

BOND UPDATE #115

07.09.21

Here's what's been going on with our bond project during the past week:

1. The rerouting of electrical power was completed this week so that the old school will remain energized while the new building is built. In order to make this happen, most of Ferndale High School's power had to be shut off for the week while new connections were being made. Critical systems were powered by generators during the switchover, but everything should be back online by the end of today (Friday, July 9). We appreciate the flexibility and patience of FHS administrators and staff who work during the summer months.
2. The fire alarm system is currently in the process of being rerouted to ensure all of the existing buildings are monitored 24/7 throughout construction.
3. Work on Geopier installation on the FHS campus continues at an excellent rate. At this point, about 900 Geopiers have been installed, which represents just over half of the total number.
4. Foundation installation continues with more concrete poured this week. The elevator pit concrete is being poured today (Friday, July 9).
5. Sewer connections were made to the existing line in Golden Eagle Drive this week. The installation of sewer and water lines continues around the building. Presently, this work is approximately 25% complete.
6. Work also continues on the stormwater detention system located north of the old gym. Because of the extremely large size of this system, we anticipate it will take approximately two and a half months to complete.
7. By the time you receive this bond update, we will have received the Custer Elementary School Cladding Project bids. We expect to announce the contractor who is awarded the project in next week's update. This is an exciting milestone since it marks the point when nearly all critical building maintenance repairs included in the February 2019 bond have either been completed or the work is in progress.
8. As I mentioned in last week's update, on July 21 we will be asking the School Board's to authorize the sale of the third and final portion of bonds approved by District voters in February 2019. The agenda for this School Board special meeting will be posted on BoardDocs by the middle of next week.

9. In case you haven't been by the Ferndale High School campus lately to see for yourself, I want to assure you that it has taken on the look and feel of a construction site! I have included several photos below to illustrate.
10. The members of the Bond Oversight Committee (BOC) held their June meeting on Tuesday, June 22. They talked about the following topics:
 - a. Co-Chair Anya Milton's resignation from the BOC to accept a position with the Whatcom County Racial Equity Commission Stakeholders Group, which meets on the same dates and at the same time as the Bond Oversight Committee meets.
 - b. Anya's excellent service to the BOC.
 - c. A plan to decide at the July meeting about filling Anya's co-chair position.
 - d. Co-Chair Riley Cornelson's acceptance of a new position with local contracting firm GK Knutson, which is one of the subcontractors on the new FHS project.
 - e. A plan to discuss BOC by-laws, Section 7, Conflict of Interest, at the July meeting in relation to Riley's new position.
 - f. The next quarterly report to the Ferndale School Board, which is due in September 2021.
 - g. Updates to the FHS Dashboard and the Critical Projects Dashboard on the District's website.
 - h. The need to update the Cash Flow Plan on the website before the July meeting.
 - i. Cornerstone General Contractors' Sam Comer's explanation of the Bid Sheet Analysis layout, which reflects approximately 100 bids from prime bidders and participation by approximately 1,000 sub bidders.
 - j. The way this outstanding response to our bid packages -- along with the fact that the bids we received were within .05% of our projections overall -- is helping us meet budget goals.
 - k. Continued discussion of bid alternates to the FHS project, which are being considered for further value engineering.
 - l. Cornerstone General Contractors' Sam Comer's explanation of the Milestone Schedule, which includes over 1,000 activities.
 - m. The rationale for construction of the grandstands to be moved ahead in the schedule to avoid further cost increases by the grandstand supplier.
 - n. BOC member's request for quarterly updates on the project schedule reflecting major events and/or changes.
 - o. Construction Services Group's work with the District to develop a long-term Capital Improvement Maintenance Plan that can be worked into the annual budget cycle.
 - p. A review of bond-related spending on FHS, which, as of May 31, 2021, is \$7,054,992.
 - q. A monthly report on the progress of bond-specified Critical Projects in other District facilities from CSG project managers.
 - r. Preparations for the third bond sale -- in conjunction with Northwest Municipal Advisors, D.A. Davidson, and K&L Gates -- which will likely take place in late summer 2021.

- s. The development of a Change Order Log, which will be shared with the BOC in July.
- t. Anya's report to the Ferndale School Board on corporate sponsorships, which recommended the top ten things the board should ask for when considering such sponsorships.
- u. A reminder that the Bond Oversight Committee is a Ferndale School Board appointed advisory group with District-appointed liaisons; and, as such, all BOC communication needs to be directed to District liaisons, Jamie Plenkovich and Eric Tripp, never directly to Cornerstone, Dykeman, CSG, or any of the subcontractors.

11. The complete agendas and minutes of all of the Bond Oversight Committee (BOC) meetings, along with directions for attending such meetings, are posted on the District website under the tab labeled "BOND." The BOC's next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 20, 2021, at 6:00 pm in the Vista Library.

If you have questions or comments about any of the content of this update, please feel free to reach out to me or one of my colleagues.

Linda





