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SBCC MEASURE V UPDATE

The Santa Barbara Community College District Board of Trustees recently announced two updates about activities for Measure V, the \$77.2 million SBCC campus improvement bond approved by voters on the June 3, 2008 ballot.

The Board named seven community members to the Measure V Citizen's Bond Oversight Committee. As required by law, the group will provide SBCC with input and feedback for the implementation of bond projects.

The seven committee members represent different constituent groups based on requirements in the California Education Code as outlined in Proposition 39. At their first meeting November 6, Ed Heron (SBCC support organization) was named chair, and Tim Tremblay (business) named vice chair. Other members are Lanny Ebenstein (taxpayers association), Elvira Gómez de Tafoya (community at large), Sean Knotts (community college support group), Mark Levine (senior citizens' organization), and Marshall Rose (community at large).

The SBCC District Board also selected RBC Capital Markets and Estrada Hinojosa Investment Bankers to handle underwriting services for the sale of Measure V bonds. The first series of bonds were issued beginning November 18 resulting in sales of \$47 million.

"Due in part to a competitive interest rate, the college was able to save taxpayers \$1.5 million from this first issuance," said Dr. Andreea M. Serban, Superintendent/President of Santa Barbara City College. "We appreciate the community's support and are beginning the first phase of construction next year with the remodeling of the college's Garvin Theatre and the Drama/Music Building, both on West Campus."

Measure V, which will qualify the District for matching state funding, will allow for building and equipment upgrades and renovations at Santa Barbara City College's three campuses, improve academic

facilities to help students prepare for jobs and/or transfer to four-year universities, and improve and modernize facilities for high demand careers such as nursing and radiologic and imaging sciences

The project list includes restoration and seismic safety upgrades at SBCC's Main Campus, Schott Center, and Wake Center. Most of the college's facilities are over 40 years old, and due to state budget reductions for scheduled maintenance over the past 10 years, have aging infrastructures. Part of the required work would focus on making SBCC campuses safer and more energy efficient by upgrading heating and cooling systems, fixing leaky roofs, windows and rusty structures, and ending power outages.

The bond measure also would support the construction of the new School of Media Arts (SoMA) building, which will consolidate educational programs for high technology careers, an area of increased student interest and industry need.

By law, none of the \$77.2 million bond monies can be spent on instructional salaries or administration.

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