

BOND UPDATE #19

07.12.19

Here's what's been going on during the past two weeks:

1. On Monday, July 1, Mark Deebach and I met with Jori Burnett, Ferndale City Manager, to find out the results of the assessment the City had done of the Old Main facility to determine the feasibility of repurposing it as City Hall. They learned that, while it is possible to renovate Old Main to serve the needs of the City, doing so would be more expensive than they were hoping. Jori said their next step is to take this information to the City Council and ask them whether they want to continue to negotiate with the school district about pursuing the Old Main option. He asked us for a date when the District needed to have a decision from the City. We said we needed to know by August 30, 2019.
2. On Wednesday, July 3, our outside roofing experts assessed the condition of the existing roof systems at Central Elementary, Custer Elementary, and Vista Middle School. These inspections and evaluations are aimed at addressing some of the high priority critical maintenance needs included in the Capital Projects Bond. A plan is currently being prepared to finalize the scope of needed roof repairs. Once the report is completed, we will be ready to go out to bid for this work.
3. To date, we have received 21 applications for the Design Advisory Committee (DAC). In addition, we have 10 school board members and administrators who will be staffing the committee. 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.
4. When we met with our Dykeman architects on Monday, July 8, one of the topics we discussed was the agenda for the first Design Advisory Committee (DAC) meeting on Tuesday, August 13. In addition to doing some visioning themselves, we plan to engage committee members in analyzing and theming the input we have already received from the public through Thoughtexchange and the Town Hall on June 11. We will also be previewing the three schools we will be touring during our second DAC meeting.
5. We have had to make a change in the second meeting date we originally published for the Design Advisory Committee (DAC). Instead of touring other new (or "newish") high school facilities on Tuesday, August 27, we have arranged the tour for **Monday, August 26**. We will be visiting Meridian High School, Sehome High School, and Lake Stevens High School. We had to make the date change to accommodate the schedules of our hosts at these three schools.
6. As of July 9, we actually have bond money in our district account! The proceeds from the bonds Mark Deebach and I went to Seattle to sell on June 19 have now been transferred to the Whatcom County Treasurer to be invested and earn interest until we need to spend them.

7. We are getting ready to present our case for using the GC/CM (General Contractor/ Construction Manager) process to design and build the new Ferndale High School. The first step in our receiving permission to go this route was to submit a 20-page application in June. Since we passed the first step, we have been invited to take part in the second step, which involves making a presentation to, and answering questions from, a board of construction experts on Thursday, July 25, in Kent, Washington. (The board is called CPARB, which stands for Capital Projects Advisory Review Board.) We feel optimistic about a positive outcome. However, we are not taking anything for granted. We are working hard to prepare for the presentation and interview.

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

Linda