

May 18, 2004

Dear Members of the Tustin Unified School District Community:

The Measure G Citizens' Oversight Committee has recently completed its first year of operation. The Committee has the responsibility for oversight and reviews and reports on the proper expenditure of the taxpayer's money for school construction of Measure G funding projects. Measure G is the Tustin Unified School District's \$80 million bond passed by over 67% of voters on November 5, 2002, to repair and renovate the 20 oldest schools in the District. The Board of Education has initially approved and issued \$15 million in Measure G Bonds. In addition, the District will receive matching funds from the State of California totaling at least \$28 million to enhance the bond-funded projects. This creates a \$43 million Phase I budget. The additional \$65 million in bonds are scheduled to be issued in the summer of 2005 (Phase II) and 2007 (Phase III).

The members of the Committee are Chairperson, George Jeffries, Vice Chairperson, Elizabeth (Lisa) Frost, Vice Chair, Patrick Craig, Bruce Junor, Steve Kozak, Jason Rush, John Secor, Judy Shade, and Rich Wagner. The Committee has met bimonthly at different school sites and has begun each meeting with a tour of the facility. The Committee has toured Arroyo, Beswick, Estock, Guin Foss, Lambert, Loma Vista, Nelson, Red Hill, and Thorman elementary schools, Currie and Hewes middle schools, and Foothill and Tustin high schools. The Committee has a Website at www.TUSDMeasureG.org which contains information about their activities.

The Committee has participated in a variety of presentations and activities in the past year, including:

- Created policies and procedures to govern the Committee
- Elected Committee officers
- Determined website content
- Reviewed the District's draft Facilities Plan
- Reviewed the bond issuance process, rating, cost of issuance, and the amount of issuance
- Reviewed the District's Deferred Maintenance Program
- Reviewed the job descriptions and hiring of the Program Administrator—PinnacleOne
- Reviewed the Phase I construction projects, timelines, and status
- Reviewed the California Office of Public School Construction design standards, construction process, inspection standards, funding rules, and government bidding process

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- Reviewed possible formats and topics for financial and performance audits of Measure G
- Selected an auditor
- Developed and reviewed an expenditure reporting format

The Committee was very pleased that the Board of Education continued the Deferred Maintenance Program. The program takes money from the District's general fund budget and earmarks it for ongoing maintenance projects continuing the District's commitment to maintain facilities and ensure that Measure G funds will not be the only funds expended for this purpose. At the same time, the Committee was closely monitoring market conditions and challenges, including increased materials costs such as steel products, increased labor costs due to the market being flooded with over \$13 billion in statewide new construction due to the passing of the State bond, and the difficulty in getting high-quality subcontractors.

On June 18, 2004, major construction will begin on the first 12 schools. The schools include Arroyo, Beswick, Estock, Guin Foss, Lambert, Loma Vista, Nelson, Thorman, and Veeh elementary schools; Hewes Middle School; and Foothill and Tustin high schools. This work includes repairing, renovating or replacing restrooms and drinking fountains; making health and safety repairs and upgrades; hazardous materials abatement; disabled access projects; repairing or replacing electrical, plumbing, sewer, and roof systems; and modifying or adding bus and car drop-off areas to increase safety. The initial group of projects will range from three months at some elementary schools to approximately 18 months at the high schools.

The School Board is also already engaged in prioritizing work for Phases II and III, and the Committee has been invited by the Board to attend the discussion on the prioritization process. The Committee encourages community members to attend meetings related to Measure G and periodically checking the website for the latest updates.

Sincerely,

George Jeffries, Chairman
Measure G Citizens' Oversight Committee