



CITY OF MARTINEZ

**CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
May 21, 2014**

TO: City Council
FROM: Mayor Rob Schroder
PREPARED BY: Mercy G. Cabral, Deputy City Clerk
SUBJECT: Support Contra Costa Community College District Bond Measure E
DATE: May 14, 2014

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider a resolution in support of Contra Costa Community College Bond, Measure E.

BACKGROUND:

Diablo Valley College, Contra Costa College, Los Medanos, San Ramon Campus, and Brentwood Center provide essential education and job training to 55,000 local students annually, many who cannot afford four year colleges and universities.

Voting *YES* on E invests in our Contra Costa Community College, requires every dime be spent locally to repair and improve local community colleges facilities, and includes tough fiscal accountability.

Measure E will:

- ✓ Improve academic facilities to help students prepare for the 21st Century careers and college transfer.
- ✓ Update college buildings, classrooms and labs for healthcare, sciences, technology, and public safety job training programs.
- ✓ Make college buildings, classrooms and facilities accessible to people with disabilities.
- ✓ Maintain up-to-date technology for modern, hands-on career training.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact to the City. It is estimated to be \$13 per \$100,000 of assessed property evaluation.

ACTION:

Motion adopting a resolution in support of Contra Costa Community College District Bond Measure E.

Attachment: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. -14

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARTINEZ
SUPPORTING MEASURE E, CONTRA COSTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

WHEREAS, a Contra Costa Community College District Education Bond Measure will appear on our community's June 2014 ballot; and

WHEREAS, the Contra Costa Community College District, which includes Contra Costa College, Diablo Valley College, Los Medanos College, San Ramon Campus and Brentwood Center, is one of the largest community college districts in California, serving over 55,000 local students annually; and

WHEREAS, our community colleges are an essential safety net providing education for local students, many who cannot afford four year colleges and universities, and additional funds are needed to help make sure our students can continue and successfully complete their educational goals; and

WHEREAS, our community colleges prepare students to become part of our local workforce, and this Measure will help maintain high quality career training programs in healthcare, sciences, technology, and public safety; and

WHEREAS, this Measure will bring advanced medical career training facilities to our colleges, helping students prepare for some of the fastest growing careers in the country; and

WHEREAS, many important core academic classes are currently being held in overcrowded and deteriorating facilities, making it hard for students to get the classes they need, and this Measure will make more classrooms available to students, update learning technology, and meet demand for these classes; and

WHEREAS, funds from this Measure are required by law to be spent in Contra Costa County to improve the facilities at each and every one of our local community colleges and education centers, including Diablo Valley College, Contra Costa College, Los Medanos College, San Ramon Campus, Brentwood Center; and

WHEREAS, this Measure includes strict fiscal accountability requirements including a public expenditure plan, independent annual audits, and an Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee to ensure funds are spent properly and as promised.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Martinez endorses the Contra Costa Community College District's Education Bond Measure on the June 3, 2014 ballot; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we authorize the use of our name by the campaign in support of the Measure.

* * * * *

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Martinez at a Regular Meeting of said Council held on the 21st day of May, 2014, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

RICHARD G. HERNANDEZ, CITY CLERK
CITY OF MARTINEZ



Frequently Asked Questions & Answers

About Contra Costa Community College District's Needs & Priorities

Q: What is the Contra Costa Community College District?

A: The Contra Costa Community College District is one of the largest community college districts in California, serving over 55,000 students annually. The District includes Contra Costa College, Diablo Valley College, Los Medanos College, San Ramon Campus and Brentwood Center.

Q: What is the role of our colleges?

A: Our community colleges are an essential safety net – providing education for local students, many who cannot afford four year colleges and universities. Additional funds are needed to help make sure our students can continue and successfully complete their educational goals.

Q: What about job training needs?

A: Our community college students move on to become part of the local workforce. Additional funds are needed to help maintain high quality career training programs in healthcare, sciences, technology, and public safety. We also need to bring advanced medical career training facilities to our colleges, helping students prepare for some of the fastest growing careers in the country.

Q: What is the condition of our colleges?

A: Many of the most important core academic classes in our colleges are currently being held in deteriorating facilities with outdated equipment. Additional funds are needed to modernize classrooms and update learning technology.

Q: What is the plan for addressing these needs?

A: To address these needs, the Contra Costa Community College District Governing Board has approved the placement of a local education facilities funding measure on the June 2014 ballot. A recently commissioned independent survey shows as much as 70% of respondents would support a local funding measure in June 2014.

Q: How have these needs been addressed in the past?

A: Thanks to the community's support, previous voter-approved bond funds have made some important repairs and upgrades throughout the District. All funds have been managed in an efficient, fiscally prudent manner on priority repair and improvement projects. However, additional repairs and upgrades are still needed to ensure our local community colleges can continue to provide quality, affordable education and 21st century job training to local students.



Q: How would additional funds help?

A: Additional funds would be used to address the following priorities:

- make buildings, classrooms, and community facilities accessible to people with disabilities;
- improve academic facilities to help students prepare for 21st century jobs and transfer to 4-year universities;
- provide facilities and resources for science, technology, and medical career/health services training programs, including nursing, dental technology, and health administration; and
- install and maintain technology for modern hands-on career training.

Q: How can we be sure that funds will be spent as promised?

A: All of the funds are required by law to be spent here in Contra Costa County to improve facilities at each site including Diablo Valley College, Contra Costa College, Los Medanos College, San Ramon Campus, and Brentwood Center. If approved by the voters, the funding measure will include strict accountability requirements including a public expenditure plan, independent annual audits, and an Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee to ensure funds are spent as promised. Fiscal accountability requirements would include the following provisions.

- ✓ By law, all bond expenditures must be monitored by an Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee to ensure that funds are spent only on voter authorized projects.
- ✓ By law, the Citizens' Oversight Committee must include, among others, representation of a bona fide Taxpayers' Association, a Business Organization, and a Senior Citizens' Organization.
- ✓ By law, no funds can go toward administrator salaries or pensions.

Q. How can I get more information?

A: The District is available to provide more details and make presentations about the local education facilities funding measure that will be placed on the June 2014 ballot. For more information, visit www.4cd.edu. If you have any specific questions feel free to contact Tim Leong by phone at (925)-229-6823 or by email at tleong@4cd.edu.