

**Full Text of Measure L
Rancho Santiago Community College District**

FULL TEXT BALLOT PROPOSITION OF THE
RANCHO SANTIAGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
BOND MEASURE ELECTION FOR MARCH 3, 2020

“To upgrade classrooms/labs to improve student and veteran access to affordable, high-quality education and career training in science, technology, engineering, math and skilled trades at Santa Ana College and Santiago Canyon College; repair deteriorating roofs/plumbing/electrical systems; and construct/acquire classrooms/facilities/equipment, shall the Rancho Santiago Community College District measure authorizing \$496,000,000 in bonds at legal rates, levying 2¢ per \$100 of assessed value (\$25,700,000 annually) while bonds are outstanding, be approved, with citizen oversight, independent audits and local control?”

Bonds – Yes

Bonds – No

PROJECT LIST

The Board of Trustees (the “Board”) of the Rancho Santiago Community College District (the “District”) certifies that it has evaluated the District’s urgent and critical needs, including college and student safety issues, enrollment trends, class size reduction, overcrowding, energy efficiency and computer technology, seismic safety requirements, and aging, outdated or deteriorating college buildings in developing the scope of projects to be funded. The Board will prioritize the key health and safety and sustainability needs so that the most critical college site needs are addressed. The District conducted an evaluation at all college sites and received public input in developing the scope of capital projects to be funded.

In connection with the calling of the bond election, the Board has made the following findings:

- (a) As the cost of attending the University of California and State University systems becomes more expensive, more students are starting their education at community colleges. Santa Ana College and Santiago Canyon College ensure that lower and middle-income students who can’t afford the high price of a university still have access to career training and higher education.
- (b) With thousands of military veterans returning from service, our local community colleges play a critical role in providing job training, job placement, counseling and support services. Student and Veterans Centers must continue to be updated and improved so veterans can continue to receive the support they need.
- (c) More than one-third of all local high school graduates rely on our local community colleges to continue their education. However, classrooms, labs and career training facilities require basic repairs and upgrades so they can continue to serve our community well and educate the healthcare professionals, police, firefighters and skilled workers who keep us healthy, safe and fuel our economy.
- (d) If approved, Measure ___ would fund school facility improvements including: repairing or replacing leaky roofs, old rusty plumbing, faulty electrical systems and dry rotted beams where needed; upgrading classrooms and labs to help local students complete the first two years of college affordably, and transfer to Cal State or UC systems; modernizing school facilities to improve access for students with disabilities; removing hazardous materials like asbestos and lead paint from older buildings; improving student safety and campus security systems including security lighting, cameras, emergency communications systems, smoke detectors and fire alarms; upgrading classrooms, labs and career training facilities for science, technology, engineering, math and biotech, as well as skilled trades including industrial technology, welding and automotive technology.
- (e) Measure ___ requires strict taxpayer protections to ensure funds are spent appropriately. A clear system of accountability is required, including a Citizens’ Oversight Committee and independent audits. All money raised by Measure ___ will be spent locally on Santa Ana College and Santiago Canyon College — no money can be taken away by the State. By law, no funds can be used for administrators’ salaries or pensions.

In approving this Project List, the Board determines that the District should:

- (i) Provide career technical classrooms and facilities for job training to prepare students for the workforce.
- (ii) Upgrade classrooms to support the core academics of math, science, reading and writing.
- (iii) Upgrade computer and science labs.
- (iv) Renovate and repair buildings, classrooms and athletic fields.
- (v) Acquire sites, as necessary, and construct new classrooms and facilities to accommodate enrollment growth.
- (vi) Adhere to specific **FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY** safeguards such as these:
 - (a) Sacramento will be prohibited from taking any of the funds raised.
 - (b) All expenditures will be subject to annual independent financial and performance audits.
 - (c) No funds will be used for administrators’ salaries and pensions.
 - (d) All funds will be subject to local control and provide improvements at or in support of the District’s colleges.
 - (e) An independent citizens’ oversight committee will be appointed to ensure that all funds are spent only as authorized.

The Project List includes the following types of projects:

Construction, Repair and Upgrade of College Facilities

Goal and Purpose: The District has determined that the construction of new facilities, and the repair and upgrade of deteriorating, outdated buildings, classrooms, computer learning centers and libraries and equipment, in order to ensure compliance with handicap accessibility requirements, are needed in order to provide students the resources they need to excel in careers and future educational opportunities, including:

