floor

- near lecture hall
- construction expected in summer 2026

Current Projects in design or construction

Chesapeake Hall All-Gender Restroom Accessibility

- upgrade two (2) basement level restrooms to be all-gender and compliant with the ADA standards
- construction expected summer 2026

Current Projects in design or construction

Meyerhoff Chemistry Teaching Labs Accessibility Modifications Phase II

Full renovation completed to three (3) labs in summer 2026

- modified three more existing teaching labs and undergraduate research lab to allow for inclusive participation in critical chemistry and biochemistry lab courses and research opportunities
- Access Maryland Project

Current Projects in design or construction

Accessible EV Charging Stations

Multiple campus locations

Project 1:

- new campus Fleet charging stations are currently being installed, a significant proportion will be accessible, these are located at lots 9, 26 & 31

Project 2:

- new public charging stations, we received \$1 million to support a total of up to 40 charging ports (20 dual port stations)
- installations could begin spring 2027, including accessible spaces

Current Projects in design or construction

Math & Psych Building Classroom Renovation summer 2026

- Full renovation of three (3) ground floor classrooms
- Install an accessible student station and an accessible teaching station in each classroom to allow for inclusive participation in learning and teaching



EXAMPLE ACCESSIBLE STATION (SHERMAN HALL UMBC 2025)

Potential Projects in review

Pride Center Entrance

- The Pride Center entrance is being reviewed for potential upgrades to improve accessibility and visibility including better building connection



Emergency Preparedness

John Schaible, Emergency Manager
UMBC Police Department

March 30, 2026

Today's Discussion

Calling for Help & Receiving UMBC Alerts

Personal Emergency & Evacuation Plans

Facility Emergency Action Plans

Active Assailant Awareness

Online Resources

Call for Help

- When ON CAMPUS...call the UMBC Police Department at (410) 455-5555, or ext. 5-5555 for Immediate Police, Fire or EMS
- UMBC Police can relay your emergency to 911
- OFF CAMPUS...call 911

UMBC Alerts

- Alerts are sent via text message, E-mail, computer screens (*if you are logged in to myUMBC*), digital signs across campus, the myUMBC webpage, and the UMBC Police Facebook page

Personal Emergency & Evacuation Plans

Request assistance with a personalized plan

- Identifying and training others to help you during evacuations
- Providing you with assistance devices for emergency notification or mobility
- Ensuring you are not separated from assistance devices or service animals
- Designating temporary refuge locations if you are unable to evacuate

If you cannot independently evacuate a building via the stairs, contact UMBC Police at (410) 455-5555 for help

Facility Emergency Action Plans

- Each building on campus has its own preparedness webpage
- Details for emergency exits, fire alarms, medical emergencies, and elevator emergencies
- Evacuation rally points, assembly areas, and shelter-in-place

Active Assailant Awareness

- You must have a strategy to survive the first 3 to 5 critical minutes of an attack before police arrive
- Understand RUN – HIDE – FIGHT and AVOID – DENY – DEFEND
- Attend upcoming UMBC Police training

Online Resources

- <https://police.umbc.edu/emergency-preparedness/>
- <https://police.umbc.edu/emergency-preparedness/umbc-alerts/>
- <https://police.umbc.edu/emergency-preparedness/readiness/>
- <https://police.umbc.edu/emergency-preparedness/facility-emergency-action-plans/>
- <https://police.umbc.edu/emergency-preparedness/active-assailant-awareness/>

Questions, Suggestions, and Improvements

Maintenance

Place a Work Order:

umbc.assetworks.cloud/ready/

or

410-455-2550

Ideas or Suggestions for Projects

Maja Tokic
Campus Planner

mtokic1@umbc.edu

Accessibility Concerns or Accommodations

Office of Accessibility and Disability Services

accessibility.umbc.edu

Emergency Management

police.umbc.edu/emergency-preparedness/

John Schaible
Emergency Manager

schaible@umbc.edu