

# Measure H Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee

Wednesday, May 10, 2023 5:30 to 6:30PM **CB** Wire ES



#### 1.0 Welcome/Call to Order 5:35

2.0 Public Comment – Individual public comment shall be no more than two minutes in length on each agenda or non-agenda item. No public comment.

#### The Committee proceeded with item number 6 (Introductions) until quorum could be established.

#### 3.0 Call to Order/Members Present/Absent

Arthur Aleman, Brian Hill, Christian Burkin, Christine Casey, David Mack, Ian Davis, James Miller, Manuel Jimenez, Marie Degelos, Nicole Elton, Robert Herrell Absent: Amber Verdugo, Andrea McPhee, Andrew Marks, Charlotte Yates, Dave O'Toole, Gabriel Tiffany, Julia Gahagan, Kae Saephanh, Nija Fountano Staff Present: Rose Ramos, Ron Hickey, Chris Ralston, Cindy Tao, Nathaniel Browning, Brendin Swanson, Crystal Hoff, Elena Hankard

4.0 Approval of Agenda/Discussion of Tonight's Meeting *Motion by:* David Mack The agenda was approved as presented. All in favor.

#### 5.0 Approval of Minutes

March 8, 2023 – Regular Meeting Motion by: Brian Hill The minutes were approved as presented. All in favor.

Manuel Jimenez: How does it work getting an item on the agenda?

Rose Ramos: Once a chair is elected, members can always inquire at the end of the meeting or one can email the chair and staff. But the agenda is pretty much structured to discuss the projects and progress and bond issuances or to discuss audits.

Additional items can also be discussed in the Public Comment portion of the agenda.

Manuel Jimenez: The committee is just starting to meet. There has already been a year or two of funds spent. It seems that there are not a lot of meetings set. Seems like we are moving in a slow space. How do we catch up?

Ron Hickey: Let's go through the agenda, at the end if there are any questions, they can be emailed to staff and will be answered if warranted or they can be brought back to a meeting if need be. In this case, we must follow the agenda but can always create time at the end of a meeting for questions.

Second by: Arthur Aleman

Second by: Robert Herrell

*Rose Ramos: We will be presenting during this meeting and questions can be asked during the presentation and will be answered.* 

Manuel Jimenez: If I had a particular issue, I should have gotten it on the agenda before the meeting? If I had emailed about x, y, and z, then it's available to go on the agenda?

Rose Ramos: It depends if it falls under the topics of the agenda. This is a pretty prescribed committee that is related to the Measure H bond. Staff is sharing information with the committee related to the bond.

*Question to Brian Hill (Chair of Measures Q and R CBOC) from Rose Ramos: How has this been handled with Measures Q and R?* 

Brian Hill: There is an agenda process. Staff sends the chair the agenda. It is generally fairly routine. There have been times when there is something else to discuss and it is put on the agenda.

Brian Hill: I think you will notice tension between the staff and the members about what is prescribed for a bond committee activity. The issue is when we come into a broader discussion, is it appropriate for discussion in that bond oversight committee. There are lots of things to talk about, don't get me wrong. And there are things we are not going to talk about, I'm sure. I guess I don't know what your question would be and what the context of it is so I don't know if anybody here can say, we won't answer that question or that's not in the purview of this committee.

Manuel Jimenez: My main concern is that it has been a year or two without a committee and the meetings don't seem that frequent. That is my main concern. The next meeting is in August.

Nathaniel Browning: So we do have quarterly meetings which is three times more than what is outlined in Ed Code. We do feel that quarterly meetings is above and beyond than most districts' practices. From there, we can work on making sure you have information at each of those meetings and so the agenda does get built appropriately. This being our second meeting, and not having officers appointed yet, we are still in initial kick-off. We did sell our first bond issuance this last July. We are coming into a spot where we can start reporting in this past almost year now. So with the CBOC being a body of oversight, we are right in that sweet spot.

Manuel Jimenez: So we would expect to see all the expenditures in the last year or so coming up for review?

Rose Ramos: Yes. Can we get started with the agenda?

**6.0 Committee Member Introductions** Committee member introductions.

7.0 Chair and Co-Chair Elections Manuel Jimenez – Chair Brian Hill Co-Chair

Manuel Jimenez volunteered for Chair. Second by Christine Casey. All in favor. Brian Hill volunteered for Co- Chair. Second by Christine Casey. All in favor.

Rose Ramos: Responsibilities of Chair: assist in building agenda, run meetings, review audits, present to the Board.

Rose Ramos oriented the Committee to the documents in their packets.

Rose Ramos: The Committee presents to the Board once a year. This Committee can present in the fall as the Measures Q and R Committee will be doing. Please note that this bond passed a couple of years ago and we just issued the first bond last year and have been spending. There has already been an audit of those expenditures. So our Board has been receiving information. And they have to because they have to approve the projects. There has been disclosure all along.

### 8.0 Measure H Bond Fund Projects Update

*Measure H Funding Summary \$750M authorization approved by voters March 2020 \$2.9M interest Bond Sales to Date: Issuance \$225M – Running \$225M – Remaining \$525M* 

#### Measure H Budget and Expenditures as of 4/30/2023

Academic and Safety Equal Access Budget to Date \$226M – Expended to Date \$4.4M Technology Enhancement Budget to Date \$8.5M – Expended to Date \$56K Safety and Security Improvements Budget to Date \$2.1- Expended to Date \$13K PE and Athletic Programs Budget to Date \$29.8 School and Classroom Improvements Budget to Date \$29.8M – Expended to Date \$54K Program Management Budget to Date \$1M – Expended to Date \$507K Future Projects per FMP \$427.7M

Member question: The categories that were just run through, to what extent were those delineated in Measure H itself vs. decisions that were made after the bond was passed by the school board, for example?

