

**REGISTRATION FORM FOR PERSONS WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL**

**DURING PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

**AGENDA POLICY:** In order to appear on the City Council's printed agenda for Item 2, Public Comment on Matters Not on the Agenda, this form must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office by 9:00 a.m. the Wednesday before the scheduled City Council meeting.

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF:** Monday, February 11  
**NAME:** Betsy Richman/as yet to be named representative of Pasadena City College  
**PHONE NO.** 323-255-9317  
**ADDRESS:** 1212 Pine Street, South Pasadena, CA 91030

**IF SPEAKING FOR AN ORGANIZATION, NAME OF ORGANIZATION:**  
Pasadena City College/Bond Measure P

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**BRIEF OUTLINE OF MAJOR ISSUES TO BE MADE REGARDING THIS SUBJECT:** The speaker wishes to show a 5-minute video that details the facilities needs of the college and the structure of the Measure P bond issue. Measure P will finance rebuilding and renovating facilities at Pasadena City College by authorizing the sale of a maximum of \$150 million in bonds. The college will use these funds to pay for 100,000 sq. ft. of new or rehabbed classrooms to ease overcrowding; major upgrades of campus infrastructure – lighting, ventilation, plumbing, wiring, etc. – to meet health and safety standards and to accommodate computers and other modern technology; new buildings and equipment for some of PCC's highest-demand programs, from art to auto repair, from music to industrial technology. The Measure P bonds will be repaid by a property tax levy of approximately \$13 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation.

Following the viewing of the tape, the speaker will answer any questions that members of the Pasadena City Council may have about Bond Measure P.

**NOTICE TO SPEAKER:** Please come to the podium, and after receiving recognition from the Mayor, state your name and address for the record. When speaking, kindly face and address the Mayor and City Council at all times. Please limit your comments to 5 minutes.  
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## Just the Facts about Measure P

**What:** Measure P is a bond issue to finance rebuilding and renovating facilities at Pasadena City College (PCC).

Measure P will authorize the sale of a maximum of \$150 million in bonds. The college will use these funds to pay for:

- 100,000 sq. ft. of new or rehabbed classrooms to ease overcrowding.
- Major upgrades of campus infrastructure – lighting, ventilation, plumbing, wiring, etc. – to meet health and safety standards and to accommodate computers and other modern technology.
- New buildings and equipment for some of PCC's highest-demand programs, from art to auto repair, from music to industrial technology.
- Rebuilding the Campus Center to improve services to students and to permit safe access to campus by security and emergency vehicles.
- A new parking structure and improved roadways to ease parking and traffic congestion on and around the PCC campus.

The Measure P bonds will be repaid by a property tax levy of @\$13 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation (not to be confused with market value). For the average homeowner, the cost will be less than \$30 – all of it tax deductible.

**Why:** PCC has one of California's largest enrollments on one of its smallest and oldest campuses. Most of the campus is 50-90 years old. The main buildings were completed either before World War I or soon after World War II.

In many cases, facilities, equipment and infrastructure are the same as they were decades ago – long before modern building and safety codes, long before the need for computers in the classroom. Much of this aging equipment is no longer safe; some is so old that replacement parts are no longer available.

The college is severely overcrowded. More than 29,000 students are studying on a campus built for a much smaller enrollment. PCC's strong reputation continues to draw more students, making overcrowding worse each year.

**When:** Election Day is March 5, 2002. Measure P needs 55% of the vote to pass.

**For More Information:**

phone: 626-535-0104

fax: 626-397-8337

Web site: [www.yesonmeasurep.com](http://www.yesonmeasurep.com)

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT MEASURE P

### **What is Measure P?**

Measure P is a bond measure to ease overcrowding and replace outdated, unsafe facilities at Pasadena City College. Measure P will appear on the March 5, 2002 ballot.

### **Why is Measure P needed?**

Most buildings on PCC's campus are 50-90 years old. Despite careful maintenance, decades of heavy use has taken its toll. To continue providing high-quality academic and job-training programs, some of these aging building must be renovated and others must be completely replaced.

