



*Award of Excellence-  
Growth*

**Raj Kahlon  
Agriculture and  
Industrial  
Technology Complex**



# 2023 Annual Report of the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee

**Merced Community  
College District  
2022-2023 Fiscal Year**

# 2022-2023 Annual Report

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## A message from the Measure H & J Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee

*To Our Community:*

*Welcome to the twentieth edition of the Merced Community College District Measure H & J Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee's Annual Report. As your representatives, it is our committee's duty and privilege to oversee the expenditure of funds approved by voters to upgrade and expand the facilities at Merced Community College and the Los Banos Campus. The committee presents this report to the Community based on information that has been provided to the committee and the auditor's annual financial and performance reports.*

*This committee represents a cross section of the Merced Community College District community, which includes communities in Merced, Fresno, and Madera counties. Over the last year, it has been our pleasure to work with the students, faculty, staff, and administration of the Merced Community College District. As members of this committee, we can assure you that the people of Merced Community College District are working diligently to ensure that every Measure H and J dollar is spent efficiently on those projects that are most vital to the mission of the district—providing quality, affordable, accessible educational opportunities to all members of the community.*

*It is exciting to be part of the changes that will ensure our local college continues to be a valuable resource to our residents and businesses. As you will find in this report, projects are designed to repair aging facilities and infrastructure, increase efficiency, and provide students and faculty with the latest technological tools to enhance the learning experience.*

*Our committee meets twice per year, provided there is a quorum. Members of the public are welcome to attend. Meeting dates and locations are published on the District's website at [www.mccd.edu/about-merced-college/our-mission-vision/committees-and-organizations/citizens-bond-oversight-committee/](http://www.mccd.edu/about-merced-college/our-mission-vision/committees-and-organizations/citizens-bond-oversight-committee/) or by scanning on the QR code provided. You are also welcome to contact us with your comments and/or questions.*

*We look forward to hearing from you.*

*Merced Community College District  
Proposition 39 Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee*



**MERCED  
COLLEGE**



# Measures H (Merced) and J (Los Banos)

## What is Measure H?

In November 2002, voters in the Merced Area approved Measure H, a \$53.5 million general obligation bond measure to fund facilities improvements at the District's Merced Campus.

## What is Measure J?

In November 2002, voters in the Los Banos area approved Measure J, a \$11.93 million general bond measure to fund new facilities at the new Los Banos Campus.

## What is the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee?

Measures H and J were approved under the requirements of California's Proposition 39, the Strict Accountability in Local School Construction Bonds Act passed by state voters in 2000. As required by Proposition 39, the Merced Community College District Board of Trustees appointed an independent committee of citizens to oversee the expenditure of all bond funds. The Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee includes representatives from taxpayer groups, business and industry, senior citizens' organizations, and students. The Committee is charged with ensuring that all bond funds (including interest) are spent as promised on capital projects.

Since the passage of Measures H and J, the Committee has met twice per year, provided there is a quorum, for the purpose of reviewing the District's bond-funded construction program; ensuring the program maximizes all funding sources; and making sure the District has made the most prudent use of taxpayer dollars. In addition, the Committee is charged with assuring the District adheres to the requirements of Proposition 39, including spending funds only on those projects identified in Measures H and J as approved by the voters.

## Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee Members

**Bethany Lawrence**  
*Merced College Student*

**Gary Giampaoli**  
*Citizen of Community*

**Terri Radney**  
*Member of Senior Citizen Organization*

**Michael Carpenter – Vice Chair**  
*Member of Business Community*

**Mark Schrieber**  
*Member of Business Community*

**Jim Williamson**  
*Member of College Support Organization*

**Judy Rose – Chair**  
*Member of Taxpayer Organization*

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## Merced Community College District Programming Team

**Joe Allison**  
*Vice President, District Administrative Services*

**Andre Urquidez**  
*Director, Business and Fiscal Services*

**Marcus Metcalf**  
*Senior Director, Capital Projects and Facilities*

**Mayra Soriagalvarro**  
*Capital Projects and Facilities Coordinator*

**Charles**  
*Director, Purchasing*

**Richard Howard**  
*Construction Project Manager*



# Measure H (Merced) Featured Projects



## Completed

### **Learning Resources Center Project**

The new Learning Resources Center (Library) was completed in January of 2007 and opened to students on February 20, 2007. The facility is the largest building on the Merced campus with more than 74,500 square feet of space. The LRC was funded through state and local education bonds at a cost of \$17.8 million.



### **Science Building Remodel Project**

This building opened to students for the Fall 2007 semester and provides teaching and learning spaces to accommodate increased enrollment in the sciences and math areas on the main campus in Merced. With expanding pressure for additional lower division courses at the community college level, enrollment has increased significantly in the physical sciences. The Science Building Remodel Project was funded using state and local education bonds.

