

Citizens' Oversight Committee Minutes  
March 26, 2024  
Minutes taken by:  
Sandy Navarro, Construction Account Technician III

At approximately 5:08 p.m., Cathi Eredia, Citizens' Oversight Committee (COC) Chair called the meeting and took roll call and greeted everyone present. Ms. Eredia confirmed that quorum was met. The meeting was called to order and Ms. Eredia conducted the meeting.

1. Introductions:
- a. Roll Call

Present:

- Cathi Eredia
- Pablo Tamashiro
- Celia Carvajal - arrived at 5:11 p.m.
- Erica Mondragon
- Joanna Haro
- Ashley Tran

Absent:

- Jennifer Cobian

- b. Flag Salute: led by Florencio Briones, Board of Trustees.
- c. Approval of Agenda:  
A motion was made by Pablo Tamashiro and seconded by Joanna Haro to approve the agenda for March 26, 2024.  
5 Ayes            0 Nos            0 Abstained            2 Absent
- d. Approval of Minutes— (April 19, 2023)  
A motion was made by Pablo Tamashiro and seconded by Erica Mondragon to approve the minutes for April 19, 2023.  
5 Ayes            0 Nos            0 Abstained            2 Absent
- e. Approval of Minutes— (October 26, 2023)  
A motion was made by Pablo Tamashiro and seconded by Erica Mondragon to approve the minutes for October 26, 2023.  
4 Ayes            0 Nos            2 Abstained            1 Absent

### **Presentation/Progress Report**

Ms. Macias discussed the facilities update throughout the District. The project list and funding sources were discussed. She mentioned there will be a sixth and final bond issuance for Measure D and a third bond issuance for Measure HS in the next couple of months. The Mountain View HS - Zoo Crew Project was completed and will do a walk-through when the meeting is adjourned. The South El Monte HS Modernization Project was estimated to be completed by June 2024 and has been extended until the fall and anticipated completion by September 2024. Classrooms and the library have been modernized. This was an estimated project of \$25 million dollars.

The Mountain View HS Modernization Project is currently in progress and it is scheduled to be completed one year from now in March 2025. The Arroyo HS and Mountain View HS Track and Field Project has an estimated completion of May 15, 2024.

We have experienced some setbacks with the concession buildings. They were manufactured by Crate Modular. The company has gone under and did not complete the concession buildings. No date yet as to when the concession buildings will be completed for both Arroyo HS and Mountain View HS. Ms. Haro asked what happens now. Ms. Macias replied that they are working with the general contractor who got awarded the track and field project to complete the concession buildings. Mr. Tamashiro asked if Crate Modular was fully paid out. Mr. Elatar replied that they were not paid out 100%.

Mr. Elatar also mentioned that Crate Modular caused challenges to the district regarding DSA approvals. Mr. Tamashiro asked if there would be any repercussions to Crate. Mr. Elatar explained legal counsel is involved to try to recover some expenses incurred. A claim has been submitted. Ms. Carbajal was concerned and asked if the Arroyo HS' class of 2024 was going to have the graduation ceremony at the school site. Ms. Macias replied that the field would be ready for the graduation ceremony.

Ms. Macias also mentioned that the Professional Development Center (PDC) might have a different name, but still in discussion. They have made improvements to the PDC for parents engagement and renovated the restrooms. The Arroyo HS, El Monte HS and Rosemead HS Modernization Projects are in Phase 1 to add HVAC to the cafeteria, gymnasium, and fire alarm upgrades.

Ms. Tran asked if the only campus at El Monte HS is keyless or at all the sites. Mr. Elatar replied all campuses will be keyless eventually. Ms. Macias mentioned the next project to go out for bid is the Rosemead Adult Center which will include the relocation of the Transition Center. Expecting the approval of the plans from DSA anytime. Mr. Tamashiro asked what will they do with the Transition Center. Mr. Briones replied most likely it would be for additional parking spaces for the Ramona Adult Center.

Ms. Macias discussed the district will be selecting a Construction Management Firm for the El Monte HS' Track and Field Project. The district needs to wait to select a CM Firm for the South El Monte HS Track and Field Project until they have approval from the Army Corp. since the fields are leased and not district property. Ms. Eredia asked if the district was interested in buying the land from the Army Corp. Mr. Elatar replied that it would probably require to go through legislature. The District is only negotiating the lease since it has expired.

Ms. Carvajal asked if South El Monte HS has any issues with the rain due to flooding in the field. Mr. Elatar stated the district has installed water pumps in the field which help pump out the water to avoid flooding. Thus, far this has been working. Mr. Elatar mentioned Measure W - Safe Clean Water Program that funds stormwater initiatives that improve water quality. The district will need about \$8 million dollars to fund this water irrigation project at South El Monte High School. Ms. Eredia stated we are in declining enrollment and mentioned considering closing the South El Monte HS.

Mr. Briones emphasized the importance of investing in the school campuses. It goes a long way in showing the community that we take the serious the improvements and upgrades to the facilities that will meet the needs of our students now and in the future. Mr. Tamashiro said the students from our community are leaving to go to other districts that have more appealing campuses.

Ms. Macias mentioned the El Monte HS' Modernization Project Scope of Work will consist of renovations to buildings B, C, E, F, G and H. There will be modernization of CTE classrooms and the theater. She mentioned for the Rosemead HS Modernization Project the Wood Shop area will be remodeled for community and parent engagement. Ms. Macias mentioned with the CA Air Resources Board Grant which was over \$9 millions dollars the district was able to purchase about 11 electrical new buses, installed EV charging stations, and battery storage. In addition, a mural was painted at the Transportation Facility and can be seen off the 60 FWY going eastbound.

Ms. Tran asked if there were any updates with stakeholders at the school campuses. Mr. Elatar stated that in 2019 the community, stakeholders, parents, and students were invited to identify priorities or needs for each school site.

Ms. Mondragon had to leave and left at 6:20 p.m. and Mr. Tamashiro left the meeting at 6:36 p.m.

Mr. Elatar mentioned the district will be selling the last issuance of Measure D of \$14 million dollars and the third issuance of \$20 million dollars by May or June 2024.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Haro and Ms. Carvajal seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:45 p.m.