

Questions & Answers about Facility Needs at



**El Camino College
Compton Center**

Q: Why consider a new bond measure?

A: Much of Compton Community College District's facilities were constructed over 62 years ago. While these facilities have been carefully maintained, they are in urgent need of replacement and renovations to ensure quality higher education for the local community. Classroom technology, science labs, nursing, automotive, and career education programs require up-to-date improvements.

Problems include: outdated electrical systems and wiring incompatible with computer technology and Internet access; aging laboratories and equipment; hazardous materials like asbestos and lead paint, decaying walls, leaky roofs; and classrooms with inefficient heating and ventilation systems: deteriorating gas/sewer lines and plumbing system, outdated fire safety and emergency lighting: insufficient handicap access.

Planned upgrades will feature updates to aging classrooms and buildings to best prepare students and veterans for good paying, in-demand jobs and university transfers.

Q: What are the facility needs?

A: The most urgent needs include:

- Improved classroom technology
- Updated instructional equipment
- Repair aging and deteriorating buildings
- Handicap accessibility
- Upgrade fire safety and alarm systems
- High-tech labs for science, math and job training
- Improved wiring for electrical service and Internet access
- Safeguarding student health by removing hazards: asbestos, lead paint, leaky roofs and decaying walls

Q: Are these ongoing maintenance issues?

A: NO. The Compton Community College District has worked diligently to properly maintain school buildings, with the limited resources available. Many facilities have reached the end of their useful life and call for replacement or complete renovation, and are simply too extensive to address through ongoing maintenance. Additionally, technologies have improved since 2002 and keeping up-to-date with state-of-the-art, quality higher education and in-demand job training programs will best prepare students for success.

Q: Is there any other type of funding available?

A: With additional funding from a facilities bond such as Measure C, the District would qualify to apply for the State matching funds necessary to complete some of the projects listed in the Facilities Master Plan. Some projects, such as the physical education facilities, may be undertaken as joint use projects in cooperation with other local public or non-profit agencies.

With the community's help, fundraising has helped educational programs, but facility needs are too costly and extensive to address through volunteer fundraising efforts alone.

Q: If Measure C passes, how do we know funds will be spent properly?

A: By law, money from any proposed bond may only be spent on buildings, classrooms, or instructional equipment. No funds can be spent on administrator pensions or salaries. All bond funds are locally controlled. The State of California is prohibited from taking any bond funds from the District. Once a bond is successfully passed, an independent Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee safeguards all funds and ensures they are spent as authorized.

An existing Compton Community College District Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee has been in place since the Facilities Bond was approved by voters in 2002 and is responsible for informing the public about bond revenue expenditures and to actively review and report on the expenditure of bond funds.

Q: What will happen if Measure C doesn't pass?

A: Compton Community College District will continue to operate its existing facilities with limited resources, and seek whatever state funding may be available. However, it will be difficult to qualify for state matching funds, which might be allocated to other communities. It will take many years to make necessary repairs and upgrades, and in the meantime deterioration will continue, and technological advances will pass us by. It will become more difficult to ensure high quality and affordable education for local students and residents earning college credits and certificates and job skills advancements.

Q: What are some of the academic and career education programs available at El Camino College Compton Center?

A: Each year, Compton Center's 13,500 students participate in 42 associate degree programs and 20 certificate programs in areas such as aerospace fastener manufacturing, business accounting, early childhood education, machine tool technology, and nursing, to name a few. The Career & Technical Education Program offers more than 11 different occupational programs for those beginning a career, planning a transfer to university, or needing to develop new and upgraded skills for a specific profession.

**Measure C will cost property owners \$25/year
per \$100,000 assessed – not market – property value.**