### **Business Resource Center Project**

This project was completed in time for the Spring 2008 semester and includes space for employment training and economic development programs. The building contains: classrooms, computer laboratories, conference rooms and community meeting spaces for college/business collaboration, and faculty/staff space. This building is located off campus on 19th Street, near Merced City Hall. The Business Resource Center Project was funded primarily from local education bonds.



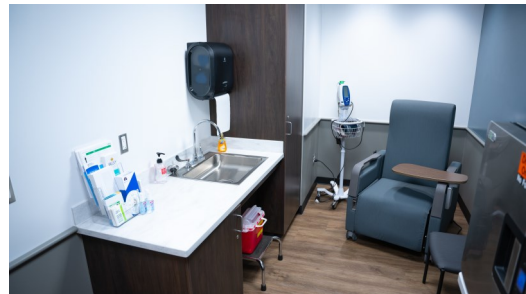
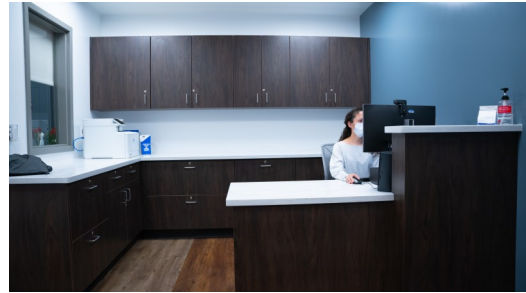
# Measure H (Merced) Featured Projects



## Completed

### **Student Union Remodel**

This project provides a new space for the Student Health Services department as well as the ASMC Food Pantry. This remodel provided benefits directly to students of Merced College. The Student Health Services has an exam room with a sink and state of the art exam table, a restroom, private counseling office, and student nurse office. The ASMC Food Pantry includes dry goods, a refrigerator, freezer, clothes closet, and a washer and dryer.



### **Administration Building Renovation**

This project updated the Boardroom and the Administration Conference Room.





# Measure H (Merced) Projects



## Completed

### **Lesher Building Remodel Project**

This project was completed March 7, 2008 and reactivated 21,660 square feet of remodeled space, formerly known as the Lesher Library, to address the need for the development of centralized student services on the Merced Campus (i.e. Admissions, Records, Registration, Counseling, Student Fees, Financial Aid, EOPS and DSPS.) Merced College is proud to provide this one-stop-shopping concept to our students.

### **Student Union Renovation & Administration Building Remodel Projects**

Space vacated as a result of the Lesher Building Remodel Project was remodeled to accommodate student functions. Associated Students and Student Activities of Merced College have benefited from this remodel. As described in the Merced College Master Plan, "Student Union space will be reverted back to the students." A new, state-of-the-art, Board Room was also included as part of this project. These projects were completed and opened in Spring 2009.

### **Allied Health Complex Project**

This project began on September 25, 2007 and was completed for Summer 2009 classes. The complex consists of 30,931 square feet to house labs and classrooms for the LVN, RN, Diagnostic Radiologic Technology and CNA Programs, offices for faculty and meeting room space for faculty and public use. The building is located on the Merced Campus, in close proximity to Mercy Medical Center.

### **Theater Basement ADA Improvement Project**

The District completed the project using bond ABR funds in the Spring of 2013. The project provides an elevator and renovated basement facilities. Individuals are now able to access the Theater Basement, as well as the green room and stage, via the new elevator.

### **Agriculture and Industrial Technology Complex Project**

This 34,522 square foot, \$26 million dollar project combines two academic divisions (Agriculture and Industrial Technology.) The AgIT project officially broke ground in June 2021 with F&H construction being the lowest bid. Notice of Completion was submitted in September 2023, and recently received a Design Award of Excellence from Community College Facility Coalition.

## In Progress

### **Merced College Career and Technical Education Building Renovation Project (VOC)**

\$3 million EDA grant funding was awarded for a remodel of classrooms in the Vocational Building in addition to Capital Project funds and remaining bond funds to complete this \$12 million project. Darden was selected as the project architect of record. Notice to Proceed was issued September 2023, and construction has begun with expected completion by Winter 2024.

# Measure J (Los Banos) Featured Projects



## Completed

### **Los Banos Site Development/ Permanent Educational Facilities**

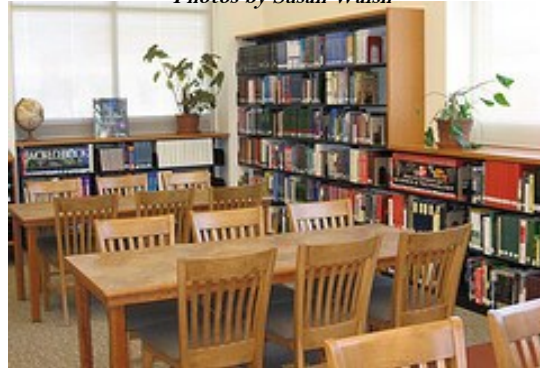
On-site development of facilities extended the infrastructure onto the permanent site. This project delivered the first building for the new campus, which consists of three teaching labs, six general purpose classrooms, offices and a small library. The total square feet for this project is 13,023. This project was state funded.