- Constructing, furnishing and equipping an applied technology and vocational technology center, which may include facilities designated for training for careers in any of the following industries: the culinary arts and hospitality industries, fashion design and merchandising, automotive, diesel, welding and robotics, 3D modeling and manufacturing, and other technology programs under development.
- Reconstructing, renovating, remodeling, upgrading, furnishing and equipping the Centennial Education Center and the School of Continuing Education and Child Development Center, including related parking facilities.
- Replacing, renovating, and reconstructing existing library facilities and construction, furnishing and equipping of a learning commons with combined library facilities and instructional support services in a central location, to improve students' access to support services and lead to increased student completions.
- Reconstructing and upgrading entrance site improvements, including demolition of existing Russell Hall facilities in connection with completion of a new Health Sciences Center, including construction of a new campus entry plaza with improvements to traffic circulation.
- Constructing, furnishing and equipping a student center and student life building, in order to centralize student and support services, which may include food service facilities, a bookstore, and facilities to accommodate student government and improved student life, and which may include demolition, reconstruction, or renovation of certain buildings and/or spaces in buildings.
- Constructing, furnishing, equipping, rebuilding and remodeling fine and performing arts centers, which may include classrooms, practice rooms, art studios and galleries, a theater with stage, backstage, scene shop, costume shop, dressing rooms, lighting system, sound system, recording system, orchestra pit, public lobby, box office, and other related services.
- Construction of improvements, removal of existing barriers, and replacement of classroom space for buildings with accessibility deficiencies, to comply with Federal and State-mandated Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) handicap accessibility requirements, including constructing accessibility upgrades and improvements to the main campus entrance and elimination of existing barriers to ADA accessibility requirements.
- Replacing and adding electrical service capacity to relieve currently overloaded electrical systems.
- Repairing, upgrading and replacing plumbing, landscaping, lighting heating and air conditioning and electrical systems for energy efficiency and cost savings, as needed.
- Upgrading roadways and pedestrian paths/walkways for better access and increased safety, improve landscaping and grounds, improve and increase on-site parking and repair utilities where needed.

Health, Safety and Security, Earthquake Safety and Student Safety

- Installing new security systems, such as security (surveillance) cameras, outdoor lighting, fencing, gates and classroom door locks.
- Removing or abating asbestos, lead paint, mold and other hazardous materials.
- Upgrading emergency communication systems.
- Making seismic improvements to existing buildings, as needed.
- Upgrading fire alarm systems to automatic systems, repair and replace fire safety equipment, add sprinklers and fire safety doors.
- Replacing and upgrading existing signage, bells and clocks.
- Upgrading, constructing, and replacing athletic equipment, fields and facilities to meet current safety standards and student and community demands.

District-Wide Wiring and Instructional Technology For 21st Century Job Training

Goal and Purpose: The District's colleges provide essential job training and workforce preparation for students at all levels. By improving college facilities, students will have improved opportunities to succeed in health sciences, technology and other careers, whether or not they elect to pursue a four-year degree, with these Projects:

- Providing improved, upgraded and updated computer labs.
- Providing and maintaining upgraded technology, data and communication equipment.
- Upgrading and expanding wireless systems, telecommunications and internet access.
- Upgrading and replacing computers, hardware and software systems.
- Upgrading and replacing classroom furniture, equipment and instructional aids.

- Upgrading media and audio/visual equipment.
- Expanding bandwidth to allow students greater access to the Internet.

Each project is assumed to include its share of furniture, equipment, architectural, engineering, and similar planning costs, program/project management, staff training expenses and a customary contingency for unforeseen design and construction costs. In addition to the Projects stated above, proceeds from the sale of bonds will also be used for payment of facility-related construction costs, the acquisition of land, the payment of the costs of preparation of all facility planning, facility assessment reviews, facility master plan updates, environmental studies (including environmental investigation, remediation and monitoring) and construction documentation, the acquisition or prepayment of outstanding ground leases, acquiring and leasing of real property for school facilities, including the purchase of leased facilities and the refinancing of outstanding lease obligations, including, but not limited to, the refinancing of existing lease obligations of the District, acquiring and leasing of property for temporary housing of dislocated college activities caused by bond-financed Projects and the leasing or acquisition of staff parking. The upgrading of technology infrastructure includes, but is not limited to, computers, LCD projectors, portable interface devices, servers, switches, routers, modules, sound projection, card access systems, laser printers, digital white boards, document projectors, upgraded voice-over IP, call manager and network security/firewall, and other miscellaneous equipment and software.

In addition to the Projects listed above, the repair and renovation of each of the existing facilities may include, but not be limited to, some or all of the following: renovation of student and staff restrooms; repair and replacement of heating, air conditioning and ventilation systems; upgrade of facilities for energy efficiency and to reduce fire risks; repair and replacement of worn-out and leaky roofs, windows, walls, doors and drinking fountains; demolition of unsafe facilities; installation of wiring and electrical systems to safely accommodate computers, technology and other electrical devices and needs; repairing and replacing fire alarms, emergency communications and security systems; resurfacing or replacing of hard courts, turf and irrigation systems and campus landscaping; building new and/or renovating existing gymnasiums, pools and stadiums; upgrading or replacing inadequate libraries, multi-purpose rooms, kitchens and administrative spaces; upgrading locker rooms; installing lunch shelters, artificial turf, and bleachers; improving sanitation and recycling; expanding parking; installing interior and exterior painting and floor covering; replacing portable classrooms; installing covered walkways or shelters; adding administrative support spaces; upgrading school site cafeterias; demolition; and construction of various forms of storage and support spaces; upgrading classrooms; repairing, upgrading and installing interior and exterior lighting systems; replacing water and sewer lines and other plumbing systems; and replacing outdated security fences and security systems.

