



USF Interdisciplinary Center of Excellence in Environmental and Oceanographic Sciences on the USF St. Petersburg campus

A transformational project for the university and the city of St. Petersburg

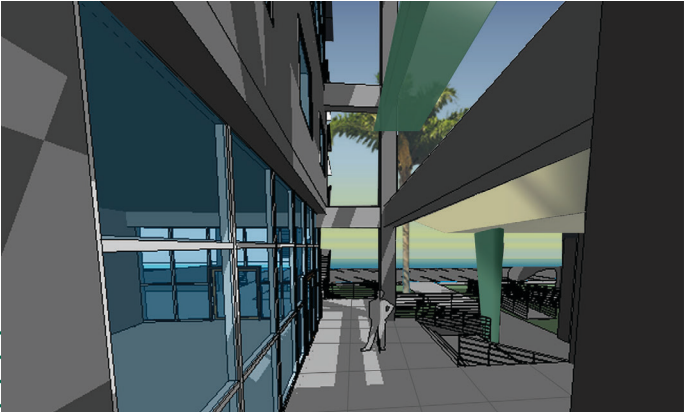
The University of South Florida (USF) is proposing a bold new plan to create a center of excellence that will build upon the world-class reputation of the College of Marine Science and connect multiple schools and colleges across USF to address the complex challenges of coastal resiliency, sustainability, and economic vitality. The center’s hub will be a new \$80-million Environmental & Oceanographic Sciences Research & Teaching Facility. USF’s St. Petersburg campus is an ideal location because it is home to other marine science partners that comprise the largest hub of ocean expertise in the Southeast.

The center will provide:

- The opportunity to launch an array of new interdisciplinary baccalaureate, master’s and doctoral programs
- The ability to recruit excellent students and world-class professors
- A national destination for researchers and students focused on the blue/green issues and economy
- Strategic investments by USF and the state of Florida in areas of global and national importance, such as coastal resilience, that will serve the state of Florida and beyond
- A globally recognized center that will be of service to the St. Petersburg business and residential communities through engagement and outreach

“ Our vision is to build upon St. Petersburg’s reputation as a vibrant cultural center of thought leadership, businesses, STEM, and the arts and become a global destination on the leading edge of the blue-green economy.”

—Dr. Martin Tadlock, Regional Chancellor, USF St. Petersburg campus





Total project funding: **\$80,343,461**

\$20,085,865 (USF) + \$60,257,596 (state) as recommended by the Florida Board of Governors

“ This building is the springboard we need to launch a constellation of cross-cutting programs that empower USF to face today’s grand challenges with innovation, dialogue, and resiliency.”

—Dr. Thomas Frazer, Dean, USF College of Marine Science

2022 Public Education Capital Outlay (PECO) request: at least \$30 million to begin immediate construction of the Environmental & Oceanographic Sciences Research & Teaching Facility:

- Demolish the northwest wing of the Marine Science Complex
- Replace wing with a new four-story addition
- Remodel remainder of the 80-year-old Marine Science Complex to accommodate research labs, teaching labs, and classrooms for graduate and undergraduate programming

The Environmental & Oceanographic Sciences Research & Teaching Facility will house:

- New state-of-the-art research and instructional space for both graduate and undergraduate students from the College of Marine Science, College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Engineering
- Florida Flood Hub for Applied Research and Innovation
 - Establish a home base of expertise in coastal resiliency that will serve the entire state of Florida, with scalable impact for other coastal communities nationwide
 - Generate research on the effects of sea level rise, high-tide flooding events, and more in formats accessible to policymakers, planners, elected officials, and the general public
- New data visualization center
 - Provide data to improve our ability to forecast flooding hazards and assess economic impact