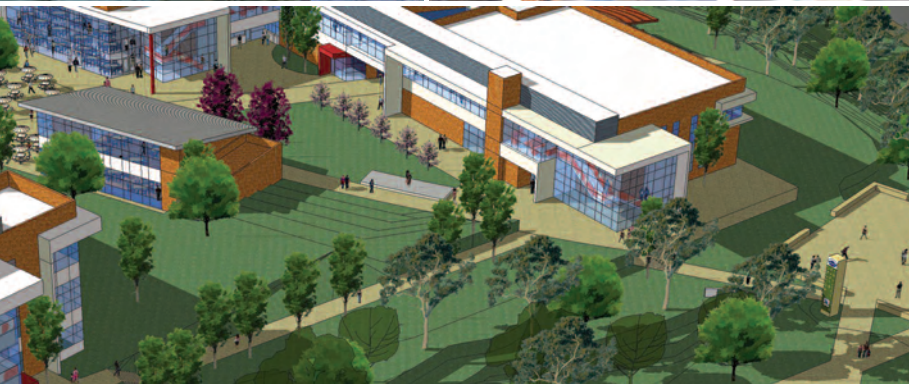


KEEPING OUR PROMISE TO YOU

2010

**BOND REPORT**  
*Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee*



CONTRA COSTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Contra Costa College | Diablo Valley College SAN RAMON CAMPUS | Los Medanos College BRENTWOOD CENTER

MEASURE  
A  
for our  
Community  
Colleges



# REPORT ON MEASURE A (2002) AND MEASURE A (2006) BOND PROJECTS

## Projects Were Funded Consistent with the Original Bond Intent

### MESSAGE FROM THE CITIZENS' BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

J. Dale Hudson, Chair

The 2010 Bond Report to the Community shows the progress the Contra Costa Community College District (District) has made during the past year in completing facilities investments approved by the voters as part of Measure A (2002) and Measure A (2006). In approving these measures, Contra Costa voters also established the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee to monitor the expenditure of funds to ensure that all money was spent consistent with the bond language of the original ballot measures. This committee is composed of citizens who serve voluntarily for two-year terms and meet quarterly in open meetings to verify that:

- all bond funds have been spent consistent with the language of the Measure A (2002) and Measure A (2006) bond measures;
- an independent audit has been performed; and
- no bond money has been spent for any purpose other than facility improvements and upgrades, new buildings to accommodate student growth, and the purchase of needed classroom equipment.

In fulfilling its duties, the committee can report that bond funds have been spent only for renovation, modernization, and new construction projects, according to the requirements of the 2002 and 2006 bond measures. At the end of 2010, most Measure A (2002) bond fund projects have been completed, and several new projects have been started using funds generated by interest-earning accounts. Some Measure A (2006) projects are progressing through the design and bidding phase, and construction has started on a number of others.

Independent audits of the bond program are performed every year. The 2008–09 Independent Auditors Report, a financial audit, provided an unqualified opinion: “the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Measure A Bond Fund of the District as of June 30, 2009, and the changes in its financial position for the year that ended are in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.”

The independent auditors also reviewed a sampling of the 2008–09 expenditures and verified that the use of the funds was within the scope of the intended use as approved by the voters. A review of the policies for awarding contracts found no exceptions to District policies or state requirements, and no exceptions to District disbursement policies.

The committee recognizes that the District has been scrupulous in adhering to the spirit and intent of the approved bond measures and has demonstrated excellent accountability and stewardship of bond funds. The committee wishes to thank Contra Costa residents for their support as it works to ensure that the District continues to spend bond funds consistent with the intent of the bond measures while providing higher education programs in our communities.



2010

### CITIZENS' BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

*Oversight Committee members and Contra Costa Community College District administrators pictured in 2010 include (top row, from left) J. Dale Hudson, Mauna Wagner, Rodney Wilson, James Clay, Richard Livingston (Los Medanos College acting president), Jagjit Bhambra, (sitting, from left) Helen Benjamin (District chancellor), Kindred Murillo (District vice chancellor), Ludmyrna Lopez, Enrique Ruiz, Francisco Hinojosa, and McKinley Williams (Contra Costa College president). Not pictured are Ed Balico, Manuel Bustos, Gary Craft, Scott Hanin, Justine Morrison, Jasmyn Oliver, Mark Ross, and Steve Van Wart. (District staff and college presidents often meet with the committee but are not official members.)*