Rose Ramos: There is some language and it is very specific. But there are the major categories within the bond language. The ballot language was provided at the first meeting.

#### Academic and Safety Equal Access Projects Budget and Expenditures as of 4/30/2023

Nicholas ES Budget to Date \$66,749,800 – Expended to Date \$1,230,223 CB Wire ES Interim Housing for Nicholas ES Students Budget to Date \$4,250,200- Expended to Date \$71,508 Oak Ridge ES Budget to Date \$67,000,000 – Expended to Date \$2,142,954 Cesar Chavez/Edward Kemble ES New Construction Budget to Date \$88,000,000 – Expended to Date \$2,142,954

**Technology Enhancement Projects Budget and Expenditures as of 4/30/2023** Total Budget to Date \$8,505,000 – Expended to Date \$55,641

*Safety and Security Improvement Projects Budget and Expenditures as of 4/30/2023 Total Budget to Date \$2,085,000 – Expended to Date \$13,125* 

**PE and Athletic Program Projects Budget and Expenditures as of 4/30/2023** Total Budget to Date \$29,762,500

School and Classroom Improvement Projects Budget and Expenditures as of 4/30/2023 Total Budget to Date \$55,000,000 – Expended to Date \$54,064

Brian Hill: Does the cash flow show up in any of these reports?

Rose Ramos: No it does not.

Rose Ramos: You should also be aware that we also are under constraints by the government. When we issue a bond, we're supposed to spend that money by a certain timeframe.

## **Bond Construction Update**

Current Active Projects Edward Kemble/Cesar Chavez Elementary New Construction Nicholas Elementary School New Construction Oak Ridge Elementary New Construction Burbank Softball/Baseball Title IX Modernization Kennedy Softball/Baseball Title IX Modernization McClatchy Softball/Baseball Title IX Modernization West Campus Softball/Baseball Title IX Modernization Cal Middle Campus Renewal Security and Fencing at Multi-sites ADA Pathway Concrete Improvements Matsuyama Campus Renewal Alice Birney Campus Renewal New Joseph Bonnheim Playground Replacement

Member question: Difference between the first two on the list? In one case, keep the school open while you build up and around. In the other case, you move off site completely. What was the reason for these decisions?

Chris Ralston: Moving students would always want to be a last option. Regarding Nicholas, SMUD has a large easement with large power lines. This reduces our sq. footage. There is a setback even farther into the campus. We wouldn't be able to build in the field space without impacting and removing classrooms. It would actually delete capacity in the next two years and it would impact our enrollment. Regarding Chavez/Kemble, we heard at the community meetings, we want to stay."

Nathaniel Browning: With Chavez/Kemble, there is a city park just adjacent to the parking lot so we were able to bring the portables out to part of the parking lot. We have worked with the City on an MOU for the next few years to use their park.

Chris Ralston: The Oak Ridge project will have the least impact on the students of all three.

Member question: Are the athletic fields grass? Are you accounting for maintenance long term? It seems like they are not being maintained.

Chris Ralston: This is a public school situation. This is something we are always catching up on. On our synthetic fields, they have life from 8 to 10 years. Then they need to be replaced at \$2M apiece. We may not have access to bond dollars.

Member: I personally favor grass. I just want to be sure that they are being appropriately maintained.

Ron Hickey: These are all really good questions but by the time these designs come to this committee, Facilities makes a recommendation that goes before the Board, the Board approves of them. Once they're approved, they are given back to Chris and his team to construct what has been approved. There is an entire approval process. So while these are good questions, this is not the approval process for the designs. Once they are presented here, they have either already been approved or Chris is going to recommend to the Board because everyone in this room as a relationship to facilities projects, we work for the Board. Member comment: I think you have given us the first example of the tension that Brian spoke of.

Member comment: If your message is, don't ask questions, that's been received.

Ron Hickey: These are very good questions, it's just managing expectations.

Member comment: When I ask a question, I'm not anticipating massive change to a game plan. It's more for informational purposes. I'm pretty new to this. I'm trying to build a foundation of understanding.

Chris Ralston: These are great questions. What you are seeing now, you're going to eventually see the expense and you'll have some background on why and how we got there.

Rose Ramos: Questions? We are ready for our tours.

David Mack: I want to be sure I understand what Mr. Hickey said. By the time you bring this information to us, you're briefing us. You're not asking us for our input. Am I clear? You're briefing us on what's being done, what's going to be spent. What's been spent. But it's a briefing.

Chris Ralston: You are receiving information on expenditures, which means it has already happened.

Rose Ramos: SCUSD's Master Plan was developed with community input. To include parents, CBOs, organizations, teachers and other stakeholders, etc. They played a role in how we were going to prioritize the spending of our bond dollars. It's nothing that was done in isolation.

Nathaniel Browning: The bond language outlines themes for which we can use bond funds for. It does not list out specific project.

Chris Ralston: Except for the 1% for child development.

Manuel Jimenez: I'm looking at the bond list here. There are headings on it. And looking a couple pages back which identifies which heading it's under. Which that's one of the main functions of the bond committee. To go back to the list to check that you are spending money (where promised).

Rose Ramos: That is really your role. It's to say to the community that yes we have confirmed the bond are being spent in accordance with the bond language.

Rose Ramos: Moving forward you will be receiving this information in advance.

Member question: If we are asking questions on items that are on the presentation (or the materials), or items on the agenda, those are all germane. Correct?

Rose Ramos: Yes, absolutely. We welcome all the questions.

#### 9.0 Future Business-Next Meeting Dates/Locations

- August 9, 2023
- November 8, 2023

Adjourn: 6:51 Motion by: Brian Hill

Second by: Ian Davis

Committee tours followed.