*Photos by Susan Walsh*

### **Academic and Vocational Technology Project**

This project provided the new campus with its second facility. The new academic building focuses on technology (i.e. science labs, computer labs, classrooms, lecture space and meeting and faculty space). This project was funded with local bond funds.



### **The new Los Banos Campus**

The new campus is housed on 125 acres to the west of Los Banos along Highway 152. A Grand Opening was held on Friday, September 7, 2007.



## Measures H and J Projects

Since voters approved Measures H and J in November 2002, the Merced Community College District has made significant progress in its Capital Facilities Program. Since Fall of 2004, the North Loop Road, Learning Resources Center, Science Building Remodel, Business Resource Center, Leshner Building Remodel, Allied Health Complex Project, Student Union Building, Administration Building and the Theater have been built and/or renovated. The updated Boardroom renovation and a remodeled Student Health Center have been completed. Recently added to the built and completed list is the new Agricultural Industrial Technology Complex. The final major Bond funded project is the Merced College Career Technical Education Building Renovation Project (VOC Building).

In 2018, the District completed a comprehensive Educational Master Plan (EMP). In order to implement goals established in the EMP, in 2019 the District completed a comprehensive Facilities Master Plan (FMP). The FMP was designed to support and align with the District's Mission, Vision, Values, and Educational Master Plan. The 2019 Facilities Master Plan was revised in response to community sentiment. The latest 2020 FMP reflects a scaled down version that maintains alignment with District core values and the EMP.

## Financial and Performance Audits

Measures H and J contain strict financial safeguards, including a requirement that independent financial and performance audits be conducted annually to ensure that bond funds are spent only on classroom and facility improvements as identified in the ballot language.

On June 19, 2003, the first series of Bonds in the amount of \$20,000,000 and \$5,140,000 for the Merced Campus and Los Banos Campus, respectively, were issued. On August 1, 2005, the second series of Bonds in the amount of \$6,790,000 for the Los Banos campus were issued. On August 1, 2006, the District issued a second series of Bonds for the Merced Campus in the amount of \$24,000,000. On November 16, 2006, the District refunded the Los Banos Campus Series 2003 and Series 2005 Bonds in the amount of \$10,740,000. The total proceeds from the Bond issuance were received by the District (less the original bond issuance costs) and are to be used to finance the construction, acquisition, furnishing, and equipping of District facilities. In 2011, the District refunded the Merced Campus series 2003; resulting in a savings of over \$1 million to the taxpayers of SFID 1 (School Facility Improvement District). In 2023, the District issued a third series of Bonds for the Merced campus in the amount of \$9,500,000.

The audit firm, CDWL conducted audits of the bond expenditures and activities for the period July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023. The firm reported:

*The results of our tests indicated that, in all significant respects, Merced Community College District expended Measure H and J General Obligation Bond funds for the year ended June 30, 2023 only for the specific projects developed by the District's Governing Board and approved by the voters, in accordance with the requirements of Proposition 39, as specified by Section 1(b)(3) (C) of Article XIII A of the California Constitution*

A copy of the full financial and performance audits may be viewed on the Merced Community College District web site at [www.mccd.edu/about-merced-college/our-mission-vision/committees-and-organizations/citizens-bond-oversight-committee](http://www.mccd.edu/about-merced-college/our-mission-vision/committees-and-organizations/citizens-bond-oversight-committee).



# Merced Community College District Home to Design Award Buildings

*Merced Community College District is proud to be home to four design award winning projects designed by Lionakis Design Group Inc. The new Raj Kahlon Agriculture and Industrial Technology Complex, designed by Darden Architects, added a fifth award of excellence. Projects are highlighted below.*



Merced Campus  
***Design Excellence Awards***

***Interdisciplinary Academic Center—  
2005 AIA SV  
Learning Resources Center—  
2007 AIA SV  
Allied Health Complex—  
2009 AIA SV***



Los Banos Campus  
***Complete Campus Design***

2007 CCFC  
***Design Excellence  
Merit Award***

Merced Campus

***Raj Kahlon Agriculture and  
Industrial Technology Complex***

2023 CCFC  
***Award of Excellence— Growth***



## STAY IN TOUCH

*The Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee meets twice per year, provided there is a quorum, to review Measure H and Measure J projects and progress. All meetings are open to the public.*

***For more information, go to the District's web site: [www.mccd.edu](http://www.mccd.edu), scan the QR code or contact Mayra Soriagalvarro, Capital Projects & Facilities Coordinator [mayra.soria-galvarro@mccd.edu](mailto:mayra.soria-galvarro@mccd.edu) - (209) 384-6079***



### **MERCED COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

John Pedrozo \* Joe Gutierrez \* Ernie Ochoa  
Mario Mendoza \* Carmen Ramirez \* Sue Chappell \* Kory Benson \* Johnni Cowie

