

**CITY AND SAN LEANDRO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT LIAISON COMMITTEE**

**November 17, 2011**

**4:00-5:30 p.m.**

**San Leandro Unified School District  
14735 Juniper Street  
San Leandro, California  
(Professional Development Center)**

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- Committee Members: Mayor Stephen Cassidy, Councilmember Pauline Cutter, Councilmember Michael Gregory, Board Member Mike Katz-Lacabe, Board President Morgan Mack-Rose, Board Member Hermy Almonte
- City Staff Present: Jacqui Diaz, Interim Assistant City Manager, San Leandro Police Sergeant Ted Henderson, and Louie Brandt, School Resource Officer at San Leandro High School
- SLUSD Staff Present: Superintendent Cindy Cathey; Robin Michel, Communications Outreach Specialist, Measure B; Mike Murphy, Director of Measure B
- Public None
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The meeting was called to order by Board member Mike Katz-Lacabe at 4:05 p.m.

**1. Update on Measure M**

Director of Measure B Mike Murphy provided an update on Measure M. He reported that since the September meeting, the District has met their DSA submittal deadlines on the two marquee projects: (1) Burrell Field and Pacific Sports Complex project (submitted ahead of schedule); and (2) high school pool and sports fields project.

He thanked City and District representatives on the Technical Advisory Committee, plus the Maintenance and Operation subcommittee and the Conceptual Design Teams for their help and involvement in the development process. Mr. Murphy also reported that the District is exploring bundling solar projects with the two marquee projects to help the District reduce its energy expenses, noting that a solar budget has been included in Measure M. An initial “kickoff” meeting for solar was held on November 10.

Following the update, Board President Mack-Rose commented on tracking the DSA approval process, and the impact, if any, of integrating solar at this time now that plans had already been submitted. She also suggested and urged the Conceptual Design Team to consider a soccer complex at Wilson Elementary and John Muir Middle Schools. Councilmember Gregory was interested in any solar programs and options for funding, such as the one at San Lorenzo USD, which lead to a brief discussion on energy saving measures.

Responding to Mayor Cassidy regarding the construction timeline for the Burrell field and high school pool/field projects, Mr. Murphy noted that the following estimated timeline could be found on the District website.

<b>Description</b>	<b>Start Time</b>	<b>Estimated Completion</b>
Burrell Field	4/15/2012	7/15/2013
High School Baseball/Softball Fields (natural grass)	5/15/2012	6/15/2013
High school Football/Track (artificial turf field and all-weather track)	5/15/2012	11/15/2012
High school pools	5/15/2012	9/13/2013

**NOTE: Following the Measure M update, the Mayor suggested that Item #4, Update on High School Safety, be the next item on the agenda.**

4. **Update on High School Safety**

Superintendent Cathey distributed a copy of her follow-up letter (attached) that appeared in the San Leandro Times, updating parents and community members on the action steps already in place and those that the District is taking in response to the several unfortunate events that occurred during the month of September on or near San Leandro High School. Highlights of the action steps include:

- Increased Adult Supervision
  - San Leandro Police Department has added a third School Resource Officer
  - District hired another campus supervisor
  - Increased administrative supervision at 136<sup>th</sup> and Bancroft Ave. before and after school
  - Additional lunch line supervisors
- Procedural Changes
  - Implemented lunch time detention and loss of social privileges
  - Installing additional cameras
  - Purchased better radios to improve communication between the two campuses and among security and administrative staff
  - Implementing student Identification Badges for all students
  - Implementing an anonymous texting hotline (currently working with the police department)

- Programs to Address the Social and Emotional Needs of Students
  - Implemented a new off-campus instructional program at the Lincoln Alternative Education Center (ACE)
  - Added two parent liaisons who work with families to provide support for their students and parent training (using grant funds)
  - Hired a gang prevention parent liaison to work with students and families (violence prevention grant)
  - Hired two mental health professionals to conduct needs assessment and work with students and families to provide services (funds provided by County of Alameda)
  - Currently working on writing a Community-based Health Center grant

Additionally, Superintendent Cathey stated that one area that remains on the top of her list includes meeting with local businesses to develop a partnership to support students being in class on time, every day. A discussion ensued on how the City might help organize such a conversation.