Any of the projects listed herein may be completed in conjunction with other public education, city, county or college institutions, including libraries, child care centers, multi-purpose rooms, aquatics centers, gymnasiums and athletic facilities, media centers, visual and performing arts facilities, and health care facilities to increase efficient use of bond proceeds. Listed projects and upgrades listed above may be completed as needed, and any of such Projects may or may not be completed as a joint use project with another public entity, as determined by the Board. The District may also pursue public-private partnerships or partnerships with nonprofit entities to complete any of the projects listed herein and reduce costs to the District, in compliance with applicable law, and at the direction of the Board. The District is committed to working with public and private entities to seek funds and share facilities use in order to maximize student success and save taxpayers dollars.

The allocation of bond proceeds will be affected by the District's receipt of State matching funds and the final costs of each Project. Approval of Measure ____ does not guarantee that the proposed Project or Projects within the District that are the subject of bonds under Measure ____ will be funded beyond the local revenues generated by Measure _____. The District's proposed Projects may assume the receipt of State matching funds, which could be subject to appropriation by the Legislature or approval of a statewide bond measure. In the absence of State matching funds, which the District will aggressively pursue to reduce the District's share of the costs of the Projects, the District may not be able to complete some of the Projects listed above.

The final cost of each project will be determined as plans are finalized, construction bids are awarded and projects are completed. Based on the final costs of each project, certain projects described above may be delayed or may not be completed. Demolition of existing facilities and reconstruction of facilities scheduled for repair and upgrade may occur, if the Board determines that such an approach would be more cost-effective in creating more enhanced and operationally efficient campuses. Necessary site preparation/restoration may occur in connection with new construction, renovation or remodeling, or installation or removal of relocatable classrooms, including ingress and egress, removing, replacing or installing irrigation, storm drain, and utility lines, trees and landscaping, relocating fire access roads, and acquiring any necessary easements, licenses, or rights of way to the property. Proceeds of the bonds may be used to pay or reimburse the District for the costs of District staff when performing work on or necessary and incidental to bond projects. Bond proceeds shall only be expended for the specific purposes identified herein.

As required by the California Constitution, the proceeds from the sale of the bonds will be used only for the provision of school facilities by construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, refinancing or replacement of school facilities, including the furnishing and equipping of school facilities, or the acquisition or lease or real property for school facilities, and not for any other purpose, including teacher and administrator salaries and other school operating expenses.

The District will conduct an annual, independent performance audit to ensure that the funds have been expended only on projects included in the Project List set forth above.

The District will conduct an annual, independent financial audit of the proceeds from the sale of the bonds until all of those proceeds have been expended on projects included in the Project List set forth above.

Pursuant to Section 15772 of the Education Code, the Board will appoint a citizens' oversight committee and conduct annual independent audits to assure that bond proceeds are spent only on projects included in the Project List set forth above and for no other purposes.

NO ADMINISTRATOR SALARIES. PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF THE BONDS AUTHORIZED BY THIS PROPOSITION SHALL BE USED ONLY FOR THE ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION, REHABILITATION, OR REPLACEMENT OF SCHOOL FACILITIES, INCLUDING THE FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING OF FACILITIES, AND NOT FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE, INCLUDING PENSIONS, TEACHER AND SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR SALARIES AND OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES.

FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY. THE EXPENDITURE OF BOND MONEY ON THESE PROJECTS IS SUBJECT TO STRINGENT FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY REQUIREMENTS. BY LAW, PERFORMANCE AND FINANCIAL AUDITS WILL BE PERFORMED ANNUALLY, AND ALL BOND EXPENDITURES WILL BE MONITORED BY AN INDEPENDENT CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (EDUCATION CODE SECTION 15278 ET SEQ.) TO ENSURE THAT FUNDS ARE SPENT AS PROMISED AND SPECIFIED. THE CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MUST INCLUDE, AMONG OTHERS, REPRESENTATIVES OF A BONA FIDE TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION, A BUSINESS ORGANIZATION AND A SENIOR CITIZENS ORGANIZATION. NO DISTRICT EMPLOYEES OR VENDORS ARE ALLOWED TO SERVE ON THE CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE.