



ROMOLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

FAQ's About Local Bond Measure I

What is Measure I?

Measure I on the November 5, 2024, ballot, will provide locally controlled funding to upgrade our local Schools, ensuring that they continue to support high student achievement and serve our community well for decades to come.

Why do we need Measure I?

The most pressing challenge for our district is overcrowding. Our community is growing fast; from 2020 to 2022 the Romoland School District saw a 10.5% growth in enrollment. That rate of growth is testing the limits of our current schools' capacity and means we must rely on portable classrooms at many of our schools. Crowded schools make it harder for students to learn and reduce the amount of time teachers get to spend with individual students. We need to continue with upgrading classrooms and building expansion plans that keep up with our growing enrollment numbers and keep our children safe while providing sufficient learning tools to prepare them for college and jobs.

To ensure we have the funding needed to address the challenges our District is facing, the Romoland School District Board of Trustees has voted to place Measure I on the upcoming November 5, 2024, ballot. This school improvement bond measure will provide \$58 million in local revenue to help maintain safety and security, add additional classrooms, and secure property to build an additional school.

Specifically, what would Measure I do?

- Construct, repair, and upgrade classrooms, science labs, and school facilities
- Add a gymnasium to the current middle school
- Build a new neighborhood school, which will be school #8, to avoid overcrowding
- Replace old, deteriorating portable classrooms with permanent classrooms
- Improve student safety and school security systems

How much would Measure I cost?

Measure I will provide over \$58 million to make needed repairs, safety updates, and modern classrooms and build additional classrooms and school facilities for all students. The cost of Measure I is limited to 3¢ per \$100 of assessed (not market) values long as bonds are outstanding. Assessed value is based on the original purchase price of a home and is often lower than market value, particularly for those residents that have owned their homes for a long time.

How do I know funds would be used responsibly?

Measure I will include fiscal accountability protections:

- All money raised will stay local and be spent in Romoland School District to support our students
- No funds could be taken away by the State or spent in other districts
- By law, no money from the bond measure could be used for administrators' salaries or benefits
- It will require a clear system of accountability, including a Citizens' Oversight Committee and independent audits to ensure the money is spent properly



Is there any other way to address overcrowding in our schools?

RSD has very few options when it comes to upgrading and expanding our local schools. We can't rely on the State to make these necessary improvements and help us build classrooms. Measure I is the only way to provide the funding and local control necessary to complete the prioritized projects to accommodate our growing student body. In addition, we would potentially be able to qualify for millions of dollars in matching funds from the State if the measure passes – funds that would otherwise not be available.

What level of support does Measure I need to pass?

Measure I would need to be supported by 55% of voters in order for it to pass. All registered voters living in the Romoland School District will be eligible to vote on Measure I in the November 5, 2024 election.

How can I register to vote or learn more about voting?

You can register to vote at www.registertovote.ca.gov. To learn more about voting, please contact the Riverside County Registrar of Voters at (951) 486-7200 or visit www.VoteInfo.net

How can I find out more about Measure I?

Please contact the District at (951) 926-9244 or visit www.romoland.net

What is a school bond measure?

A school bond measure is a bond used by a public school district, typically to finance a building project or other capital project. These measures are placed on the ballot by district school boards to be approved or defeated by voters.

Is new growth in our area paying its own way?

Yes. We all know quality schools keep our neighborhoods and local property values strong. Romoland School District has an excellent, proven record of leveraging developer and mitigation fees to secure matching funds from state and federal government to help provide needed repairs and upgrades to our local schools. In fact, our last two schools were built with the help of these fees. As our community grows Romoland School District is committed to continuing to work with our developers to ensure they help in providing new schools for our community.

I don't have any kids attending Romoland School District; how would Measure I impact me and my family?

Our region is growing rapidly, and there is a substantial need to address this growth so that our schools meet the standards of 21st century education, providing an equitable and safe learning environment. Measure I will help finish construction on our new K - 8 school that will relieve classroom overcrowding and repair our schools to continue supporting student success. Good schools are a reflection of strong and thriving communities that benefit all local residents.

What would Measure I cost me?

Property taxes from bond measures are based on assessed, not market, property value, making the cost almost always much closer to the original purchase price of the property than to the current market price. This can help seniors or those on fixed incomes who have lived in their homes a long time.

The annual cost of Measure I would be limited to 3 cents per \$100 in assessed (not market) property value, for as long as bonds are outstanding.

I am concerned about overcrowding at my school. How can Measure I help?

With strong academic programs and dedicated teachers, our great local schools attract families to our community. We currently lack sufficient classroom space at our schools to comfortably accommodate the growing student body. Measure I will help Romoland School District finish construction of our new school, replace aging portable classrooms and ensure student safety and security at all of our schools.



What projects and purchases are included in what bonds can fund?

Bond proceeds may be used to fund buildings, equipment, furnishings and technology. Most school bonds include a mix of “brick and mortar” capital improvements along with the equipment, furnishings and technology that go inside those buildings. When a district issues bonds, they are a package of bonds with different maturity dates so that the debt for items with shorter lifespans would be shorter in duration.

Why is an additional revenue stream required to upgrade our schools?

Romoland schools receive funding from the State for operational costs like supporting strong instructional programs and teachers, but this does not provide sufficient funding needed for capital improvements to repair and update our schools or to provide sufficient classrooms to house all of our students. Measure I will assist in the completion of construction for our new neighborhood school to combat overcrowding, repair and upgrade existing classrooms and science labs, and improve overall student safety through school security systems.