It was also noted that at this point in time, the District is not planning to use metal detectors, drug sniffing dogs, nor will they eliminate the use of student backpacks.

Student Resource Officer Louie Brandt provided an update on the school climate since late September, and the implementation of a Diversion Program at San Leandro High. He felt that since September there have been very few fights, vandalism is down, and there was not one incident during Spirit Week, making it the “best Spirit Week he has experienced in his six years working at the high school.” He briefly described the Diversion Program (recently implemented at the high school) where students, who commit non-felony offenses come before a jury of their peers, who determine the sanctions for each defendant including educational training programs and classes, community service and mandatory counseling.

Superintendent Cathey added that during a meeting today with staff from Supervisor Wilma Chan’s office she learned that the District will have the opportunity to participate in a program called YEP (Youth Employment Program) which works with students who are on probation and/or foster youth. They work with students to provide them with support and training to prepare them for the work force and also help them get summer jobs. The program comes with a near full time staff person. She is hoping to be able to get started after winter break. A discussion ensued on the limited communication between the probation department and school district identifying those students who are on probation. The Mayor offered to send a letter (drafted by the District) to the Juvenile District Attorney in support of improved communication.

Sergeant Henderson also provided a brief update on the recent shooting at the Alvarado Street Tattoo Party in the City (some of the attendees were high

school students). He would like to see some type of awareness campaign implemented stressing that these types of parties are dangerous.

2. **Discussion Regarding Parcel Tax Concept**

Superintendent Cathey reported that the Board received a presentation (attached) on the potential of the District placing a Parcel Tax before the San Leandro voters in 2012. The presentation included important background information on the District's fiscal situation and highlighted factors to be considered while exploring a potential parcel tax, as well as the process for conducting a community parcel tax questionnaire, including:

- Timeline options
- Parcel tax funding structure options
- Potential tax threshold
- Identification of highest priority needs
- Community Input process
- Communication Plan
- Cost of an election

After the presentation, the Superintendent reported that the Board discussed and approved the commission of a parcel tax questionnaire, hiring a consultant to conduct a community survey, and revitalizing the steering committee, The Citizens for San Leandro Schools.

A discussion ensued regarding concerns, past parcel tax experiences, City involvement, and suggestions on how to proceed.

3. **Update on Forum on Children**

Interim Assistant City Manager Diaz noted that she is still collecting data from the committee; however, the venue has been secured and the event will be publicized in the City's spring brochure.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

6. **COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

- Mayor Cassidy commented on the curbside appeal of the schools (specifically at Monroe Elementary School). Mr. Murphy stated he would look into seeing that the needed pavement repairs are addressed.
- Councilmember Cutter requested that the committee place the subject "Joint Use Agreement regarding the Pacific Field Complex" on the next agenda to discuss each agency's use of the complex, guidelines on how this will affect their budgets, and developing a Memorandum of Understanding. With the City and District currently developing budgets, funding needs to be identified for shared usage and now is the

time to start promoting the field for potential users.

- Board Member Hermy Almonte praised the City staff for the successful Town Hall meeting with the BART management. He also suggested placing a “Youth Job Faire” on a future agenda.
- Councilmember Gregory would like to see the committee discuss the education component of the signalized intersection “scramble” which will be installed at 136<sup>th</sup> and Bancroft Avenues. He also attended the Contra Costa County Creek and Watershed Symposium.
- Superintendent Cathey commented on the education component of the “scramble.” The grant provides for a person to coordinate the effect.
- Board President Mack-Rose thanked the City for encouraging the Oro Loma partnership. Mayor Cassidy encouraged the District to let them know anyway they might help.
- Mayor Cassidy would like to see more public art displayed throughout the City, encouraging the District to think about incorporating some public art into the Burrell field complex.
- Superintendent Cathey commented that as she travels throughout the City, she is hearing that people see a much stronger relationship between the City and District and they really like it.

7. **ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.