### **How much money will Measure P raise?**

Measure P will raise a maximum of \$150,000,000 to pay for specific capital improvements on the PCC campus over the next ten years. If the college succeeds in raising substantial funds from other sources it may not be necessary to sell all the bonds. In that case, the cost to local taxpayers will go down.

### **How much will Measure P cost me?**

Property owners will pay a maximum of approximately \$13 per year per \$100,000 of *assessed value*, not to be confused with market value. The average homeowner in the District would pay less than \$30 – all of it tax deductible.

### **Will business owners and renters share in the cost of Measure P?**

Yes. Owners of commercial and rental property will pay the same rate (and receive the same tax deductions) as everyone else.

### **The college looks fine. Do we really need a bond?**

PCC spends heavily on maintenance to keep its campus clean, safe and attractive. But beneath the fresh paint are aging facilities (many date back to before World War I) and outdated equipment. Most of the campus went up long before modern building and safety codes, at a time when no one had a clue about the needs of modern technology and computers. Some equipment is so old that spare parts are no longer available. And the cost of maintaining these old buildings gets higher each year.

### **Why is PCC overcrowded?**

As a condition of receiving state funds, PCC must admit all qualified students who apply. But PCC's campus is both smaller and older than most California community colleges. Next fall nearly 30,000 students will use facilities built for a much smaller enrollment – and PCC's excellent reputation continues to draw new students. Classrooms are packed. Enrollment in high-demand programs is severely limited. Students can't get the classes they need to graduate on time. Students are chronically late for classes because parking and traffic around campus are so congested.

### **Why not just cap enrollment?**

Trustees have already voted to cap enrollment at 34,000 students. At current rates, PCC will hit the cap in just a few years – and overcrowding will get worse and worse with each extra student. Measure P is specifically designed to ease overcrowding and permit PCC to operate efficiently at maximum capacity.

### **What specific projects will Measure P fund?**

Nearly 100,000 square feet of new and renovated classrooms will ease overcrowding. New buildings and equipment will make PCC's highest-demand programs more available to students – from art to auto repair, from music to industrial technology. Major upgrades of wiring, lighting and other systems will allow the campus to support more modern technology and computers. Safety and security issues will be addressed through substantial improvements in campus infrastructure – including plumbing, ventilation, handicapped access and emergency systems. A new parking structure and improved traffic-flow will ease congestion, traffic and parking problems on and around campus. For a full explanation of the PCC Facilities Master Plan, and a list of projects, check the PCC website at: [www.paccd.cc.ca.us](http://www.paccd.cc.ca.us).

### **How were the Measure P projects chosen?**

The projects were chosen by PCC's Facilities Planning Committee – which includes faculty, staff and students. For two years they met with professional architects to review the college's needs and options for meeting them. The result is Measure P – a cost effective plan that contains only the most essential facilities projects for the PCC's future.

### **Why can't PCC pay for new facilities out of its regular budget?**

PCC's regular state funding barely covers the cost of instruction. To pay for major capital expenses the college must raise funds on its own – or apply for special state aid. Thanks to careful budgeting, PCC has been able to save money and build up a reserve to help cover part of its building costs. But most of that money is eaten up by the very high cost of maintaining PCC's aging buildings.

### **Have other alternatives been considered?**

Yes. Pasadena City College has used every tool to meet its facilities needs. PCC has been very successful in competing for state funds. It has led all community colleges in raising private funds. It has rented its facilities to raise money – from filming movies to hosting flea markets. It has used creative financing – like parking revenue bonds. Thanks to these efforts, PCC has been able to build several badly-need new facilities – like a new library. And the college hasn't had to ask voters for help in 50 years. But a great deal of work remains to be done, and most of these other sources of funds are largely exhausted. That's why PCC needs community support.

### **Why can't PCC seek extra help from the state?**

Because PCC has done a better job of planning than many other community colleges, it has been very successful at competing for state funds. But the rules are changing. Other colleges are catching up in the planning process. And future state aid will require local

matching funds. Measure P will provide those matching funds for PCC. Without measure P, the college won't even be eligible to compete for new state building funds. Instead, our share of those funds will go to other colleges.

