

CLACKAMAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
CAPITAL PLANNING FALL 2010

I. BACKGROUND

DHM Research conducted a telephone survey of likely voters living within the Clackamas Community College District. *The purpose of this survey was to assess voters' impressions of the college and to gauge support levels for a ballot measure to fund infrastructure improvements and operations for the college.*

Based on the survey results, the CCC Board of Education is contemplating a General Obligation Bond for May 2011. They will have a first reading on this subject in November and follow up with a final decision in January 2011.

CCC has appointed a Capital Planning Team to meet with division, groups and others to share the results of the survey, discuss "known" capital planning needs and gather input from the college community on their needs. The capital planning exercise is designed to be strategic and address both short and long-term needs. The Capital Planning Team will use a workshop style format to gather feedback and send results to College Advancement for compilation.

Key Timelines:

- The capital planning meetings will begin the week of October 18th and wrap up by the first week of November.
- The Capital Planning Team will present the capital planning recommendations at numerous college forums such as the Presidents' Council and College Council.
- The Capital Planning Team will also host an open house in December to ensure all college members have a chance to learn about the need for a bond and provide feedback.

II. COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT HIGHLIGHTS

1. Going forward it seems clear that concern over the economy will remain much on the minds of district voters, absent a dramatic improvement in the economy in the short term. As the college communicates with the public, this should be kept in mind, as it relates to what the college offers, how it manages finances, and the potential of asking voters for a bond measure.
2. Right now, the overwhelming view of the college among district voters is positive, virtually across the board. The quality of education at the college is highly rated, and the same is true for course offerings and the ability to transfer credits to a four year school. Even the rating of managing the budget to get good value for tax dollars is well to the positive side. This is no small achievement given the overall tenor of the times and the widespread belief among voters that government agencies waste or mispend large amounts of tax dollars.

October 13, 2011 draft

Capital Planning Team: Steffen Moller, Bill Briare, Kirk Pearson, Matthew Altman, Cynthia Risen, Shelly Parini and Bob Cochran. Contact Shelly at shellyp@clackamas.edu for more information.

3. When it comes to infrastructure improvements, those that are directly related to training students on equipment that will be used in the workplace ARE the highest rated, with refinancing debt just below it. Maintenance for aging facilities and updating old facilities and classrooms were more of a middle priority; while distance learning technology, more specialized classroom space and more classroom space specifically for four year college preparatory classes were deemed lower priority items at this time.

4. When it came to teaching and instructional improvements, four priority items ranked closely together. These were sustaining and expanding classes that involve workforce training that will prepare students for the kinds of jobs that will be created in coming years, designing and offering classes that give students the best chance of finding a good wage job immediately after graduating, working with four year colleges to offer more class choices that can help students build credits toward a degree at a four year university, and continuing to pursue dual enrollment opportunities for students so they have affordable options to transfer to a four year university. Offering more advanced college credit courses in local high schools and creating/expanding renewable and alternative energy programs were decidedly less of a priority for district voters at this time.

III. WHY DO WE NEED A BOND?

CCC needs to consider a General Obligation Bond in the near future to:

- Update and modernize old facilities, classrooms, technology infrastructure to ensure that students who attend Clackamas Community College will be competitive in today and tomorrow's economy.

- Update and modernize equipment that students are trained on so that they are up to the standards industry and employers use and need in the workplace.

- Provide maintenance to aging facilities that need repair such as replacement of deteriorated roofing; updating electrical and plumbing systems; asphalt replacement; and increasing outdoor lighting at campus locations.

- Invest in technology that will allow the college to improve distance learning opportunities for students to take classes from their own home or another location.

- Refinance the Harmony debt at a lower interest rate to save money.

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