

**2006-2007
Annual Report**

**INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:**

<i>What is Measure H?</i>	2
<i>What is Measure J?</i>	2
<i>What is the COC?</i>	2
<i>Bond Expenditure Summary</i>	3-6
<i>Project Update</i>	7-9
<i>Measures H & J - the first three years</i>	10
<i>Audits</i>	10
<i>Design Awards</i>	11
<i>Stay in Touch</i>	12

**A MESSAGE FROM THE MEASURE H & J
CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT
COMMITTEE**

To Our Community:

Welcome to the fourth edition of the Merced Community College District Measure H & J Citizens' Oversight Committee's Annual Report. As your representatives, it is our committee's duty and privilege to oversee the expenditure of funds approved by voters to upgrade and expand the facilities at Merced Community College and the Los Banos Campus. The committee presents this report to the Community based on information that has been provided to the committee, and auditors annual reports.

This committee represents a cross section of the Merced Community College District community, which includes communities in Merced, Fresno, and Madera counties. Over the last year, it has been our pleasure to work with the students, faculty, staff and administration of the Merced Community College District. As members of this committee, we can assure you that the people in this District are working diligently to ensure that every Measure H and J dollar is spent efficiently on those projects that are most vital to the mission of the district—providing quality, affordable, accessible educational opportunities to all members of the community.

It is exciting to be a part of the changes that will ensure our local college continues to be a valuable resource to our residents and businesses. As you will find in this report, several projects are already underway to repair aging facilities and infrastructure, increase efficiency, and provide students and faculty with the latest technological tools to enhance the learning experience.

Our committee meets twice a year. Members of the public are welcome to attend. Meeting dates and locations are published on our website. You are also welcome to contact us with your comments and/or questions.

We look forward to hearing from you.

*Merced Community College District
Proposition 39 Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee*



What is Measure H?

In November 2002, voters in the Merced Area approved Measure H—a \$53.5 million general obligation bond measure to fund facilities improvements at the District’s Merced Campus.

What is Measure J?

In November 2002, voters in the Los Banos area approved Measure J—a \$11.93 million general bond measure to fund new facilities at the new Los Banos Campus.

What is the Citizens’ Oversight Committee?

Measures H and J were approved under the requirements of California’s Proposition 39, the Strict Accountability in Local School Construction Bonds Act passed by state voters in 2000. As required by Proposition 39, the Merced Community College District Board of Trustees appointed an independent committee of citizens to oversee the expenditure of all bond funds. The Citizens’ Oversight Committee includes representatives from taxpayer groups, business and industry, senior citizens’ organizations, and students. The Committee is charged with ensuring that all bond funds are spent as promised on capital projects.

Since the passage of Measures H and J, the Committee has met several times for the purpose of reviewing the District’s bond-funded construction program; ensuring the program maximizes all funding sources; and making sure the District has made the most prudent use of taxpayer dollars. In addition, the Committee is charged with assuring the District adheres to the requirements of Proposition 39, including spending funds only on those projects identified in Measures H and J as approved by the voters.

Citizens’ Oversight Committee Members

Michael Amabile

Member of College Support Organization

Mary Camper

Member of Taxpayer Organization

William Edwards

Citizen of Community

Richard Gerbi

Member of Business Community

Lucille Milani

Citizen of Community

William T. Warner Sr.

Member of Senior Citizen’s Organization

Andrea Garibay

Merced Campus Student Representative

Merced Community College District Programming Team

Larry M. Johnson, Ph.D.

Vice President, District Administrative Services

Sheila Flores

Facilities Planning and Development Specialist

Marvin W. Smith

Director, Business Services

Joseph Allison

Director, Fiscal Services

Dave Younger, Principal Architect

Lionakis Beaumont Design Group Inc.

Measure H (Merced) Featured Projects



Completed

Learning Resources Center Project

The new Learning Resources Center (Library) was completed in January and opened to students on February 20, 2007. The facility is the largest building on campus with more than 74,500 square feet of space. The LRC was funded through state and local education bonds at a cost of \$18.8 million.



Photo by Susan Walsh



Science Building Remodel Project

This project was completed in time for the second week of Fall Instruction and provides teaching and learning spaces to accommodate increased enrollment in the sciences and math areas on the main campus in Merced. With expanding pressure for additional lower division courses at the community college level, enrollment has increased significantly in the physical sciences. The Science Building Remodel Project was funded through state and local education bonds.

Business Resource Center Project

This project was completed in time for the Spring 2008 semester of instruction and includes space for employment training and economic development programs. The building contains: classrooms, computer laboratories, conference rooms and community meeting spaces for college/business collaboration, and faculty/staff space. This building is located off campus on 19th Street, near Merced City Hall. The Business Resource Center Project was funded solely from local education bonds.



Measure H (Merced) Featured Projects



In Progress

Lesher Building Remodel Project

This project will be substantially complete by March 7, 2008 and reactivates 21,660 square feet of remodeled space, formerly known as the Lesher Library, to address the need for the development of centralized student services on the Merced Campus (i.e. Admissions, Records, Registration, Counseling, Financial Aid, EOPS and DSPS.)

Allied Health Complex Project

This project began on September 25, 2007 and is expected to be complete by the Spring 2009 semester. The new complex will consist of 30,931 square feet to house labs for the LVN, RN, Diagnostic Radiologic Technology and CNA Programs, offices for faculty and meeting room space for faculty and public use. The building will be located on the Merced Campus, in close proximity to the new Mercy Hospital.

