

To Council President Darrell Clarke and members of Council:

Thank you for the opportunity to meet with you today. It's great to see some of our most ardent supporters, in addition to some newer faces. I look forward to partnering with all of you as we continue to uplift Community College of Philadelphia, or the "City's College."

I'm speaking with you today during a very exciting time for the College. We'll be celebrating Commencement this coming Saturday, May 6th, at the Liacouras Center on North Broad Street. Even more special is the fact that Mayor Kenney will serve as our keynote speaker. While Saturday's Commencement will provide the joyous opportunity to recognize our graduates, it's also a celebration for the City. As a result of our partnership, in addition to Mayor Kenney's steadfast support of our institution over the years, thousands of students will be able to take the next step on their educational journeys – leading to the transfer to four-year schools here in the City, or entering the workforce, working hard to improve the city we all love. This is something we should ***all*** be proud of.

I look forward to sharing more of the College's successes with you, so you can see the very tangible ways this funding affects the students we serve. Together, we can continue to keep our positive momentum going, and make higher education a reality for the Philadelphians who are eager to give back to our communities. We believe our team has created a budget for the upcoming fiscal year that is reflective of our priorities, and the critical time in which we find ourselves. We look forward to reviewing it with you.

Thank you again. [Transition into presentation.]

Fast Facts

As many of you know, Community College of Philadelphia is the largest public institution of higher education in the City, and the six largest in the commonwealth. We served approximately 19,000 students in the 2021-2022 academic year, and offer more than 100 associate degree and certificate programs. We are set to graduate at least 1,530 students this weekend. What sets us apart is the fact that approximately 85 percent of recent graduates live and work in the greater Philadelphia area, so we really are training our city's workforce. We are a minority-serving institution reflective of the communities we serve, and the diversity of our students, faculty and staff is one of our greatest strengths. You can see other demographic data represented in the presentation.

Councilmanic District Numbers

On this slide, you'll see how many students we serve in each Councilmanic district. Our students come to us from all over the City, and we're able to serve them among our various campuses—including Main Campus in Center City, the Northeast Regional Center, and the West Regional Center, right next to our new Career and Advanced Technology Center at 48th and Chestnut streets.

Economic Impact

The latest economic impact report conducted regarding the College's contributions to the region, conducted by Emsi, demonstrates the College generated approximately \$631.3 million in added income to Philadelphia County in Fiscal Year 2019-2020, and supported more than 7,500 jobs during that time. Additionally, for every dollar invested in a CCP education, Pennsylvania will see an average of \$9.40 in added income and social savings, while students gain \$5.90 in lifetime earnings. These figures hopefully illustrate how valuable the College is to the City.

Budget Request

For the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the College is requesting \$51 million, including \$11.7 million for the Octavius Catto Scholarship and \$150,000 for dual enrollment. In addition, the College requests \$15 million in one-time funding for capital supports and programs. These funds will help support important projects to provide meaningful academic opportunities and world-class facilities for our students, as outlined in our strategic plan. Some of these projects include the renovation of the Great Hall for academic and student programming, the creation of a simulation and skills lab for our award-winning Nursing program, upgrades to our dental clinic, and improved lighting to enhance safety and security on campus, among others.

I'd now like to touch on how the College is supporting the City, and why this funding is so crucial.

Student Success/Commencement

As of April 24, 2023, approximately 1,530 students are set to graduate as part of the Class of 2023. Of those students, 107 will earn their high school diploma alongside their college degrees. Dual enrollment programs allow high school students from schools like Parkway Center City Middle College and MaST Community Charter School to take college courses while enrolled in high school. Other programs that prepare learners for college life include the Jr. STEM Academy, Gateway to College and Advance College Experience. As previously mentioned, part of the budget funds will go to support dual enrollment, which will be particularly timely due to the new Pennsylvania mandate for high school graduation under Act 158. Since the rollout of Act 158, we've experienced a 50 percent increase in the number of new applications for dual enrollment since this time last year. We look forward to serving even more high school students looking for pre-college training in the years to come.

Octavius Catto Scholarship

The Octavius Catto Scholarship is a result of the partnership between the College and the City, and a significant portion of this year's budget request, about \$11.7 million, would be devoted to this initiative. Since the introduction of the initiative in spring 2021,

the College has welcomed 1,100 Catto Scholars, with the first full cohort graduating this weekend. In addition, last year, eligibility was expanded to include select transfer students, re-engaged CCP students, and students who graduated from high school outside of Philadelphia. Not only do these students have the opportunity to graduate debt-free, but they also have access to wraparound services including Catto support coaches, who check in with students individually to make sure they have what they need to succeed. This year, on Catto's birthday, students shared writings they'd put together about what the scholarship means to them, which were inspiring to hear. We can't wait to see all that this first cohort of Catto Scholars achieves in the future!

Science Equipment and Academic Offerings

To train students interested in STEM and better meet the workforce needs of the City, the College has increased its academic offerings related to STEM and updated STEM-related facilities. Collaboration with companies like Lovance, WuXi and Integral Molecular provide training for cutting-edge jobs in the cell and gene therapy sector, including in the areas of quality control, animal research, manufacturing and more. In addition, a noncredit aseptic technique training course provides a hands-on immersive laboratory experience in a GMP setting. Furthermore, science labs have been updated with the following technology to provide students quality academic experiences: various microscopes, thermal cyclers, gas chromatographs, fermenters and more.

Additional Student Supports

At CCP, we're also proud of the additional supports we're able to provide students outside of the classroom. For example, our Single Stop program connects students to resources like tax filings, legal aid, and financial counseling, and we've been able to serve more than 19,000 students and families since 2013. Part of the request for this year's budget includes funds to renovate our Single Stop office so we're able to provide even better service to our students.

Other supports include our Shared Housing Program partnership with the Philadelphia Housing Authority, which provides housing for housing-insecure students just blocks from campus. This program focuses on students who've been involved in foster care. I'd also like to recognize our Food Collaborative, including Grady's Garden, which has provided more than 8,000 meals to students over the years.

CME, I Am More

Another support that helps students both inside and outside the classroom is our Center for Male Engagement. This initiative makes support coaches available to male students of color to help them adjust to the college environment. We are also proud to support students navigating life after being involved in the criminal justice system. Last year, one of our I Am More coaches, Luis "Suave" Gonzalez, won the Pulitzer Prize for his involvement in a podcast about his more than 30 years in prison. We know how important it is to uplift traditionally underserved communities and are looking forward to continuing these efforts.

Saxbys Café

In 2022, Community College of Philadelphia opened an entirely student-run Saxbys Café on campus, thanks to the Saxbys Experiential Learning Platform. The café is headed by a student CEO, who earns full academic credit in addition to a stipend while working and training other student employees.

Library and Learning Commons

The Library and Learning Commons on Main Campus provides study spaces and rooms for students, in addition to collaborative areas for classes and groups to meet. It is also equipped with state-of-the-art video equipment and computers for academic work, and students can access tutoring services there. It remains a main hub on campus for students to gather and study, and is located next to the Saxbys Café.

Career and Advanced Technology Center

Some of you may have joined us last August when we officially opened our Career and Advanced Technology Center in West Philadelphia. This facility will be crucial in helping to boost the City's economy and training much of the future workforce. Students can access automotive technology, advanced manufacturing and entry-level health care programs here, so they can take time to obtain degrees or begin earning family-sustaining wages in just a few months, depending on their goals. The CATC also houses the only Toyota T-TEN program in the region, which allows students to make money working at a Toyota dealership while attending school. We've also included collaborative spaces for entrepreneurial thinking and learning, and welcome the community to check out the latest technology available at this state-of-the-art facility.

Power Up/10,000 Small Businesses

Some of you may also be familiar with our programming designed to support local small businesses. We launched Power Up Your Business in 2017 as a way to provide small businesses the tools they need to make a difference in their communities. More than 300 businesses have participated in Power Up's signature 12-week, peer-based learning experience, while others have attended store owners' series and industry-specific best practice workshops. Business owners get help with everything from marketing and bookkeeping to accounting and social media strategy.

Another program facilitated by the College is Goldman Sachs' *10,000 Small Businesses* initiative. This program provides small businesses the tools and knowledge needed to develop strategic and customized growth plans to take their operations to the next level. A recent survey of *10,000 Small Businesses* participants demonstrates within six months of graduation, 50 percent of businesses reported creating new jobs, 70 percent reported an increase in revenue, and 88 percent were doing business with each other. In fact, last year, 28 of the 100 fastest-growing, privately-held businesses in Philadelphia, as celebrated by the annual Philly 100, were alumni of the *10,000 Small*

Businesses program. We value being able to assist the small businesses that serve as the cornerstones of our communities.

Additional Workforce Development Offerings

The College also offers employer resources and professional development opportunities, in addition to workforce development programs in areas including health care and wellness; manufacturing and infrastructure; education and behavioral health; business and finance; and technology. Corporate College provides credit courses to businesses, while our Career Connections office prepares students for interviews and helps them get their resumes in top shape for employers. Pre-apprenticeship programs also provide entry-level training in fields like industrial maintenance and advanced manufacturing. So, there really is something for everyone, whether you're looking to level up your skills or make a career change.

Closing

As we wrap up today, I would like to thank everyone for your attention and participation. We know there is much work to do, but we are sure that with your assistance, we can continue to provide a high-quality education to thousands of Philadelphians. Thank you again.

Dr. Donald Guy Generals