



CITY OF MARTINEZ

**CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
November 2, 2011**

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Carolyn Robinson, City Treasurer
Chair, Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee

PREPARED BY: Cathy Spinella, Finance Manager
Tim Tucker, City Engineer

SUBJECT: Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee Fiscal Year 2010-11 Annual Report

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee Fiscal Year 2010-11 annual report, as outlined in the bylaws of the Committee.

BACKGROUND:

In November 2008, voters approved Measure H, a measure authorizing issuance of up to \$30 million in General Obligation Bonds to finance the costs of improvements to Rankin Pool, the Martinez Library and the following parks: Alhambra, Cappy Ricks, Foothill, Golden Hills, Hidden Lakes, Hidden Valley, Highlands Avenue, Holiday Highlands, John Muir, Morrello, Mountain View, Nancy Boyd, Rankin, Susana, and Waterfront.

The City established a Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee (Committee) to provide enhanced accountability to the citizens. The Committee's purpose is to inform the public regarding the expenditure of bond proceeds and to ensure that said bond proceeds will be used only for the purposes specified in the ballot measure. Sections 3.3 of the Committee's bylaws require the Committee to present to the City Council, in public session, an annual written report summarizing those expenditures.

DISCUSSION:

On April 1, 2009, the City Council passed Resolution No.027-09, authorizing issuance of the first series of bonds in the amount of \$15,000,000.

With the \$15,000,000 first series of bonds issued, the City Council approved design and construction funding for the Phase 1 projects, and design only for the Phase 2 projects. Below is summary of these projects.

PHASE 1:

Hidden Lakes Play Equipment Replacement:

Status: Completed

This project included the replacement of existing school age (5-12 year old) play equipment that no longer met safety requirements and the installation of a new tot play area adjacent to the baseball fields. The Park and Recreation Commission Playground Subcommittee developed the layout of the play equipment and approved the final design. The focus of the play area was to make the equipment physically challenging and interactive. Traditional play equipment that meets current fall zone standards could not fit into the area available. The project was completed and is open to the public.

Tree Replacement Project at Highland and Nancy Boyd Parks:

Status: Completed pending close-out

This project removed 29 hazardous eucalyptus trees at Highland and Nancy Boyd parks. The trees were replaced with redwood trees at Highland Park and native trees at Nancy Boyd. Removal of the trees was identified in the adopted Park System Master Plan and listed as a high priority when the initial Measure H funded projects were selected. Both parks have experienced large tree falls within the past year and these trees were a fire hazard, especially those adjacent to the refinery property. All hazardous trees have been removed and new trees with irrigation have been planted.

Rankin Aquatic Center:

Status: Facility open, Punch list Pending

The pool successfully opened due to the hard work of City staff and Reeve-Knight Construction. The City has received numerous compliments on the project. The pool has a play structure in shallow water, a learning area, an area for senior water aerobics and eight swim lanes for the local swim team and recreational lap swimming. The pool also has a deep section with a one-meter dive board. There are several punch list items the contractor will be addressing now that the facility is closed for the season.

Library:

Status: Facility open, Punch list Pending

The Library has recently re-opened. The building now boasts sky lights for natural lighting, new carpeting, shelving, and computer stations. There also are new state-of-the-art book check outs and a new nighttime book “drop-off” near the front door. An elevator has been installed as part of a complete handicap accessibility upgrade. The library also has an outdoor seating area and a new downstairs area. The downstairs area will be used for a children’s reading area and other activities. The Friends of the Library is funding part-time staff to monitor and maximize the use of the new downstairs area.

Rankin Park/Tavan Field:

Status: Under Construction

Reconstruction of Rankin Park and Tavan Field has begun. The site has been fenced and clearing and grubbing has been completed. The contractor is beginning underground utility work and has started the construction of many retaining wall footings. The park will have exciting custom made play equipment to fit into the natural setting of the park. Also the park will feature many picnic sites and disabled access to the many destination areas within the park.

Holiday Highland Park:

Status: Under Construction

Work recently began on the renovation of Holiday Highlands Park. A new restroom will be installed and the recently constructed playground area will get new rubber surfacing. New paths will be paved and the grass areas will be rehabilitated.

PHASE 2:

Nancy Boyd Park:

Status: Design 90% complete

Plans are being finalized for the completion of Nancy Boyd Park. Two years ago the City installed a new restroom, a small community room and a new softball field. The current phase will concentrate on the front half of the park by updating picnic areas, installing new paths and completely updating the two play areas.

Cappy Ricks Park:

Status: Design 50% complete

Plans are being finalized on Cappy Ricks Park. New tennis courts and resurfaced basketball courts will be the cornerstone of the project. New lighting, paths and restroom will also be a part of the project. The turf areas will be rehabilitated and native planting areas will border the western edge of the park.

Hidden Valley Park:

Status: Preliminary design complete (35%)

This is the largest park area currently being designed. The architect has developed schematic drawings of the park which includes a new looped path with exercise stations and new flat lawn areas for recreational play. The plan incorporates a community orchard and several new picnic areas. An additional segment of the project will be to rehabilitate the trails in the Hidden Lakes Open Space area. The schematic layout was recently approved by the Parks Recreation Marina and Cultural Commission.

Waterfront Park:

The restroom near the bocce courts at Waterfront Park is scheduled for replacement. The parks division has approved the layout of the replacement bathroom. Construction plans will commence once a proposal from the landscape architect has been approved.

The table below lists, as of June 30, 2011, the expended amounts of bond funds.

MEASURE H FUNDS		
<u>INCOME</u>		
Bond Proceeds	\$	15,000,000
Interest Earnings		187,812
	Total Income	<u>15,187,812</u>
<u>EXPENSE</u>		
Cost of Issuance		(12,000)
Hidden Lakes Play Equipment Replacement		(166,055)
Tree Replacement-Highland & Nancy Boyd Parks		(38,547)
Rankin Park Aquatic Center		(4,547,227)
Library Project		(1,412,283)
Rankin & Tavan Fields		(225,797)
Holiday Highlands Park		(58,239)
Nancy Boyd Park		(53,479)
Cappy Ricks Park		(48,291)
Hidden Valley Park		(42,065)
Waterfront Park		(4,396)
	Total Expense	<u>(6,608,379)</u>
	Balance @ 6/30/11	\$ 8,579,433

During the past fiscal year, the committee met quarterly to review the expenses and projects funded by the bond, after which the City Treasurer made a verbal report to Council advising them of the activities of the Committee and the progress of the projects. The Committee met on October 19, 2011 and determined, based on the documents submitted by staff, that the City expended bond proceeds only for the purposes set forth in the ballot measure. Fiscal Year 2010-11 ended with a restricted fund balance of \$8,579,433.

The City is looking to issue the remaining \$15 million in General Obligations Bonds in late spring 2012.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Projects were paid by Measure H bond funds; no other funding is required.

ACTION:

Receive and file the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee Fiscal Year 2010-11 annual report.