

The Messenger

Compton Community College District to Place Facilities Bond Measure on November Ballot

A resolution to place a \$100 million facilities bond measure on the November 4, 2014 ballot was approved at the July 15 Compton Community College District (CCCD) Board meeting. The full language of the 2014 resolution is available online at: www.district.compton.edu/measure-c/documents.asp.

A bond is necessary to complete the facilities upgrades needed at the 62-year-old Compton campus and continue the progress made in the past 12 years, since the passing of Measure CC in 2002.

“Many of our buildings and facilities are more than 60 years old,” said CCCD CEO Keith Curry. “While they have been maintained, any structures of that age need repairs and renovations. This bond will help us make important safety, technology, and energy-saving improvements to District facilities.”

If approved by voters on November 4, Measure C will provide funds that allow the Compton Community College District to update aging classrooms, labs, infrastructure, and instructional equipment, while making health and safety repairs and energy efficiency improvements. These updates will enable the District to maintain El Camino College Compton Center as a valuable community resource that provides affordable, local education, increases access to education for all local residents, and prepares students and returning Veterans for university transfer or entry to a successful career.

New and upgraded facilities supported by Measure C would ensure the delivery of a quality education, career training leading to in-demand jobs, and vital student support services for students, Veterans, and working adults served by the District for years to come. A new era of student success is highlighted in the recently [published report](#). The report provides an overview of the success of ECC Compton Center over the past three years.

Classroom space and Career and Technical Education training facilities for local residents of all ages who want to learn new skills to compete for better paying jobs will be enhanced with bond funding. New facilities and instructional equipment will expand access to training programs that will help students prepare and find jobs in automotive technology, aerospace, nursing, early childhood development and other high-demand careers that require specific skills.

By law, funds from any proposed bond can only be spent on buildings, classrooms, or instructional equipment. No bond funds can be spent on administrator pensions or salaries. In addition, all fund expenditures are subject to local control, and cannot be taken away by Sacramento politicians.

An independent Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) was established when the first bond measure was approved by voters in 2002. As outlined in the Education Code Section 15278, the role of the CBOC is to “inform the public concerning the District’s expenditure of revenues received from the sale of bonds authorized

by the voters.” Funds will be used only as authorized, and are under strict review by the Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee.

With the University of California and California State systems becoming increasingly expensive, by as much as six times more than the cost of community college, students are relying on El Camino College Compton Center more than ever to reach their academic goals. Investments in community colleges are critical to continue offering high-quality, affordable education and job training.

Voters in the Compton Community College District include residents of Compton, Lynwood, Paramount and Willowbrook, as well as portions of Athens, Bellflower, Carson, Downey, Dominguez, Lakewood, Long Beach, and South Gate. State law requires a 55 percent majority for the measure to pass.

The cost of Measure C would be \$25/year per \$100,000 assessed – not market – property value.

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