

Citizens Oversight Committee
Minutes
September 26, 2022

At approximately 5:15 p.m., Pablo Tamashiro, Citizens' Oversight Committee (COC) Co-Chair greeted everyone present. Norma Macias, Director of Facilities, Maintenance, Operations, and Transportation called roll and quorum was reached. The meeting was called to order and Mr. Tamashiro conducted the meeting.

1. Introductions:
 - a. Roll Call

Present:

- Pablo Tamashiro
- Luis Aguilar (5:19 p.m.)
- Cathi Eredia
- Joanna Haro
- Erica Mondragon (5:20 pm)
- Jennifer Cobian

Absent:

- Cynthia Arredondo
- Heidi Carrillo
- Julia Ruedas-Alternate

b. Flag Salute: led by Pablo Tamashiro

c. Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made by Jennifer Cobian and seconded by Pablo Tamashiro to approve the agenda for September 26, 2022

3 Ayes 0 Nos 1 Abstained 5 Absent

d. Approval of Minutes— (September 26, 2022)

A motion was made by Jennifer Cobian and seconded by Joanna Haro to approve the minutes for September 26, 2022

3 Ayes 0 Nos 1 Abstained 5 Absent

Presentation/Progress Report

Ms. Macias welcomed Board Member Florencio Briones and Freddy Arteaga, Principal of Fernando Ledesma to the COC meeting. Ms. Macias went over the balance in Measure D, \$40,973,018 and Measure HS has a balance of \$96,109,660. We currently have a budget of 94 million dollars prepared for construction.

Wael Elatar, Chief Business Official, stated the District will be using different funding in order to complete the various projects in the coming years. Matching funds are based on eligibility but we will not receive them immediately, but will eventually. Fund 25 comes from developer fees for new construction, fund 14 comes from deferred maintenance, ESSER funds are allocated by the federal government for COVID-19 to replace air conditioning units or add air conditioning units, and we also have fund 40 for capital outlay projects. The District received 10 million from the CARB grant.

The District had a groundbreaking last week for the Cafetorium at Mountain View High School. The Zoo Crew classroom project was completed through the SSC grant we received; this was a 2 million project. Ms. Lee Porter was recognized state-wide for her innovated teaching. Everything is state of the art. The District is excited to share it with our students. We will receive state matching funding. We hope to receive more funds from the state to do a project like this.

Granada Adult Regional Center, Adult Education and East San Gabriel Valley will soon have a garden area. It's an exciting project, the District is finalizing the design to take to the State Architect. Cathi Eredia, COC member, asked if we are tearing down or adding to the building. Mr. Elatar stated we are expanding the building. Everyone in the bungalows will now be in the building.

Ms. Eredia asked what will happen with the Granada center. Mr. Elatar stated we are leasing some of the portable mobile modulars and will no longer have to pay for them. Adult Ed. needs more parking spaces. The Granada Center will eventually become a parking structure. Ms. Eredia mentioned a leveled-tiered parking lot would be great. Mr. Elatar said building a parking structure is expensive and something we can look into. We cannot use bond dollars because they cannot be used at the Adult School.

South El Monte High School's modernization received approval today; it's a 24-million-dollar project. Ms. Eredia asked if all the modernization projects are also upgrading the network. Mr. Elatar stated it is included.

Mountain View High School is having multiple projects going on and will bring so much beauty to the site and look so different. Mr. Briones inquired about the parking at Mountain View High School during construction. He asked if there will be parking dedicated to drop-off lanes for students. People make u-turns on the street which can be dangerous. He asked if there have been talks with the City about the upgrades they plan to do to Parkway Drive. Mr. Briones stated Board Member, David Diaz, said he spoke with the site administration but is not sure how much was discussed. The project is a year to 18 months out. He believes the City and District need to discuss the impact this will cause the school especially with traffic management. Ms. Macias noted this inquiry and will reach out to the City. Mr. Briones asked if the parking lot charging stations will become available to the general public. Ms. Macias stated they are.

Arroyo High School's project will include a new synthetic track and field, new snack bars, and new visitor bleachers. Mountain View High School's project will include new bleachers, snack bars, restrooms, and a synthetic track and field. Both projects were estimated at about 25 million but the bidding went under the 25 million. We are having a few issues we are working.

Mr. Elatar stated there are a lot of components to these projects and if you don't have a good contractor to work out all the problems, you have a lot of delays. The District wants to make sure we have good contractors. We were hoping to have a kick-off in November, but due to the

problem, we will probably start in December which will delay both projects. The good news is the projects are under budget. Mr. Arteaga recommends not choosing colors that will blend into the track and to make sure the white lines are bright enough so they are seen on sunny days to avoid and safety issues. He is hoping to attract other entities to come run at our schools.

We're currently in the design phase for the track and field at El Monte and South El Monte High School. They will go out to bid once the other two sites are ready to be occupied in order not to impact the other schools. South El Monte's field will be used by Mountain View during the construction and Rosemead's field will be used by Arroyo. We can't have them all done at the same time.

Mr. Tamashiro mentioned that many people have complained about not having shade on the bleachers. He believes having shade will be ideal especially since the designs have not been completed. Ms. Macias said the manufacturer's design does not have an option for shade. We could custom-build the shade but it would be a lot more expensive. Very few manufacturers are building these bleachers. Ms. Eredia said no high school stadiums have shade. Mr. Briones also said he received complaints about no shade on the bleachers during the heat. The climate is changing, have we discussed planning trees for the public to stand under? Could we add shade for people to stand at? Ms. Macias said we could look into this and the Board has been proactive in recognizing we need comfortable places like AC for gymnasiums. Mountain View High School will be the first site with AC and Fernando Ledesma, the rest of the sites will follow next.

The Professional Development Center is having significant improvements to welcome professionals and community members in the area.

The Wellness Center at each site have been completed and have dedicated classroom for online learning. Those who do not want to transition to in-person learning can take advantage of this.

Ms. Macias stated Lena Luna, the Energy Manger has been very productive in helping the District obtain grants to be energy efficient. We received a Safe Clean Water Grant to help South El Monte High School's stormwater management. The District is currently reviewing the California Energy Commission proposed award for HVAC ventilation.

The Modernization projects at the various sites will be going to board next month.

Joann Haro, COC member, has been a band parent for 12 years. She said she knows the dedication it takes for the students and parents. COVID took a toll but now they are out there performing and she is happy to see them performing.

Ms. Eredia worked in our technology department for 15 years and is amazed to see how well taken care of each site is especially with the age of each site. She said South El Monte High School is the newest and needs some help. Ms. Macias said Mr. Elatar has been a huge advocate for taking more out of the bonds to help the sites get the facilities they deserve.

The administration building at El Monte High School and some of the older classrooms will be getting an upgrade which will create better learning environments.

Mr. Briones requested to make sure historic items are not removed during Mountain View High School's Modernization. He would like to maintain the integrity of the campus. Ms. Macias said she will take note and appreciates the comments.

Mr. Elatar stated that stakeholders are involved in the process of the modernization projects. No matter what, we may have some disappointments but the key is to get a consensus and improve the learning environment for our students while preserving the history of the buildings.

Round Table/Member Comments:

The next meeting will be held on Monday, January 30, 2023, at Mountain View High School

Adjournment of Meeting:

Moved: Jennifer Cobian Seconded: Joanna Haro Action: 6-0

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:10 p.m.