

# Report to the Community on Measure G



Fran Florez



Dennis Beebe

California's explosive population growth has triggered rapidly rising demands on the unique educational services offered by the state's community colleges. Unfortunately, state funding for our community colleges has not kept pace with the growing need. To fill part of this gap, the leaders of the Kern Community College District turned to us, the citizens and voters, for help.

We responded by passing Measure G, a \$180 million bond that will improve educational facilities and offer a positive impact on student learning in our communities. This improvement in student learning costs property owners just \$12 a year for every \$100,000 in assessed property value.

A citizens' committee oversees bond expenditures exclusively for educational equipment, acquiring new land to meet the educational needs of our growing population, and to repair, improve, and build physical facilities at the following locations:

- Bakersfield College in Bakersfield. Budgeted for \$115 million
- Cerro Coso College in Ridgecrest. Budgeted for \$32 million
- Porterville College in Porterville. Budgeted for \$25 million
- KCCD Headquarters in Bakersfield. Budgeted for nearly \$8 million

This report shares what work has been completed, what work remains, what we can no longer do, how expenditures are monitored, and what lies ahead.

On behalf of the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees and the KCCD Measure G Oversight Committee, thank you for your continued support of our local community colleges.

**1** Preparing the ground for renovation at Porterville College. **2** District office renovations house new technology infrastructure to support college-to-college communication. **3** Measure G funding improves colleges from the inside out.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script.

Fran Florez  
Chair, Measure G Oversight Committee

A handwritten signature in cursive script.

Dennis Beebe  
President, KCCD Board of Trustees

# What We Have Done So Far

In March 2003, the first \$75 million of the \$180 million bond measure was issued for use. As of **May 31, 2005**, the funds spent at each location so far have been used as follows. Please note that some projects also have received funding from other sources.

## Bakersfield College

(\$4.6 million of Measure G funds spent to date of the \$115 million budgeted)

- **BC Delano Center:** Land purchase, leases and development of a new BC college center, 31% complete. Budget: just over \$21.6 million.
- **BC Industrial Technology Center:** Total renovation, 59% complete. Budget: \$5.4 million.
- **BC Planetarium Modernization:** New dome, star projector, and new seating, 12% complete. Budget: \$1.8 million.
- **Access Survey:** Creation of aerial campus topographic map of site features and benchmarks for future construction, signage and access for those with disabilities. Project completed at a cost of \$89,884.
- **Electrical Distribution Phase III:** Replacement of electrical wiring installed in 1954, 8% complete. Budget: \$400,000.
- **Fire Hydrants:** Upgrades or replacement of five campus fire hydrants. Project completed for \$17,418.
- **Weill Building Modernization:** Renovation and reconfiguration, 57% complete. Budget: \$4.8 million.

## Cerro Coso College

(\$7.5 million of Measure G funds spent to date of the \$32 million budgeted)

- **Solar Photo Voltaics:** A solar energy field producing one megawatt of power. Project

completed at a cost of \$5.8 million. This project has already generated a rebate of \$4.3 million for the college from the California Public Utilities Commission and Southern California Edison.

- **Main Library Completion Project:** Renovation and expansion. Project completed at a cost of \$977,500. Budget: \$1.4 million.

## Porterville College

(\$2.3 million of Measure G funds spent to date of the \$25 million budgeted)

- **Electrical, Mechanical, Plumbing Repairs:** Replacement and repair of 30-year-old infrastructure, 26% complete. Budget: \$300,000.
- **Pool Chemical Storage:** Upgrade storage units and provide modernized ventilation, 25% complete. Budget: \$66,200.
- **Childcare Facility:** Provide temporary space while permanent new facility is built, 16% complete. Budgeted for \$330,000.
- **Allied Health Facility Expansion:** Project completed at a cost of \$2 million.

## KCCD Headquarters

(\$2.5 million of Measure G funds spent to date of the nearly \$8 million budgeted)

- **Systems Infrastructure:** Upgrade and expand district-wide servers and related equipment, install new cabling infrastructure, 63% complete. Budget: \$585,000.
- **Data Center Backup Generator:** Protects availability of online courses and other services to students via the Internet during extended power outages. Project completed at a cost of \$59,320.
- **Data Center UPS System Replacement:** Replaces aging and undersized Uninterruptible Power Supply system that provides short-term continuous power to the district's Data Center. 70% complete. Budget: \$80,000.
- **District-wide Technology System Development:** Upgrades the district's Wide Area Network and server infrastructure to support digital student record systems and student and employee internet communication district wide. 32% complete. Budget: \$1.1 million.

1 Measure G framed the building that will support a new dome, which is the canvas for astronomy shows at the BC Planetarium, the only planetarium in Kern County. 2 New Delano Center houses lab facilities to train nurses and health care professionals. 3 Early completion pays: This solar energy field project, completed at a cost of \$5.7 million, has already generated a rebate of \$4.3 million for Cerro Coso College from the California Public Utilities Commission and Southern California Edison.



# Where is the Money Actually Spent?

All funds are spent for new or improved local facilities and equipment and for new sites for campuses that will be needed to serve this area in the near future. No Measure G money goes to Sacramento. No Measure G money is spent for faculty or administration salaries or for operating costs. These restrictions ensure that G funds are spent exclusively to modernize our campuses and make them safer for our local communities for generations to come.

# What We Didn't Expect...

When citizens gave their approval at the polls in November 2003 to raise and to spend \$180 million, the money was worth more than it is today. