

SAN MATEO COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Bond Oversight Committee Annual Report to the Community - 2010

Background

Voters in San Mateo County generously voted to approve two separate bond measures (Measure C in 2001 and Measure A in 2005) which together provided \$675 million in funding for updating, modernizing, and retrofitting the three community colleges serving County residents: Cañada College, College of San Mateo and Skyline College. As required by law, the District Board of Trustees established a Bond Oversight Committee in 2001 composed of community leaders with expertise in finance, accounting, education, construction, sustainability and local government. The Committee is charged with the responsibility to assure voters that bond proceeds are expended only for construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation or replacement of College facilities in compliance with the ballot language approved by voters, and that no funds are used for teacher or administrator salaries.

During the past year, the Bond Oversight Committee met quarterly to review the District's bond project plans, timelines and proposed expenditures. At each meeting, the Committee was provided with financial and project plan updates describing the bond-related activities undertaken by the District during the quarter. Throughout the year, members of the Bond Oversight Committee also toured facilities under construction as well as newly completed buildings. This year saw a major change in the membership of the Bond Oversight Committee. Due to term limits that are imposed by State law, eight members were termed out and seven new members were added to the Committee; in addition, a new student member of the board was appointed by the Associated Students organization.

The accounting firm of Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP (VTD) conducted both a financial and a performance audit of bond expenditures and activities for both bond funds—Measure C and Measure A. The firm found that the bond fund financial statements present fairly the financial position and results of operations for each respective fund. As part of the performance audits, VTD reviewed 99% of Measure C expenditures and 33% of Measure A expenditures and found that the use of funds was consistent with the stated purposes of the respective bond project lists approved by voters. As of December 30, 2010, the District has expended all of Measure C funds; spending from this bond measure is completed. In addition, the District has expended \$381,143,787 and committed \$21,041,146 of Measure A funds—86% of the total authorization.

2010 in Review

During 2010, there was extensive construction activity on the College of San Mateo and Skyline College campuses. At Cañada College, the construction pace has slowed as most major projects have been completed. District and College administrations continued their collaboration in planning and scheduling construction projects to minimize the impact on the campus communities and to ensure that bond project funds are efficiently and effectively expended on College improvements that will benefit students for generations to come.

District staff also worked aggressively to secure additional State, local and private funding to supplement bond funds; to date, the District has secured more than \$84.3 million from these sources. However, the District is still suffering from the County's loss of \$155 million in funds invested in Lehman Brothers when it went bankrupt in 2008. This caused a loss of \$20 million in College District bond project funds; we continue to pursue all available means to try to recoup some of these losses, including a potential federal bailout

and/or litigation. The District also has experienced a decline in State Capital Outlay funds for projects on all three campuses, due to the fact that the State failed to approve an educational facilities bond in 2008 or 2010. The District lost \$54 million in previously-approved State funds due to the lack of the 2008 bond measure. The Lehman and State Capital Outlay losses forced the District to scale back or eliminate several construction projects previously planned.

Cañada College

As stated earlier, most of the planned construction projects at Cañada College have been completed. During 2010, the following bond-funded projects occurred at Canada College:

- The modernization of Building 5 and 6, which houses the cafeteria and student services activities, is currently under construction; completion is expected in Fall 2011. As part of this project, two elevators are being added for ADA access to major parts of the building which are located on a steep hillside below the main part of the campus. Total project cost is \$14.4 million: \$5 million State Capital Outlay and \$9.4 million Measure A funds.
- Buildings 2, 3, 16, 17 and 18, which previously underwent interior building modernization utilizing Measure C and Measure A funds, were painted in 2010.
- A campus tree trimming project was also completed during the year. The tree trimming was needed for fire mitigation and erosion control. As a result of this project, a beautiful grove of olive trees, which is believed to have been part of the original campus landscape design, was rediscovered at the secondary entrance to the campus, off Cañada Road.
- A high voltage electrical infrastructure upgrade for the entire campus is currently in the planning stages. This project, which is primarily funded by the State, will also utilize Measure A funds. This project will go out to bid in Spring 2011 with construction starting Summer 2011. Total project cost is \$4.6 million: \$3.8 million State Capital Outlay and \$768,000 Measure A funds.

