

Annual Report to the Community
SAN MATEO COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
Measure C Bond Oversight Committee
Report to the Community
January, 2005

In November, 2001, voters in San Mateo County overwhelmingly approved Measure C which provided \$207 million in funding to update, modernize, and retrofit the three community colleges serving County residents: Cañada College, College of San Mateo and Skyline College. One of the key components of Measure C was the establishment of a Measure C Bond Oversight Committee, composed of community leaders with expertise in finance, accounting, education and local government. The 11-member 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 projects listed in the Measure C ballot language, and that no funds are used for teacher or administrator salaries or for other operating costs.

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.

The accounting firm of Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP (VTD) conducted both a financial and a performance audit of the third fiscal year of bond expenditures and activities. The firm found that the bond fund financial statements present fairly the financial position and results of operations for the fund. As part of a performance audit, VTD reviewed expenditures in the bond fund for the 2003-04 fiscal year and found that the use of funds was consistent with the stated purposes of the bond measure that was approved by voters. During the 2003-04 fiscal year, the District expended \$35,526,952 and committed an additional \$22,721,292 for bond projects Districtwide. The total of all bond funds expended or committed to date is \$78,905,861—which is 38% of the total bond amount authorized.

The major activities that took place during the past year include:

- Groundbreaking and start of construction on two new flagship buildings: the \$23.7 million Student Union and Science Annex at Skyline College, and the new \$24.8 million Science Building at College of San Mateo. The Student Union at Skyline—the first for this campus—will provide a cafeteria, bookstore, community meeting space and offices for the Associated Students' organization. The Science Building at CSM will provide a new technologically-sophisticated home for the physical and life sciences at CSM. Space currently occupied by the CSM Science Departments will be renovated for general classroom use.
- Districtwide energy efficiency projects, including retrofit of lighting fixtures, installation of co-generation facilities at the College of San Mateo and Skyline College, and extensive mechanical infrastructure upgrades and repairs installed in 46 buildings on the three campuses. As a result of these energy efficiency measures, the District received an energy rebate of \$883,000 from PG&E and will realize ongoing energy savings of approximately \$1 million each year. The cost for the energy efficiency improvements will be paid back from these savings in less than 19 years, which the Bond Oversight Committee believes is a prudent investment of bond funds.
- Extensive work to repair the infrastructure at all three Colleges. The CSM campus was built more than 40 years ago and Cañada and Skyline Colleges are each 35+ years old; all three Colleges were in desperate need of infrastructure replacement and repair. Projects included new boiler tubing; upgrades and extensions of utilities including the electrical and gas distribution systems, water mains, storm drains, sanitary sewers, clock, fire alarm, telephone and data systems; underground heating/hot water system piping; and additional fire hydrants.
- At **College of San Mateo**, in addition to the new Science Building, projects included renovation/modernization of classrooms in Buildings 14 and 18 (academic classrooms) and 19 (engineering); modernization of the Choral Room in Building 3; hazardous materials abatement and ADA accessibility improvements; and the KCSM-TV digital television conversion involving Building 9 and the transmitter at Sutro Tower. Extensive design work was completed for the

renovation of Buildings 1, 5 & 6 for the Consolidation of Student Support Project. Hazardous materials abatement was performed throughout campus. Installation of a state-of-the-art fire alarm system is currently underway.

- At **Skyline College**, in addition to the new Student Union and Science Annex , projects include extensive renovation of the Pacific Heights School Building and various other areas on the main campus to accommodate departments and classrooms displaced by other construction projects and ADA/accessibility improvements campus wide.
- At **Cañada College**, the Theatre/Fine Arts Building (Building 3) benefited from a major modernization project, including refurbishing the Main Theater and Flex Theatre; upgrading and modernizing nearly all classrooms in the building; and creating new, larger facilities for Cañada's growing Fashion Design program. Advanced instructional technological improvements were added to classrooms in Buildings 2, 13 and 17. A renovation of the classrooms in Building 13 provided new flooring, paint, window coverings, acoustic treatments and furniture. A nursing lab was constructed in Building 18. ADA/accessibility improvements were made campus wide. Extensive design work was completed for the seismic and modernization upgrades to Buildings 3 and 8. Hazardous materials abatement was performed throughout campus. Installation of a state-of-the-art fire alarm system is currently underway.

In the 2004-05 fiscal year, the Facilities staff and District and College administrations continued extensive planning, scheduling and campus consultation regarding the scope and sequence of the major bond projects (modernization, new construction, repair) that are taking place at all three Colleges. The District has invested a considerable amount of staff time (not funded by the bond) in pre-construction planning and consultation activities in order to assure that bond project funds are efficiently and effectively expended on College improvements that will benefit students for generations to come. The District staff has also worked aggressively to secure additional State, local and private funding to supplement the Measure C bond funds. To date, the District has secured more than \$90 million from these sources and anticipates that it will be successful in securing another \$20 million for facilities projects from various State sources e.g., community college capital outlay and deferred maintenance funds, and funds from the voter-approved Statewide educational facilities bond.

The Measure C Bond Oversight Committee is pleased with the results of the District's efforts. More detailed information about the College District's bond projects, timelines, and expenditures-to-date are available on the District's web page: smccd.net. From the first page, click on "Facilities" to find the bond projects list, minutes, agendas and reports considered by the Bond Oversight Committee. If you still have questions or concerns, please contact the Bond Oversight Committee at christensen@smccd.net.

The Bond Oversight Committee invites community members to attend its meetings which are held quarterly at the College District Office, 3401 CSM Drive, San Mateo CA 94402 . All meetings are open to the public; meeting dates and agendas are posted on the District web site.

Measure C Bond Oversight Committee :

Jim Wyatt, Chair
Marion McDowell, Co-Chair

Members:

Marta Bookbinder
Coleman Campbell
Leah Cowan

George Cresson
Stanley Gross
Rose Jacobs-Gibson
William Nack
Ruth Nagler