

BOND UPDATE #56

04.17.20

Here's what's been going on this week:

1. Part of our bond package includes secure vestibules, access control, and security cameras districtwide. We have good news to share about this aspect of our work. We completed budget reconciliation and final design scope this week, and we also approved Dykeman Architects' proposal for this part of our project. Now we are moving forward with final design and bid package preparations. The design team expects to have plans and specifications for the secure vestibules ready for bid before the end of May, which means this work can be performed over the summer. Since the Governor has designated school construction as an essential activity during our current situation, we feel confident we will be able to move forward.
2. Now that we are wrapping up Schematic Design details, it is time to begin analyzing any potential traffic impacts from the new facility. Because the site has been operating as a high school for a long time, most recently with a capacity of around 1,500 students, the new school (designed to open with a capacity of 1,375 students) will not create an increase in any traffic impacts. Our traffic consultant, Transpo Group, is preparing a report for the City that outlines the current conditions and any impacts of the new building. Little to no traffic impacts means that the District should not have to pay traffic mitigation fees or make significant roadway improvements. Analysis of potential traffic impacts will be a part of the required State Environmental Protection Act (SEPA) review process. Final determination of any traffic mitigation fees or improvements will be made by the City.
3. This week we are holding a Zoom meeting with approximately 15 project team members to do a final analysis of the Value Engineering (VE) items on the Ferndale High School project. In addition to the original VE items, the team has brainstormed additional items that may help the project reach the established budget targets. When all of the final cost information is compiled, the VE Report will be formally adopted by the District and submitted to OSPI as one of the SCAP (School Construction Assistance Program) funding requirements. The good news is that the State will pay for a portion of the VE Study – approximately \$70k.
4. The members of the Bond Oversight Committee (BOC) are scheduled to meet on Tuesday, April 21. Consistent with physical distancing guidelines, they will conduct their meeting virtually through a Zoom webinar. The meeting invitation will be available no later than Monday, April 20.

As always, feel free to reach out to me with questions or comments about any of this.

Linda