



Marion County Board of County Commissioners

Administration

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January 22, 2025

To Members of the Florida Executive Branch,

As the County Administrator for Marion County, I am writing to express my strong support for the College of Central Florida's legislative request to fund the construction of a new classroom and laboratory building at the Vintage Farm campus. This project represents a critical investment in the future of our county's agricultural and equine industries, which are foundational to our local economy and identity.

Marion County is rapidly growing and our education partners need support to keep up with that growth. Marion County is proud to be known as a leader in both agriculture and equine pursuits, but maintaining this status requires a robust pipeline of skilled workers equipped with the latest knowledge and technical expertise. The proposed facility will provide the College of Central Florida with the resources needed to deliver cutting-edge education and hands-on training in agricultural technology and equine studies.

The establishment of CF's Vintage Farm campus was a landmark achievement for our community, demonstrating the college's commitment to preparing the workforce of tomorrow. The addition of a state-of-the-art classroom and laboratory building will elevate this campus to new heights, ensuring that Marion County remains at the forefront of agricultural and equine education in Florida.

On behalf of Marion County, I urge you to prioritize funding for this project. This initiative is not just an investment in education—it is an investment in the long-term prosperity of our community and the industries that define us.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Very respectfully,

Mounir Bouyounes, P.E.
Marion County Administrator

cc: Marion County Board of County Commissioners