

**FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT APPLICATION  
Fall 2016**

Name of Person Submitting Request:	<b>Lorrie Burnham</b>
Program or Service Area:	<b>Biology</b>
Division:	<b>Science</b>
Date of Last Program Efficacy:	<b>2013</b>
What rating was given?	<b>Continuance</b>
Type of Facility Requested:	<b>lighting</b>
Amount Requested (if available):	
Strategic Initiatives Addressed: (See <a href="http://www.valleycollege.edu/about-sbvc/office-of-president/college_planning_documents/documents/strategic-plan-report-working-doc-8-25-15-2.pdf">http://www.valleycollege.edu/about-sbvc/office-of-president/college_planning_documents/documents/strategic-plan-report-working-doc-8-25-15-2.pdf</a> )	Goal 6 – Facilities (support maintenance of safe, efficient, and functional facilities) 6.2 – Maintain a safe and secure environment 6.4 – Continue with facilities improvement plan Goal 2 – Student success 2.5 - Improve performance 2.6 - Increase student success

NOTE: To facilitate ranking by the committee, submit separate requests for each project; however, multiple items can be submitted as one request if it is required that the projects are packaged together.

**It is suggested that you meet with Robert Jenkins – Director, Facilities, Maintenance, & Operations - prior to submitting a Facilities Needs Request. 909-384-8662 or [rjenkins@sbccd.cc.ca.us](mailto:rjenkins@sbccd.cc.ca.us).**

Capital Improvement  Repair

Are there alternative funding sources? (for example, Department, Budget, Perkins, Grants, etc.)

Yes  NO

If yes, what are they? \_\_\_\_\_

1. Provide a rationale for your request. (Explain, in detail, the need for this project.)

This request is to replace the current lighting design/system serving our large lecture rooms (HLS 134 and 135) and other areas (e.g. stockrooms, chemical prep rooms, tissue culture room) of the second floor in the HLS building (HLS rooms: 239 243, 244, 208, 216, 217, 215, restrooms). Some of the areas are educational facilities that serve a large number of students in Biology, Chemistry, and other departments across campus. The lecture rooms support over 60 students with remarkably poor illumination. Other critical working environments such as chemical stockrooms and laboratory preparation rooms are also impacted.

Unfortunately, the original lighting design of this building has never been up to standard for its purpose and the faculty never approved it. Since the construction of the HLS building, several

requests have been made on this matter. Through proposition 39, California voters have decisively agreed that our school buildings need to be retrofitted; “to make sure these buildings meet the basic goals of providing safe and healthy learning environments” (Report Prop 39, focus.senate.ca.gov).

For areas that require safety and frequent visual tasks, the standard recommended is at 50-100 foot candles. In comparison, workrooms in the PS building are above this number. The HLS areas have an illumination power much below design standards. The current illumination ranges between 15-25 foot candles. When lighting is this reduced, problems with safety are more likely to rise. It also creates difficult environments for those already visually challenged. As in most science-related areas, staff and students work with chemicals, read labels, set special lab equipment, and conduct tasks using sharps.

Furthermore, in lecture areas it is essential that students perform specific tasks to learn such as read the board, read their textbooks, and have the ability to write and see their writing. But these simple tasks are threatened every day, every semester. We teach students with learning disabilities in an environment not favorable to anyone’s education. Moreover, inappropriate lighting increases hazardous walking conditions for slipping, tripping, and falling. These hazards are not only for students but also for faculty and classified staff working in these exceptionally poor-lit environments. Anyone reading this document should visit HLS 134 or 135 to truly grasp the severity of the problem.

Visual and learning performance, and safety have been compromised for too long in the HLS building. This request aims to improve safety of all employees and students. Additionally, a modification to the design will benefit the institution in the long-term because a new lighting design can lower the utility costs in these areas that are of high-energy demand. Retrofitting the lighting will also help comply with codes and standards (Illuminating Engineering Society).

2. Indicate how the content of the department/program’s latest Efficacy Report and/or current EMP supports this request and how the request is tied to program planning. *(Directly reference the relevant information from your latest Efficacy Report and/or current EMP in your discussion.)*

EMP  
Challenges & Opportunities:  
• Poor lighting and sound issues in lecture rooms makes teaching difficult.

3. Indicate any additional information you want the committee to consider *(for example, regulatory information, compliance, updated efficiency, student success data, planning, etc.)*.

4. What are the consequences of not funding this facilities request?

Student visual learning is hindered