



Land Donation Agreement Expires

October 2, 2007

MODESTO, CA – The deadline for delivery of a donation parcel to build a West Side outreach site of Modesto Junior College in Patterson expired on September 30, 2007. Although the donor’s valiant plan to donate 28 acres to the Yosemite Community College District (YCCD) fell through, YCCD still plans to expand its presence on the West Side.

According to YCCD Chancellor Roe Darnell, “In the next 2-3 weeks, we will begin the process of developing an educational plan for each of the outreach sites identified in Measure E – West Side, Calaveras, Turlock and Oakdale. Our goal will be to have the educational plans completed shortly. Faculty and the communities being served will be involved in developing the plan. This planning, however, will not delay the District from exploring offers for site acquisition on the West Side,” stated Dr. Darnell.

“Just the opposite is true,” according to Darnell. “We know that the ideal site will be at least 20 acres and that we must move quickly to finalize site acquisition, because the need for a college outreach site on the West Side is very high.” Because of contractual obligations, the District was exclusively committed to the 28-acre site in Patterson. The District will now entertain other offers. YCCD Trustee Anne DeMartini, whose trustee area includes the West Side stated “the District will continue to aggressively seek land to secure a West Side site. We have a commitment to the West Side and expect to hear from other potential partners that will enable us to provide educational services to serve the West Side’s needs.”

YCCD passed a \$326.1 million general obligation bond in November 2004, of which \$5 million was earmarked for a West Side Center. In an effort to leverage those dollars as much as possible, the District entered into the land donation agreement with Mr. Miroyan. After revising the location of the parcel, amending the agreement, and initiating preliminary feasibility and environment studies on the parcel, the District committed to the site with the stipulation that the donor provide free and clear title by September 30, 2007. Darnell stated, “We thank Sperry Road for the opportunity and their hard work in trying to make the donation happen, but the District is obligated to move on.”