*“From the perspective of the voter, the fact that the committee exists is a positive thing.”*

**-ED BEST, FORMER OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEMBER**

MEASURE A  
for our  
Community  
College

## Background on the 2002 and 2006 Bond Measures

Voter approval of the Measure A Improvement Bond of 2002 endorsed the action outlined in the ballot language: “Shall the Contra Costa Community College District issue \$120 million of bonds (its first since 1948) to repair outmoded facilities (for energy savings, safety, and handicapped accessibility improvements), and update facilities used by vocational programs (for fire science, nursing, police, culinary arts, technology programs, etc.) and transfer programs at [all colleges], with a citizens’ oversight committee to monitor spending of the funds?”

Passage of a second measure, the Measure A Improvement Bond of 2006, enabled the District to issue bonds of \$286.5 million “to renovate aging college facilities (making energy savings, safety, and handicapped accessibility improvements), and update facilities used by transfer, career and vocational students (for math, science, nursing, technology and other programs) [at all colleges]. . . at legal interest rates with annual audits and a citizens’ oversight committee to monitor spending.”

California Proposition 39, approved in 2000, set the stage for these measures and authorized schools, community college districts, and county education offices to issue bonds “for repair, construction or replacement of school facilities, classrooms, if approved by 55 percent local vote...”

*California Education Code Sections 15278–15282 requires school districts, upon passing a bond measure, to establish an independent citizens’ oversight committee. The committee is charged with informing the public concerning the expenditure of bond revenues and to actively review and report on the expenditure of taxpayers’ money for school construction. This report is part of that response. More information is available on the District website at [www.4cd.edu](http://www.4cd.edu).*



## Keeping Our Promise to You

MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR  
Helen Benjamin, Ph.D.

Your support of the Contra Costa Community College District (District) enables us to move forward with our campus planning and construction projects during these extremely difficult economic times. Thanks to the bond measures passed in 2002 and 2006, the District continues to invest in infrastructure and facilities that will ensure we can meet the higher-education needs of our students and the broader community for many years to come.

As California battles a host of fiscal challenges, state apportionment funding is being reduced and delayed, forcing the District to make prudent and difficult financial decisions. We apply this same attitude and diligence to our bond funds and take seriously our commitment to excellent stewardship.

Another promise we made to you was the establishment of a Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee, a group of community volunteers who monitor our expenditures to ensure that all money is spent consistent with the bond language of the original ballot measures. This committee works very hard at understanding our decisions and poring over the numbers, and its members often do not get the credit they deserve. In this report, we share some reflections of former committee members, who talk about the committee’s work and why it is important. I am sure you will agree that these valuable citizens deserve our heartfelt gratitude for their leadership and involvement.

Thank you, residents of Contra Costa County, for your continued support.

FINANCIALS FISCAL YEAR 2010	MEASURE A (2002) BOND FINANCES		MEASURE A (2006) BOND FINANCES	
	BOND FUNDING	120,000,000	BOND FUNDING	286,500,000
	Expenses		Expenses	
	Prior Years	110,620,390	Prior Years	48,940,532
	Current Year	4,369,108	Current Year	6,325,758
	Remaining	5,010,502	Remaining	231,233,710
	State-Funded Projects	88,825,011	State-Funded Projects (estimated)	60,000,000
	Interest	9,366,609	Interest and Rebates (estimated)	18,651,000
	<b>TOTAL CAPITAL OUTLAY</b>	<b>208,825,011</b>	<b>TOTAL CAPITAL OUTLAY (ESTIMATED)</b>	<b>365,151,000</b>

Background: Mount Diablo



## WATCHING YOUR BOND DOLLARS

The District's Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee includes fifteen members who represent business and community leadership interests. Nominated by college presidents and the chancellor, they serve a two-year term for a maximum of two terms. *Ed Best, Vernon Jones, Jerry Okendo, and Jack Weir*, all of whom served with distinction, stepped off the Oversight Committee this year. Here are some excerpts from a conversation about their experiences on the committee.

