

Bond Oversight Committee

Friday, June 21, 2013 – North High School

Oversight Attendees: Kendra Black, Mary Brice, Luchia Brown, Doug Elenowitz, Patricia Frederico, Beverly Haddon, Roger Kilgore, Kelly Leid, Monique Lovato, Michelle Moss, Karen Taylor, Luis Torres

DPS Staff: David Suppes, Trena Deane, JT Allen, Bruce Huxley, Charles Garcia, Brian Eschbacher, Benita Duran, Sharon Gonzalez, Ruben Chavez

Agenda:

- Committee charter
- Financial update
- Project prioritization methodology
- Diversity programs
- Discuss future meeting agendas

Meeting Notes:

Oversight Committee Charter – Kendra Black & Kelly Leid

- Kelly Leid and Kendra Black created a draft charter using prior experience as well as the Board resolution outlining the responsibilities of the oversight committee
- Several members requested modifications to the draft charter
 - Adding “and appropriate use of general obligation funds...”
 - Remove the word “Executive” from “Committee Responsibilities”
 - Add the term “and alignment with the intent of the voters” to the reporting responsibility to the Board of Education
- The amended charter was unanimously approved by the committee members
- The charter is being emailed to the committee members and will be posted on the DPS bond website

Financial Update – David Suppes

- David Suppes, COO of Denver Public Schools provided the update
- Due to the favorable interest rate environment of the markets, DPS issued nearly all of the \$466M of authorized general obligation bonds in December. Roughly \$21.4M are still available to be issued in the future.
- The all-in interest rate of the bonds is approximately 2.7%, which by historic standards is extremely low.
- DPS will be in compliance with the ballot language requirements regarding total repayment cost and the annual cost.
- DPS also received a BEST (Building Excellent Schools Today) grant for roughly \$3.0M for maintenance work at South High School. These funds will allow the district to expand the scope of work that is being performed at South, and will include improvements to the water quality and roof of the building.

Project Prioritization Methodology – JT Allen

- A question was asked on how heat mitigation projects were sequenced. JT stated that there were a few factors that played into it:
 - Due to the operational and financial benefits of bundling projects, heat mitigation projects were layered in with the other needs of schools across the district to determine sequencing. So if a school had critical maintenance needs that were a top priority from the CPAC, that air cooling project will likely occur sooner in the schedule.
 - Due to limited DPS resources, only so many projects can be scheduled per year, which is why there are maintenance projects scheduled over the next few years.
 - Note that each heat mitigation / air cooling project will be a specific solution based on each school. Schools have different issues today (building materials, sun light angles, etc.) so the solutions are not one-size-fits-all.

Diversity Programs – Trena Deane & Sharon Gonzalez

- DPS is the only school district in the state of Colorado that has a diversity outreach program
- DPS currently has system limitations which causes several shortcoming on reporting:
 - Only allows prime contractor diversity information to be captured, not sub-contractors
 - Only looks at contracts over \$250,000, not the large volume of projects that are smaller than that value
 - Does not reflect the opportunity for participation, meaning the number of minority contractors that were contacted to bid and the number of minority contractors that did bid
 - Only captures one category of diversity for a contractor, so if a contractor meets the requirements of several categories, we are not able to report that
- DPS is undertaking an initiative to improve the reporting for the above areas. Meetings with the City of Denver and RTD will begin occurring next week to hear about more practices in the capture and reporting of diversity programs
- The Board of Education passed a resolution during the June 20, 2013 meeting supporting an equitable and inclusive contracting policy. That resolution is being emailed to the membership along with these meeting minutes.
- The full-size version of the placemat that was shared is being emailed to the committee along with these meetings minutes.
- DPS will follow-up with the Board of Education and the oversight committee later this year to report out the latest findings.
- It is important to note that it is illegal for DPS to award contracts based on race.

Upcoming Meetings:

- Brian Eschbacher will send out a Doodle for several dates in late July for members to take a bus tour of bond-funded construction locations.
- Brian will send a separate Doodle to help determine the weekly day and time for meetings that will start up in the fall.

Future Agendas:

- Project discussion of the Downtown Campus
- Sustainability programs