**Does it make sense to borrow money right now?**

Yes. Because interest rates are extremely low, taxpayers will save a great deal of money over the life of the bonds. If we wait, the cost of the needed repairs and facilities will continue to rise – and so will interest rates. That could mean tens of millions of dollars in added costs. Another big advantage to bond financing is that the annual interest payments are tax-deductible for local taxpayers.

**Are we already paying extra property taxes to support PCC?**

No. Most funding for PCC comes from the state. The college has no property-tax-supported bonds outstanding. PCC has not asked local voters for help in 50 years.

**Didn't we recently pass a bond measure for Community Colleges?**

No. You may have seen TV coverage about a bond that was passed two years ago by voters in the L.A. City Community College District. But that measure has no effect on local taxpayers or on Pasadena City College. PCC is owned and supported by voters in a separate district that does not include the City of Los Angeles.

**What cities are included in the PCC district?**

PCC serves the cities of Arcadia, La Canada Flintridge, Pasadena, San Marino, Sierra Madre, South Pasadena, Temple City, parts of El Monte and Rosemead, and several unincorporated areas like Altadena.

**What percentage of the vote is required to pass Measure P?**

Measure P must be approved by 55% of the voters to become law. That's because Measure P was carefully written to follow all state laws designed to make sure voters and taxpayers are fully informed and protected.

**How can I be sure that Measure P money will be spent correctly?**

By law, these funds can only be spent for projects on the Measure P Project List approved by voters. None of the money can be used for salaries. The law also requires annual financial and performance audits by an independent Citizens Oversight Committee to make sure all funds are spent as voters intend.

**What will happen if Measure P doesn't pass?**

Every year that repairs and upgrades are delayed will only increase the future costs of construction, repair and renovation. Because of increased enrollment and aging facilities, overcrowding will get worse and worse. And, because PCC will lack local matching funds to qualify, our share of state funding will go to other community colleges.

**Where can I get additional information?**

If you need additional information, please contact us at xxx or visit our website:

**PASADENA AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT  
MARCH 2002 BOND ELECTION  
MASTER PROJECT LIST**

The Master Project List proposed for financing through the issuance of general obligation bonds of the Pasadena Area Community College District includes the following elements, some or all of which will be constructed over an 8-10 year time span, based on the District Master Plan:

Specific Project Components

The following specific Projects will be financed:

Ease overcrowding by reconstructing, reconfiguring, modernizing and remodeling existing classrooms, offices, laboratories and other facilities (certain facilities will be converted to classrooms);

Construct new Industrial Technology Building to replace outdated, unsafe facilities for automotive, printing, machine shop, welding and building construction programs;

Construct new Arts Building to replace crowded, inadequate facilities for music, music technology, fine arts and graphic arts programs;

Ease parking and traffic congestion by constructing new Parking Structure on Bonnie Avenue just north of Del Mar Boulevard;

Construct new Campus Center to replace the 40-year-old structure now housing classrooms, the cafeteria, bookstore and student activities spaces for the District's 29,000 students; configure new facility to permit safe access to west campus for delivery, security and emergency vehicles.

General Project Components

The following Projects will be financed at locations throughout the main campus of the District:

Installation and/or upgrades of emergency lighting, fire alarm and security systems;

Upgrading of water, plumbing, electrical and ventilation systems;

Modernization and/or construction of new restrooms;

Improvement of roadways, walkways, grounds, parking lots, fencing and entrances to the campus;

Preparation and implementation of Facilities Master Plan and related requirements, such as environmental impact reports and soils testing;

Demolition of obsolete facilities;

Relocation and/or acquisition of temporary facilities during the modernization, renovation, improvement and/or new construction of project components as necessary to maintain educational programs in operation during construction;

Acquisition of furnishings and equipment for all modernization, renovation, improvement and/or new construction projects; and

Purchase and installation of signage for safety and public information purposes.