College of San Mateo

Construction began in 2008 on the large \$226 million CSM Design/Build Project, which involved demolition of four buildings; construction of two new buildings, a new aquatic center, electrical power distribution system replacement, a new central chiller plant, and extensive site work and landscape improvements, including the Fine Arts Courtyard. In 2010:

- The new 88,000 square foot Building 5, Health and Wellness, opened in Spring 2010. Building 5 houses several CSM workforce programs, including dental, nursing and cosmetology, as well as a new fitness/wellness center that is used for PE classes, for a community fitness center and to train fitness professionals. It is adjacent to the new aquatic center, featuring an Olympic-sized pool and a second pool for competition warm-ups as well as Adaptive Physical Education. This new building has received LEED Gold certification (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design), demonstrating the District's commitment to sustainable building design and construction. Funding for the building and Aquatic Center is from Measure A. Total project cost is \$61 million, all from Measure A.
- Construction is nearing completion on the new 143,000 square foot Building 10: College Center, which will place the cafeteria, bookstore and critical student services in the heart of the campus. The new facility will unite Student Services into a "One-Stop Shop," including admissions, career services, counseling, health center, financial aid, disabled students programs & services, cafeteria, and bookstore. Building 10 will also house a new Learning Center, a centralized tutorial and student support lab where students can get assistance across the disciplines from writing and mathematics to

speech communication and foreign languages. In addition, Building 10 will house three high-tech, large classrooms; faculty offices; and three large labs for speech, multimedia and broadcasting. This new building is also targeted to receive LEED Gold certification. This building is being funded with Measure A, and is expected to open in Spring, 2011. Total project cost is \$91 million.

- Modernization of Buildings 12, 15 and 17 was completed in 2010. Building 12 is the former science building; the first floor has been completed modernized to house the Administration of Justice and Fire Science Programs. Buildings 15 and 17, with 80 faculty offices, were completely gutted and modernized (building systems such as HVAC, plumbing, electrical fire alarm, and access controls; restrooms; paint; flooring; and ADA compliance, etc.). Total project cost is \$14.9 million, all from Measure A.
- The main campus also went through massive site work improvements that included ADA accessibility improvements, new pedestrian walkways, parking, landscaping, energy efficient exterior LED lighting, asphalt roadway and parking repairs, upgrades to the main campus quad, erosion and fire mitigation measures (coordinate with the Cities of Hillsborough and San Mateo). Total project cost is \$42 million, all from Measure A.
- There are two projects in the planning stages at CSM: demolition of seismically unsafe buildings 20-29 and renovation of the area to accommodate additional parking, pedestrian walkways, site improvements to include landscaping, erosion and fire mitigation, improved ADA accessibility and an outdoor plaza; and an electrical 480KW load center upgrade/reconstruction. The current electrical infrastructure is underground and the College has experienced two underground explosions due to outdated, nonfunctional equipment. Total project cost is \$17 million: \$10 million in State Capital Outlay and \$7 million from Measure A.

Skyline College

Construction began in 2008 on the large \$89 million Skyline Design/Build Project, which involved demolition of one building; construction of two new buildings; landscape improvements; new 480KW load center and main high voltage control center for the campus; and extensive ADA accessibility site work and including the central courtyard. In 2010:

- Construction is just about completed on the new 73,000 square foot Building 4: Multicultural Center, Cosmetology, and Administration & Classrooms; a grand opening is planned for Spring 2011. Building 4 is on track to receive LEED Gold certification. Total project cost is \$55 million, all from Measure A.
- Site work improvements around campus, particularly in and around the new central courtyard at Skyline, were completed in 2010. In addition, the perimeter roadway around campus has been redesigned to allow for a roundabout, drop off area near the Student Center and all parking lots on campus were re-paved (for the first time since 1969). Total project cost is \$20.5 million, all from Measure A.
- Construction was completed on the 6,746 square foot New Auto Technology Facility. This building houses the new auto transmission program as well as a classroom and laboratory facilities. Total project cost is \$7.6 million, all from Measure A.
- A new Facilities Maintenance Center opened at Skyline College in 2010, replacing 50-year old former Coast Guard facilities that had housed facilities staff and equipment since the College opened in 1969. This project consists of engineering, custodial, and grounds facilities to maintain campus operations. This new building also received LEED Gold certification. Project cost is \$8.2 million:

\$5 million in State Capital Outlay and \$3.2 million from Measure A.

Districtwide

Sustainability is one of the Guiding Principles identified in the College District Facilities Master Plan. To achieve these goals, the District requires its consultants and contractors to employ sustainable strategies in the projects included in the District's Capital Improvement Program. The District is proactively looking for opportunities to employ such strategies in the areas of energy management, waste reduction/waste management, water conservation, use of renewable and green construction materials, and building orientation and design. To date, the District has received LEED Certification (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) for three new buildings: the two Facilities Maintenance Centers and Building 5 at CSM. Building 10 at CSM and Building 4 at Skyline are also on track to received LEED Gold certification.

The Bond Oversight Committee continues to be gratified with the results of the District's modernization and new construction efforts. More detailed information about the bond projects, timelines, and expenditures-to-date is available on the District's web site: www.smccd.edu. To navigate to the information from the home page, click on *Bond Oversight Committee* on the District's main web page. There you will find bond projects and information related to the activities of the Bond Oversight Committee: meeting dates, agendas, minutes, and reports. Additional questions and/or concerns should be addressed to the Bond Oversight Committee in care of: christensen@smccd.edu.

The Bond Oversight Committee welcomes members of the community to its meetings which are held every quarter.

Submitted by Bond Oversight Committee Members (2011):

Linda Asbury
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