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Measure O Bond Fact Sheet

What is the purpose of the \$392 million Measure O Bond Funds?

- The Measure O funds are dedicated to upgrading and improving aging RUSD campuses and classrooms, including building new facilities and new schools.
- Match State Funding for new construction and modernization as required by the School Facilities Program.

How can the public be informed and obtain information about Measure O projects?

- A full list of projects that are under construction can be found at:
http://www.riversideunified.org/our_district/r_u_s_d_facilities_bond/measure_o_home/projects_progress
- The RUSD 2016 Long Range Facilities Master Plan can be found at the District's web site under the Operations Division:
http://www.riversideunified.org/departments/operations_division/planning_development

How are the funds managed to ensure compliance?

- We use best practices that meet industry standards for accuracy and legal compliance.
- An independent Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) was established as required by law once Measure O passed.
- The duties of the CBOC include: informing the public concerning the District's expenditure of bond proceeds; reviewing expenditure reports ensure that bond proceeds were expended only for the purposes set forth in Measure O; and presenting to the Board of Education an annual report of their oversight work.
- The CBOC reviews the annual independent Financial Audit Reports.
- The CBOC reviews the annual Measure O Performance Bond Report

How is RUSD handling questions about the proper use of Measure O funds?

- The RUSD Board of Education obtained legal opinions from two different law firms with expertise on the use of bond funds. The District's priority project list, including construction of new schools, is a proper use of bond proceeds.
- An independent Financial Advisor, Bond Counsel, and Disclosure Counsel have been retained by the District to ensure all transactions meet strict legal requirements during the election, bond issuance, and during construction/modernization phases.

Does the Measure O ballot language have any limitations?

- The ballot language specifically says the bond can be issued to "construct, acquire, repair classrooms, sites, facilities, and equipment."

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September 11, 2019

Subject: Using Measure O bond funds for maximum effect

Dear Parents, Community Members, and Other Stakeholders of the Riverside Unified School District,

Three years ago, this November, voters in Riverside showed their support for our school district by passing Measure O, which is dedicating \$392 million dollars to upgrading our campuses and classrooms. The resounding 70% approval was a vote of confidence by the community in their schools and our vision for the future. Voters endorsed the community belief that we know what we are doing and they trusted us to manage these funds appropriately, comply with the law, and follow the intent and language of Measure O. Thank you.

We take very seriously our fiduciary responsibilities to effectively and properly manage district resources. We use best practices that meet industry standards for accuracy and legal compliance. It is in the overall best interests of our students and the community that we use bond funds to meet our most pressing needs. That is exactly what we are doing.

A Long Range Facility Master Plan serves as the guide for our projects. This Master Plan can be found at [RUSD Long Range Facilities Master Plan](#). We are proud to report that numerous projects are under construction. A full list of all work under way and in the works can be found at [Measure O Project Progress](#).

As required by law once Measure O passed, an independent Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) was established. The CBOC's duties include: informing the public concerning the District's expenditure of bond proceeds; reviewing expenditure reports produced by the District to ensure that bond proceeds were expended only for the purposes set forth in Measure O; and presenting to the Board of Education an annual report of their oversight work.

Recently, a few critics have questioned how we propose to use some of the Measure O funds. They claim the District is only empowered to spend Measure O bond funds on modernization and remodeling of existing schools and not on new schools. That is incorrect.

The District retained an Independent Financial Advisor, Bond Counsel, and Disclosure Counsel to ensure all transactions meet strict legal requirements during the election, bond issuance, and construction/modernization phases. To ensure that the District's planned use of Measure O funds is consistent with law, the Board of Education obtained legal opinions from two different law firms with expertise in the use of bond funds. Both emphasized that the ballot language specifically says the bonds can be issued to "construct, acquire, repair classrooms, sites, facilities, and equipment." The ballot language does not limit these improvements to existing schools and facilities. The District is acting within the latitude given by the voters. The District's priority project list, including construction of new schools, is a proper use of bond proceeds.

We are pleased to share this update with you and we are enthused by the great progress we are making at our schools and in our classrooms. Once again thank you, our school community, for your support and confidence in our work.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Angela Farooq".

Dr. Angelov Farooq
President, Board of Education

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Hansen".

Dr. David Hansen
District Superintendent

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