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5-7-2024

## **Announcing Approval of \$2.3M Campus Lighting and Electrical Fixtures Upgrade Project**

Kelly Sparks

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## Announcing Approval of \$2.3M Campus Lighting and Electrical Fixtures Upgrade Project

1 message

**UMBudget** <[umbudget@maine.edu](mailto:umbudget@maine.edu)>  
Reply-To: UMBudget <[umbudget@maine.edu](mailto:umbudget@maine.edu)>  
To:

Tue, May 7, 2024 at 9:30 AM



**Office of the Vice President for Finance and Administration & CBO**  
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Dear Members of the University of Maine Community,

I am delighted to announce that the University of Maine System Board of Trustees has approved a transformative initiative proposed by our President, Joan Ferrini-Mundy. This project aims at enhancing our campus infrastructure while prioritizing environmental sustainability and fiscal responsibility. After careful consideration and planning, we have greenlit a \$2.3 million loan project to upgrade lighting and electrical fixtures across our campus. This loan will be paid back over time with annual savings from reduced energy consumption.

This significant endeavor will be led by Honeywell and its subcontractors and will be overseen by UMaine Facilities Management. The project includes the installation of new fixtures in 61 buildings, resulting in the replacement of over 6,000 light fixtures. Beyond the immediate benefits of improved lighting quality within our physical spaces, this initiative underscores our commitment to reducing our environmental footprint and advancing sustainability efforts.

One of the most remarkable aspects of this project is its substantial impact on energy consumption. By implementing these upgrades, we anticipate a reduction in electrical usage by over 1.3 million kilowatt-hours per year. Not only will this contribute significantly to our university's efforts in combatting climate change, but it also aligns with our broader mission to be responsible stewards of our planet's resources.

The financial implications of this project are equally compelling. The projected annual savings are estimated to be approximately \$350,000 through the long-term cost-effectiveness of investing in energy-efficient technologies. While these savings will be used at first toward debt service to repay the loan associated with this project, future savings will undoubtedly be reinvested back into our academic programs, student support services, and campus enhancements, further enriching the educational experience for our community.

In the coming weeks and months, you can expect to receive updates from UMaine Facilities Management and your building managers regarding the implementation timeline and any relevant details pertaining to this project in your area. For any questions or concerns, please reach out to your Building Manager or send an email to [umbudget@maine.edu](mailto:umbudget@maine.edu). I encourage you to stay informed and engaged as we work together to usher in this transformative phase for our campus.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to the University of Maine.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelly Sparks". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Kelly Sparks**

Vice President for Finance and Administration & Chief Business Officer  
University of Maine and the University of Maine at Machias