

ALAMEDA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD AGENDA ITEM	EXHIBIT F-2
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Meeting Date: August 23, 2011

Item Title: Update on Measure A Oversight Committee Selection Process

Item Type: Information

BACKGROUND: On March 8, 2011 Alameda voters passed a new replacement parcel tax ("Measure A"). AUSD is committed to accountability and transparency with all expenditures of Measure A dollars. Tonight we will update the Board and the community on the steps ahead this fall for the implementation of Measure A. This work is a key part of strategy #8 of the Board's 5 Year Plan for the District, communication and accountability regarding the use of Measure A funds.

We are pleased to report tonight that all work is on schedule for the successful implementation of Measure A. We will return with additional information and action items on Measure A for the Board throughout this fall and all year.

Measure A Oversight Committee

Applications for AUSD's Measure A Oversight Committee will be available this Friday, August 26 from the Superintendent's office and from the AUSD website at <http://www.alameda.k12.ca.us/index.php/home/parcel-tax-2011-measure-a>.

We have issued a public Notice regarding the availability of these Applications and expect that the local media will report on the availability of the application. In addition, information that Applications are available will also be shared with local on-line news outlets, on the AUSD website, through Alameda PTA Council, with individual school websites (e.g., through school loop), and through AUSD's RSS feed.

The application window will remain open for three weeks. Applications must be received in the Office of the Superintendent no later than September 16. The Board will approve the Committee at its regular meeting on September 27.

The Committee is to hold its first meeting in October or November. We expect the Committee to convene between three and six meetings from October 1 to June 30. The Committee's first report to the Board will occur in January 2012, after the first interim budget is presented to the Board.

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Communication about Measure A, Including Transparency regarding the Tax Roll

In addition to communicating widely in the coming days and weeks about the Oversight Committee, we will continue to keep the Board and the community aware of other important developments with Measure A.

In late September or early October we will communicate with Alamedans to inform them that the updated Measure A tax roll has been verified and has been finalized by the County. At that time, we will also make specific information about the tax roll available on the AUSD website at <http://www.alameda.k12.ca.us/index.php/home/parcel-tax-2011-measure-a>.

In addition, at that time we will also publish on the AUSD website thorough explanations of the operations and procedures for Measure A, including the processes we will follow for resolving any issues related to disputes or appeals over the implementation of Measure A.

As the Board and community learned during regular and special Board meetings over the course of the fall of 2010, implementation of a parcel tax with a new structure for Alameda (such as Measure A's use of building square feet) requires that sound procedures be in place to fairly resolve all disputes or appeals that may arise, especially since implementing a new structure is likely to include additional appeals for in the first year or two of the tax.

Additional Information on Implementation of Measure A

AUSD's parcel tax administrator is currently in the final stages of working with the County to verify and finalize the Measure A tax roll, based on data updated in July 2011.

All non-exempt parcels in Alameda are subject to Measure A. Those subject to the tax include private businesses that lease property from and so have a "possessory interest" in government property that would otherwise be exempt from the tax.

AUSD is continuing to work with the City of Alameda to be sure all private businesses leasing property from the City who should be subject to Measure A are subject to Measure A. We have requested and received records from the City about their leases with private businesses. To be sure we have accurate and complete records, we have also submitted an official request for those records to

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the City of Alameda under the California Public Records Act. We will continue to follow up as needed on the “possessory interest” issue.

Measure A will be included on tax bills mailed to Alameda taxpayers in October.

FISCAL ANALYSIS: Measure A itself dedicated a small portion of its revenues to “expenses to administer the District’s parcel tax, and costs to implement accountability provisions to ensure fiscal transparency through public information, translation services for the District families and support of the Oversight Committee.” Accordingly, the cost of implementing Measure A will be covered entirely from those Measure A funds and will not draw from AUSD’s General Fund. As set forth in the presentation to the Board on April 26 and as was approved with the adoption of AUSD’s final budget for 11-12 on June 28, the Board has allocated \$180,00 of Measure A funds for staffing, supplies/materials, translation, and parcel tax administration.

- ☐ General Fund
- ☐ Categorical Funds
- X Parcel Tax Funds -- \$ 180,000 (Measure A)


RECOMMENDATION: This item is presented for information only.

AUSD Guiding Principle:

- #4 Parental involvement and community engagement are integral to student success
- #5 Accountability, transparency, and trust are necessary at all levels of the organization
- #6 Allocation of funds must support our vision, mission, and guiding principles

Submitted by: Robert Shemwell, Chief Business Officer ^{RS}

Approved for Submission to Board of Education


Kirsten Vital, Superintendent