---

*"When I take my son to Diablo Valley College, I look at the projects and know that I sat on the committee that had something to do with their creation. There'll be future generations of students who will benefit from our work."*

**-JERRY OKENDO**

---



**Ed Best** | RETIRED BUSINESS EXECUTIVE

*"My experience working in the public arena, and dealing with governmental and school board issues, helped me in my role as the business representative on the Oversight Committee. I felt the reporting of ongoing operations was quite well done, especially toward the latter part of my service. By simplifying the reporting on project status, the District made it easier for the committee to do its work. The clear presentation provided enough background to surface any inconsistency, and my guess is that as a result, the committee was able to do its oversight work a bit better."*

*"From the perspective of the voter, the fact that the committee exists is a positive thing...Its existence is also valuable from the District's perspective because it offers the opportunity to bounce things off an independent group, which helps the District to perform its due diligence. I enjoyed the experience on the committee, and I hope I've made a contribution."*

*Ed Best, a longtime resident of Alamo and a retired business executive, has served in elected and appointed offices and on many nonprofit boards.*



**Jerry Okendo** | HISPANIC COMMUNITY ADVOCATE

*"I was surprised when I was asked to join the Oversight Committee because I had been very active in the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), and I thought maybe I was a little too controversial. Then at my first meeting, when I saw everyone sitting around the table, I thought, this is a great group of people. Professionals were available to answer questions, and I felt there were no 'dumb' questions, that you weren't expected to know everything. There was a purpose; there was direction. Also, I don't ever remember hearing anybody ask a question because they hadn't read the report or they weren't prepared."*

*"At the beginning, I came in with Latino sunglasses, thinking that I was there representing Latinos and Hispanics. But that changed over time. Latinos are always important to me, because we want to get more Latino students educated, but it changed in the sense that the facilities, the bond money, the projects—these need to be shared by the wider community. I had to start looking at things as a community member, and not as a representative of just one group."*

*Jerry Okendo is a longtime member and active supporter of the East Bay Hispanic community and works with senior citizens to help them become computer literate.*

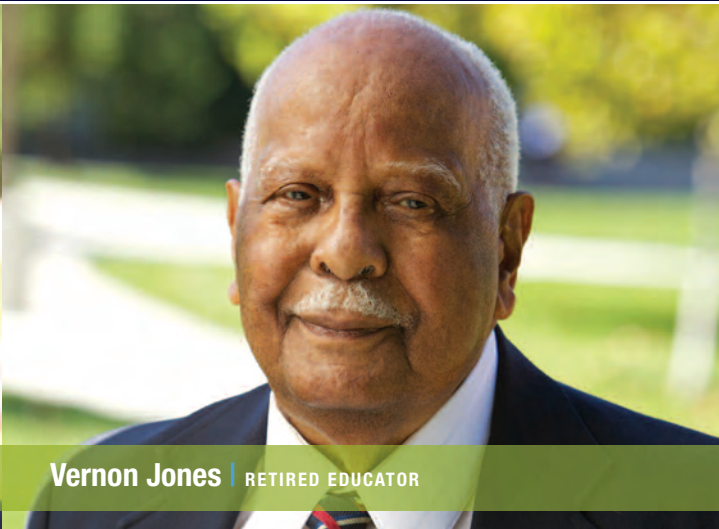


**Jack Weir** | TAXPAYER ADVOCATE

*“The Oversight Committee has been a good steward of the resources approved by voters in this District. It can be hard to appreciate the role that committee members have to play before putting the committee’s ‘watchdog’ stamp on the work the District is doing. I think this Oversight Committee and how it deals with the District is a model for other agencies on how this relationship should work....I recommend committee membership, and I specifically recommend our District committee.*”

*“My role on the committee was that of the taxpayer representative. However, it didn’t take very long before I realized, given the cooperative attitude of District leadership and other committee members, that I didn’t need to confine my focus to just making sure the taxpayer was protected. This put me in a good place because I could balance my desire that the bond program be successful in terms of its end outcome with my responsibility to make sure that bond money was being properly used.”*

*Jack Weir grew up in Pleasant Hill and is a retired businessman. He is the founder and president of the Pleasant Hill Taxpayers Association, is a board member of the Contra Costa Taxpayers Association, and was recently elected to city government.*



**Vernon Jones** | RETIRED EDUCATOR

*“As the seniors representative on the Oversight Committee, my focus was on how the work of the committee affected seniors. From my perspective, our work went very smoothly. Overall, the Oversight Committee members asked good questions, were not antagonistic, were not fault finding. We got excellent responses from staff to any questions. Before every meeting, we received packages that contained all of the information we needed for the meeting. If there was a problem, we were aware of it beforehand....and we always solved any problems by the time we left the meeting. I don’t think there was a meeting that ended with indecision.*”

