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**Jimmy H. Baker**  
CHANCELLOR

**MEMORANDUM #2020-EXE-060**

DATE: June 22, 2020

TO: ACCS College Presidents

FROM: Jimmy H. Baker, Chancellor



RE: ACCS ASPIRE 2030 – Capital Improvement Projects RFP

It is my pleasure to announce the launch of ACCS ASPIRE 2030, a system-wide initiative to inspire community-focused strategic planning for capital improvement projects. The acronym ASPIRE (Achieving Systemwide Potential through Increased Resources and Engagement) aptly captures the initiative's intent - for our system to realize its potential for improving Alabama through strategic investments in local college projects; projects that will engage the local community, strengthen relationships with key stakeholders, better align services to business and industry needs, and, ultimately, increase student success.

ACCS ASPIRE 2030 will be introduced to ACCS college presidents at their regional Economic Development Leadership Forum meetings on June 23 (northern region), June 25 (central region) and June 30 (southern region). At each meeting, I will talk to you more about my vision for the initiative and then my staff will deliver a presentation on the associated Request for Proposals. At that time, you will receive a portfolio that will contain all the information you need to participate in ACCS ASPIRE 2030. The package will include detailed instructions for completing Phase 1 of the proposal development process as well as a full suite of resources to assist in your team's work and to inspire you to "dream big."

I expect every college to participate in ACCS ASPIRE 2030 and to fully engage both internal and external stakeholders throughout the process – students, faculty, staff, and administration from within the college and key community representatives from outside the college (partners from K-12, higher education, local government, business and industry, non-profits, and economic development organizations). Engagement of key community stakeholders in strategic planning is the first step in our colleges becoming true anchor institutions in their communities, and the level of engagement demonstrated in your proposals will carry significant weight during the evaluation process.

Thank you in advance for the hard work that you and your teams will perform in ACCS ASPIRE 2030. I look forward to reviewing your proposals.