



# CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM EXPANSION – CAPE CORAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE CONSTRUCTION PHASE

## PROPOSAL

Request a specific appropriation project for \$2.1 million to continue from phase I (architectural and engineering plans phase) to phase II (actual construction of building) toward the expansion of Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs at Cape Coral Technical College (CCTC). Programs planned for the expanded campus (two additional buildings) include Automotive Service Technology, Marine Service Technologies, HVAC, Welding Technology, Building Trades, and Nursing.

### Present Situation and Rationale

- Cape Coral Technical College (CCTC) is the only college (public or private, technical or traditional) in a city of more than 200,000 residents. The school's current program offerings focus on careers in healthcare, technology, business, and hospitality. There are no traditional skilled-trades ("blue collar") workforce training programs in our growing city with high employer demand. Architectural design and pre-construction work for campus expansion is currently underway with the help of a prior appropriation. This specific appropriation would help with the actual construction cost of two classroom buildings.

### Impact of Proposed Change

- The addition of six new programs at CCTC would allow for training and certification of more than 150 skilled workers annually for high-demand careers in the following Florida Department of Education career certificate clusters: Transportation, Distribution & Logistics; Manufacturing; Architecture & Construction; and Health Science.

### Historical Perspective

- CCTC was built in 1993, and the campus has not been expanded since then. However, the population of Cape Coral has increased by more than 120,000 residents in the last 30 years and continues to grow.

### Fiscal Impact

- The School District of Lee County has budgeted \$14.6 million for this construction project planned to break ground in FY24. Unanticipated price escalations resulting from impacts of Hurricane Ian have driven the projected cost up to \$16.7 million or more with no design changes made. This appropriation would help make up the difference and allow for the actual construction of new classrooms, while allowing for more of the District's Capital Funding to be focused on K-12 Capital Projects, which are significant after Hurricane Ian.

### Statute Impacted

- F.S. 1011.80

### FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

**Armor Persons, Board Chair,  
District 5**  
School Board Legislative Liaison  
District Cell: 239.371.6503  
Office: 239.337.8303  
Armordp@leeschools.net

**Angel M. Gomez**  
Chief Communications and Government  
Relations Officer  
District Cell: 239-412-3965  
Angelm@leeschools.net

**Dr. Kim McDougal, Lobbyist**  
Gray Robinson, P.A.  
Office: 850-566-8114  
Kim.McDougal@gray-robinson.com