*“I was always the first one to arrive for a meeting....I found my service on the committee very rewarding, and when my tenure was up, it was very difficult for me. I missed the association, even though it was only quarterly. I looked forward to the meetings, to gaining insights, to the camaraderie and friendship of my fellow committee members. I miss it, and I’m very proud of the four years I served.”*

*Vernon Jones is a retired educator and a member of several boards and the California Senior Legislature, which advocates for the needs of seniors.*

## BOND MEASURE PROJECTS LIST

### Contra Costa College

**MEASURE A (2002):** Vocational Technology Building remodel, and Americans with Disabilities Act Path of Travel project (2007); Library remodel and new Student Services Center building (2008); Biological Sciences Building mechanical system upgrades, and Applied Arts and Automotive Technology buildings roofing projects (2009); Applied Arts Building remodel and Automotive Technology Building exterior renovation (2010); Music Building remodel\*\*, new Gym Annex elevator\*\*, and new College Center design\*\*

**MEASURE A (2006):** Athletic facilities (field/track) renovation (2008); new Student Activities Building\*\*, new Classroom Building\*\*, new Quad area\*\*, and Physical Education Annex remodel\*\*

### Diablo Valley College

**MEASURE A (2002):** New Book Center, Physical Sciences Building remodel, Life Science remodel for Advanced Technology Center, and Business Education Building remodel (2006); new San Ramon Campus and Technical Education Building seismic mitigation (2007); Planetarium remodel (2008); and parking island landscaping (2009)

**MEASURE A (2006):** Athletic facilities (field/track) (2008); parking lot repaving (2009); soccer field regrading (2010); new Student Services Center\*\*, new Culinary Arts and Food Services Building\*\*, new Commons area\*\*, and Engineering Technology Building remodel\*\*\*

### Los Medanos College

**MEASURE A (2002):** Planetarium remodel (2006); new Library and new Math Building (2007); new Science Building (2008); new Quad area and Core Building remodel (2009); and Art Area remodel (2010)

**MEASURE A (2006):** Athletic facilities (field/track) renovation (2008); parking lot B extension (2010); Nursing and Emergency Medical Training classrooms and labs\*, Student Services Area renovation\*\*, and new Physical Education Building\*\*

### Regional Education Centers

**MEASURE A (2006):** Brentwood Center acquisition/expansion (requesting state approval)

### Districtwide Initiatives

**MEASURE A (2006):** Solar power and energy-efficiency initiatives (2008) and Information Technology infrastructure\*\*\*

\*UNDER CONSTRUCTION \*\*UNDER DESIGN \*\*\*FUTURE



# TRANSFORMING THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT AT OUR COLLEGES

## Contra Costa College

The Automotive Technology Building at Contra Costa College got a new look and exterior renovation work this year. Auto technology students learn to work on hybrid vehicles as part of the Automotive Services Department's two-year, four-semester Automotive Mechanics program.

A new campus entrance to Contra Costa College at Mission Bell Drive, now in the design stage, will feature an inviting Quad area, a Student Activities Building, and a new Classroom Building featuring smart classrooms, faculty offices, and student meeting areas.



*Contra Costa College Center Project rendering by iBP/Architecture*

## Diablo Valley College

In 2010, design work was completed and bidding got under way on the planned College Commons Project, a six-phase sustainable development expected to be completed by late 2014. Serving as both the major open space and the heart of the campus, the Commons will feature a single facility centralizing Student Services in a south wing (to be completed in 2012) and Food Services and Culinary Arts programs in a north wing.

The soccer field regrading finished this year is part of a renovation and landscaping project scheduled for completion in spring 2011.



*Diablo Valley College Commons Project rendering by Steinberg Architects*



## Los Medanos College

The parking lot B expansion completed this year at Los Medanos College provides about 450 additional parking spaces for students. The area was previously a soccer field.

The newly completed Art Area remodel and expansion on the third floor of the Los Medanos College Complex includes renovated smart classrooms and separate studios for classes in ceramics, sculpture, painting, drawing, photography, 3-D design, graphic design, and graphics software.





