

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District

FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

333 S. Beaudry Avenue, Board Room
10:00 a.m., Thursday, November 6, 2008

Board Members Present:

Richard Vladovic, Acting Chairperson
Marguerite Poindexter LaMotte, Member

District Staff Present:

Joseph A. Mehula, Chief Facilities Executive

External Representative Present:

Robert Kladifko, Associated Administrators of Los Angeles

The meeting convened at 10:01 a.m.

TAB 1 OPENING REMARKS

Dr. Vladovic and Mr. Mehula thanked the public for the approval of Measure Q, a local school facilities bond, which passed on November 4, 2008.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT AND PROJECT APPROVAL – CENTRAL REGION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 21

Mr. Tom Calhoun, Regional Development Manager, discussed the Central Region Elementary School No. 21 project. He stated that the project would consist of 650 seats and 26 classrooms. Mr. Calhoun stated that the project would relieve overcrowding at 49th Street, Harmony, Hooper, and Nevin Elementary Schools and at the Hooper New Primary Center.

Mr. Calhoun and Ms. Randy Cooper, Office of Environmental Health and Safety, responded to questions addressed by the committee members.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT AND PROJECT APPROVAL - CENTRAL REGION MACARTHUR PARK ADDITION

Mr. Calhoun discussed the Central Region MacArthur Park Addition, which would expand the existing primary center to an elementary school. He indicated that the addition would provide 400 seats and 16 classrooms, which would bring the school total to 650 seats and 26 classrooms. The addition would relieve overcrowding at Esperanza and White Elementary Schools, and at the MacArthur Park Primary Center. Ms. Cooper presented the Environmental Impact Report (EIR), which determined that construction related noise would pose significant and unavoidable impacts.

SPEAKERS:

The following speakers expressed their views on this item.

Ms. Francisca Duarte, MacArthur Park Primary Center Parent Representative
Ms. Reina Saravia, MacArthur Park Primary Center Parent Representative
Ms. Rosevelia Alamo, MacArthur Park Primary Center Parent Representative

Mr. Nicholas Dahmann, West 7th Street Resident
Mr. Michael Tighe, West 7th Street Resident

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT AND PROJECT APPROVAL – SOUTH REGION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 11

Mr. Rod Hamilton, Regional Development Manager, provided an overview of the South Region Elementary School No. 11 project, which would consist of 800 seats and 32 classrooms, serving grades K-5. He stated that the project would relieve overcrowding at 68th Street, 75th Street, and Miller Elementary schools. The project would displace 6 single-family residences, 60 multi-family units, and 4 commercial units. Ms. Cooper presented the EIR, which determined that regional and localized air quality would pose significant and unavoidable impacts.

SPEAKERS:

The following speakers expressed their views on this item.

Ms. Ausencia Cantu, Loren Miller Parent Representative
Mr. Ernesto Diaz, Loren Miller Parent Representative

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT AND PROJECT APPROVAL – SOUTH REGION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 12

Mr. Hamilton provided an overview of the South Region Elementary School No. 12 project, which would consist of 800 seats and 32 classrooms serving grades K-6. He stated that the project would relieve overcrowding at Florence, Lillian and Miramonte Elementary schools. The project would displace 9 single-family residences and 53 multi-family units. Ms. Cooper discussed the EIR, which determined that construction related noise would pose a significant impact, but can be mitigated to a less than significant level.

SPEAKER:

Ms. Irma Presentacion, Miramonte Parent Representative, expressed her views on this item.

USE OF COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT FUNDS FOR QUALIFIED ZONE ACADEMY BOND (QZAB) PROJECTS

Mr. Bruce Kendall, Deputy Chief Executive, Existing Facilities, presented the proposal to assign \$10.5 million of Community Redevelopment Agency funds, which would eliminate a funding shortfall for 17 Board approved projects. The projects were previously identified as Qualified Zone Academy Bond (QZAB) project. Mr. Kendall provided a status of the QZAB projects under QZAB I and II, and identified the career path academy projects under QZAB III.

WEST VALLEY CLOSED SCHOOLS – CHARTER PROJECTS

Mr. John Creer, Director of Planning and Development, presented the proposal to designate four closed school sites for charter school utilization. He identified the four schools as: Oso, Highlander, Collins and Platt Ranch Elementary schools. Mr. Creer concluded by stating that approval to designate the four closed school sites for charter school utilization would address annual Proposition 39 requests in the West San Fernando Valley and would reduce the potential of co-locations on existing campuses.

SPEAKER:

Mr. Eugene Selivanov, Ivy Academia Charter School expressed his views on this item.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Kim Pattillo Brownson, Advancement Project, congratulated the committee for the passage of Measure Q to pass and highlighted the importance of early education centers.

Ms. Araceli Sandoval, Deputy Field Director, Preschool California, congratulated the committee for the passing of Measure Q and thanked the committee for the \$150 million included in Measure Q for early education facilities.

Mr. Gabriel Sanchez, San Pedro Skill Center student, expressed concern for the closing of the San Pedro Skill Center.

Ms. Francisca Ruelas, Community Member, expressed support for the Central Region Elementary School No. 21 project.

Mr. Gabriel Alvarez, recommended that the Board make parent education a priority.

Ms. Virginia Adams, Community Member, expressed concern for the high traffic and homeless people who surround the Central Region Elementary School No. 21 site.

The meeting adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Notes by: Janet Saavedra
Office of the Board Secretariat