

# BOND UPDATE #20

07.19.19

Here's what's been going on during the past week:

1. We are currently working with Dykeman architects to establish what is called a “numeric program” document for FHS. This numeric program consists of a list of spaces in the current Ferndale High School facility, along with any other spaces that are typically found in comprehensive high schools. Each space has been assigned a square foot number. The next steps in establishing the numeric program include: (1) confirming that all existing spaces/programs that we want to retain in the new school have been captured; (2) correcting any mis-labeling of spaces/programs; (3) identifying any spaces/programs that might be reduced in size or eliminated; and (4) identifying any new spaces/programs we would like to incorporate into the new school. When it is completed, this document will provide the architects with a “rough draft” starting point for their design process.
2. During the past two weeks, the City Council has spent a great deal of time deliberating over the prospect of renovating Old Main to make it the new City Hall. Jori Burnett, City Administrator, reported that some of the Council's big questions are: (1) Is there another viable alternative? (2) How will the City pay for the renovations? (3) Will the repurposing of Old Main disrupt the direction the community and district are headed with the FHS building project? (4) How will safety and security be enhanced in the new high school facility? Jori let us know that the City Council expects to make a decision about Old Main at their first meeting in August.
3. If the City of Ferndale goes forward with plans for Old Main, part of the plan for using the building would include space for Ferndale Municipal Court. City Administrator Burnett sent the Ferndale School District an explanation of what the City expects to happen in regards to the municipal court. Here is a direct quote from Mr. Burnett, *“I wanted to follow up on our discussion yesterday. One of the questions asked was whether the City, as it grows, is likely to see its court system change. The answer there is a pretty hard ‘no.’ Felony matters are the exclusive jurisdiction of Superior Court, and Superior Courts must be located within the County Seat (<https://www.atq.wa.gov/ago-opinions/location-county-court-house>), which is Bellingham. In theory, a legislature could modify these requirements or could expand the nature of the cases considered in Municipal Court. But, this is unlikely, probably unnecessary, and likely not something that would be politically sustainable. In short – it is extremely unlikely that the nature of cases tried in municipal court will change as a result of growth. I do understand that there are also concerns that while the cases tried in our court may not be significant, the individuals that are being tried may have other, more significant issues.”*
4. The next meeting of the Bond Oversight Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, July 23 at Mountain View Elementary. The meeting begins at 6:00 PM and is open to the public. If interested, the agenda [can be found here.](#)

5. Our presentation to the Capital Projects Advisory Review Board (CPARB) is scheduled for July 25 in Kent. This is the next step in getting permission to use the GC/CM (General Contractor/ Construction Manager) process to design and build the new Ferndale High School. Our district team is meeting for two hours on July 24 to finalize the presentation.
  
6. To date, we have received 25 applications for the Design Advisory Committee (DAC). We will continue to accept applications through July 31. You can access the application form [here](#). All who apply will be notified of the final committee list no later than August 5. The first DAC meeting is scheduled for August 13.

If you have questions or comments about anything in this update, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Linda