# MEETING THE EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITIES



Student Services Center



Lake on campus



Quad area



YEAR EST. 1949  
 PRESIDENT McKinley Williams  
 ENROLLMENT 14,040 students annually  
 LOCATION 2600 Mission Bell Drive  
 San Pablo, CA  
 TELEPHONE 510.235.7800  
 WEBSITE [www.contracosta.edu](http://www.contracosta.edu)



YEAR EST. 1949  
 ACTING PRESIDENT Peter Garcia  
 ENROLLMENT 34,130 students annually  
 LOCATION 321 Golf Club Road  
 Pleasant Hill, CA  
 TELEPHONE 925.685.1230  
 WEBSITE [www.dvc.edu](http://www.dvc.edu)



YEAR EST. 1974  
 ACTING PRESIDENT Richard Livingston  
 ENROLLMENT 16,815 students annually  
 LOCATION 2700 East Leland Road  
 Pittsburg, CA  
 TELEPHONE 925.439.2181  
 WEBSITE [www.losmedanos.edu](http://www.losmedanos.edu)

Since 1949, Contra Costa College (CCC) has provided educational opportunities to thousands of students in greater West Contra Costa County communities. Equipped with the latest (smart) classroom technology, CCC offers a broad variety of exemplary programs and services and outstanding transfer options that have earned state, regional, and national awards. Programs such as the Center for Science Excellence, Speech & Debate Team, Culinary Arts, Early Learning Center, Nursing, and Automotive Services provide students with a wide array of career options. CCC serves as a model of excellence, providing educational opportunities to an urban population that is one of the most challenged in the county.



For over 60 years, Diablo Valley College (DVC) has provided students with a wide range of courses, excellent transfer opportunities, and exceptional career-training programs and degrees. DVC's larger campus is located in Pleasant Hill near the foot of beautiful Mt. Diablo and a short drive from San Francisco and countless Bay Area attractions. DVC also provides courses, programs, and services to students at the San Ramon campus. With a wide variety of career-training programs, DVC offers cutting-edge courses designed to keep pace with emerging technologies the future workforce will need to gain knowledge. DVC transfers more students to UC Berkeley each year than any other community college in the state.

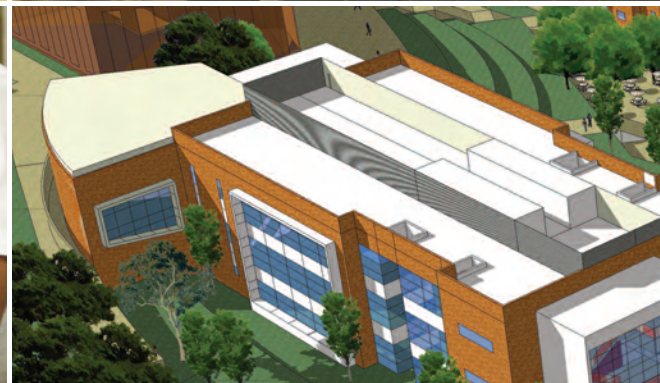


Los Medanos College (LMC) provides innovative career technical and excellent transfer opportunities in East Contra Costa County. A focus on student learning and success helps students build their abilities and competencies as lifelong learners, and provides critical educational preparation to help them succeed in their career endeavors. Special opportunities include the only honors program certified as part of the UCLA Transfer Alliance, and vibrant learning communities supported by faculty and staff. With programs like Engineering, Nursing, Business, Child Development, Electrical/Instrumentation Technology, Emergency Medical Services, and Process Technology, students receive the resources they need to excel in today's workforce and at four-year colleges. LMC's main campus is located in Pittsburg, with a center in Brentwood.





# FINDING A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITY



500 Court St, Martinez, CA 94553  
925.229.1000 • [www.4cd.edu](http://www.4cd.edu)

## CONTRA COSTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD

*John T. Nejedly, President*  
*Jess H. Reyes, Vice President*  
*Tomi Van de Brooke, Secretary*  
*Sheila A. Grilli, Member*  
*John Márquez, Member*  
*Brandon Amargo, Student Trustee*

*Front and back cover: Students and faculty on Contra Costa Community College District campuses; Contra Costa College Center Project rendering by iBP/Architecture*

This publication is available in both Spanish and English at [www.4cd.edu](http://www.4cd.edu). For additional print copies, call 1.800.690.0222.

PRINTED ON 100% RECYCLED CONTENT, 50% PCW, PROCESSED CHLORINE-FREE PAPER  
1/2011