Yosemite Community College District

Measure E Citizens’ Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes
Columbia College – Community Education Classroom
October 5, 2005, 6:00 p.m.


Members Absent: Richard Blunt, Steve Madison, Michelle Shelton, Roy W. Wasden

Others Present: James Williams, Nick Stavrianoudakis, Deborah Campbell, Maria L. Baker, Mark Newton, Matt Kennedy, Marie Otaya, Andrew Paffendorf, Jamie Nelson, Jim Riggs, Connie Mical, Emil Muller, Jeff Thrift, Neil Gill, Graciela Molina (recorder)

1. Call to Order
   Citizens’ Oversight Committee (COC) Meeting was called to order by Chair Luis Molina at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Education Classroom at Columbia College.

2. Approval of Minutes of July 6, 2005 Meeting
   The meeting minutes of July 6, 2005 were approved by the Citizens’ Oversight Committee. A motion was made by Betty Ann Prescott and seconded by Richard S. York Jr. The motion carried with a vote of 10-0.

   Mr. Luis Molina began the meeting by thanking YCCD, President Jim Riggs and Columbia College staff for the tour of the college.

3. Comments from the Public
   Janice Nelson, Columbia Advisory Committee member, provided a public comment regarding the Columbia Circulation Master Plan. She stated that the master plan is being created to identify and address the local transportation deficiencies. The Columbia Advisory Committee hopes that Columbia College will participate along with other agencies in the county to provide input on the plan. Dr. Jim Riggs reported that he met with Supervisor Bass and other officials regarding this topic and stated that Columbia College has a vested interest in the Circulation Master Plan from a college planning perspective.

4. Construction Process Presentation
   Maria Baker provided a presentation on the Construction Process. She explained the eight step process which includes the following: 1) Five Year State Construction Plan; 2) Initial Project Plan (IPP); 3) Final Project Plan (FPP); 4) Preliminary Plan; 5) Working Drawings; 6) Bidding; 7) Construction; and 8) Closeout.

   After the presentation Maria Baker and Mark Newton, Kitchell representative addressed questions from the committee. Mark Newton stated that CEQA documents expire after five years. Maria Baker stated that YCCD pre-qualifies architects and contractors, then uses the list of contractors to complete project work. She informed committee members that projects go out to bid for a one month period. She stated that construction, depending on the complexity of the project, can take 15-18 months or even longer. A point of concern was mentioned by committee members as well as YCCD staff regarding delays that may jeopardize later phases due to escalation in construction costs. Maria Baker informed the committee that the highest needs of the colleges went on the Bond and these were set with college input. The committee was notified that the project list has not been revised since the last distribution to the committee. Ms. Baker responded
to the issue of warranty and stated that buildings are usually under warranty for one year and equipment in a building may have a longer warranty. She also stated that Columbia is interested in green “eco friendly” buildings that are environmentally friendly and eco conscious. Discussion ensued regarding parking at MJC. Ms. Baker informed the committee of concerns presented to the District by community members.

5. Measure E Expenditure Report
Deborah Campbell, Controller for YCCD, reported on the current expenditure report for YCCD Bond Measure E Projects. The printout previously received by committee members was raw data from our Datatel program. She reported that currently, $9.7 million is allocated to the budget, $7 million will provide renovation to the MJC Auditorium and the balance will go to Columbia Colleges quick start projects. She stated that approximately $24,000 have currently been paid out. She reviewed the report with committee members and reported that Kitchell and Fiscal Services staff have met and will bring an easier to read report to the Citizens’ Oversight Committee next quarter.

6. Delay in Approving/Posting Minutes
Dr. Williams stated that he received a concern regarding the delay in posting approved minutes. He informed the committee that once the committee chair has reviewed, edited, and approved a draft of the minutes the unapproved meeting minutes will be posted on-line and identified as unapproved. Following approval of minutes, the official minutes will be posted and unapproved minutes will be removed. This will provide the public with information between quarterly meetings. Committee Member David Geer recommended that the MJC and Columbia College websites have a link on their main web page directing the public to the YCCD Measure E Citizens’ Oversight Committee.

7. Comments from Committee Members
Richard York, Committee member stated that the local community is interested in getting information out to the news media regarding the Measure E Updates. It was stated that the Measure E Updates can be distributed to the local papers for information regarding the bond. The committee was informed that the Measure E Updates are posted on the website, available at the board meetings, and distributed to the Modesto Bee and Union Democrat. In response to a question regarding the public comment Dr. Williams reported that information regarding the Columbia Circulation Master Plan should be forwarded to Dr. Riggs. Chair Luis Molina informed the committee of the next meeting date and location. He reminded committee members to submit their agenda items according to the meeting schedule previously provided to committee members. He reported that a tour of MJC East will take place in January at the next quarterly meeting weather permitting.

8. Adjournment
Richard S. York, Jr. made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by David F. Geer. The Citizens’ Oversight Committee meeting was adjourned at 6:55 pm.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 4, 2005, at 6:00 pm at Modesto Junior College, East Campus.