



From the President's Desk

GO WEST. GO FAR.

November 10, 2010

COLLEGE VIEW OF THE BOND BUDGET ISSUES*

West Los Angeles College faces a challenge in managing the Bond Budget. Bond funds were over committed through the past five years. The following summarizes the bond budget status as of August:

ORIGINAL ALLOCATION \$413,997,105
(Prop A \$120.8M + Prop AA \$69.5M + Measure J \$215.2M + State \$8.3M + Other \$134,000)

STATUS OF FUNDS NEEDED

Committed/Spent		Needed for Pending		Total Funds Needed
\$300,926,121	+	Projects	=	\$537,496,841
		\$236,570,720		

Original Allocation	-	Total Funds Needed		
\$413,997,105	-	\$537,496,841	=	(\$123,499,736)

HISTORY

Spring 2010: The Building Program Management Committee (BPMC) and the College Council (CC) asked then president Dr. Mark Rocha for specific information related to the bond program total budget. While he had communicated to the committees that unbudgeted projects had been approved, the impact to overall budget adjustment was never presented. However, BPMC and CC did know what the necessary unbudgeted projects were: the purchase of the Jefferson Blvd. property and the road. They also asked for more details to understand how the unplanned expenses were going to be accommodated within the total bond budget. Dr. Rocha explained to them, in general, that the District would restore the \$50M spent on the road and the purchase of the property. On several occasions the participatory committees pressed Dr. Rocha for the total bond budget status. He was specifically asked in June to communicate the bond budget status before he left. The college community believed that the last request prompted him to find out what the budget status was, and this resulted in the email sent to college leadership.

June: The college leadership became aware of the over commitment on June 29, 2010, when Dr. Rocha sent an email to the college's AFT Guild president, Senate president, and College Council president. He advised them that he was recently made aware of a \$75M over commitment of bond funds. While he was aware of the expenditures (property purchased for the Jefferson Blvd. entrance, construction of second college road, costs of mitigation measures, and up scoping of projects) that were not budgeted; he "was not aware of the magnitude" of the problem. In that same email, he proposed solutions that included the following: budget restoration by the District for the college entrance road and mitigations, selling of the 10100 Jefferson Blvd. property on the campus, down scoping projects, and transferring Measure J funds from the airport project to the West bond allocation. He believed this would yield more than sufficient funds to cover the over-