In Planning

Student Union Remodel and Administration Building Remodel Projects

Space vacated as a result of the Lesher Building Remodel Project will be remodeled to accommodate student functions. Associated Students and Student Activities of Merced College will benefit from this remodel. As described in the Merced College Master Plan, "Student Union space will be reverted back to the students." A new, state-of-the-art, Board Room will also be included as part of this project. This project will occur over the 2008 summer and is funded solely by bond funds.

Agriculture and Industrial Technology Complex Project

This 35,000 square foot, \$14 million dollar project combines two academic divisions (Agriculture and Industrial Technology) in response to changing education and technical training requirements of persons entering and continuing employment in the Agriculture and Industrial Technology sectors of Merced County, as well as state-wide. It is anticipated the project will be included in the Governor's 2008-09 budget.

Vocational Building Remodel Project

Space vacated as a result of construction of the Allied Health Complex will be remodeled to provide additional lecture, lab, and office space for the campus. This project also removes inaccessible functions from the basement of the theater; this space then reverts to non-assignable uses. It is anticipated the project will be included in the Governor's 2010-11 budget.

Measure J (Los Banos) Featured Projects



Completed

Los Banos Site Development/Permanent Educational Facilities

On-site development of facilities extended the infrastructure onto the permanent site. This project delivered the first building for the new campus, which consists of three teaching labs, six general purpose classrooms, offices and a small library. The total square feet for this project is 13,023.



Photos by Susan Walsh

Academic and Vocational Technology Project

This project provides the new campus with its second facility. The new academic building will focus on technology (i.e. science labs, computer labs, classrooms, lecture space and meeting and faculty space). This project is funded with bond funds.



The new Los Banos Campus

The new campus is housed on 125 acres to the west of Los Banos along Highway 152. A Grand Opening was held on Friday, September 7, 2007.



Measures H and J: The First Three Years

Since voters approved Measures H and J in November 2002, the Merced Community College District has made significant progress in its Capital Facilities Program. Since Fall of 2004, the North Loop Road, Learning Resources Center, Science Building Remodel and Business Resource Center have been completed. And, the Leshler Building Remodel and Allied Health Complex Project are under construction. The Student Union and Administration Buildings will be remodeled in the summer of 2008 and there are two projects waiting for funding approval at the Chancellor's Office.

Updates to the facilities master plan will soon be underway. Through the end of June 2007, the District had spent \$ 32,619,425.

A District Programming Team continues to monitor projects district-wide. The Programming Team is comprised of staff from the District.

Financial and Performance Audits

Measures H and J contain strict financial safeguards, including a requirement that independent financial and performance audits be conducted annually to ensure that bond funds are spent only on classroom and facility improvements as identified in the ballot language.

Measure H was passed in November 2002. In June of 2003, the first phase of general obligation bonds was sold for a total of \$20 million. In June of 2004, the second phase of general obligation bonds was sold for a total of \$24 million. In June of 2006, the third phase of general obligation bonds was sold for a total of \$24 million.

Measure J was passed in November 2002. In May of 2003, the first phase of general obligation bonds was sold for a total of \$5,140,000. The second and last phase of general obligation bonds was sold in August of 2005 for a total of \$6,790,000.

The audit firm Matsom and Isom conducted audits of the bond expenditures and activities for the period July 1, 2006, through June 30, 2007. The firm reported, "Based on the procedures performed, we found that for the items tested, the Merced Community College District has properly accounted for the expenditure of Proposition 39 and Measures H and J General Obligation Bonds. Further, it was noted that the funds were not used for salaries of school administrators or other operating expenditures. In our opinion, the Merced Community College District complied, in all material respects, with the aforementioned requirements for the year ended June 30, 2007."

Matson and Isom

A copy of the full financial and performance audits may be viewed on the Merced Community College District web site at www.mccd.edu.



Merced Community College District Home to Design Award Buildings

Merced Community College District is proud to be home to three design award winning projects designed by Lionakis Beaumont Design Group Inc. The projects are highlighted below.



Merced Campus

***Interdisciplinary
Academic Center***

2005 AIA SV
Design Excellence Award

Los Banos Campus

***Complete Campus
Design***

2007 CCFC
Design Excellence
Merit Award



Merced Campus

Learning Resources Center

2007 AIA SV
Design Excellence Award

STAY IN TOUCH

The Citizens' Oversight Committee meets twice a year to review Measure H and Measure J projects and progress. All meetings are open to the public. For more information, go to the District's web site at www.mccd.edu or call Sheila Flores, District Facilities Planning and Development Specialist, (209) 384-6225.



Merced Community College District

MERCED COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Jinet Troost * Lewis S. Braxton * Eva de Long * Jim Glidden
Les McCabe * Eugene J. Vierra * Robert Haden**

Benjamin T. Duran, Ed.D., Superintendent/President

Message from Merced Community College District Superintendent/President

It is my pleasure to present this Citizens' Bond Oversight Annual Report to the Merced Community College District Board of Trustees. This report reflects the hard work and time spent planning and executing construction projects over the past year.

This is an exciting time for the District and I am proud to be part of the process.

The members of the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee have worked hard to ensure that bond funds are spent accordingly. I thank them for their hard work and appreciate their time and dedication.

*Benjamin T. Duran
Superintendent/President
Merced Community College District*

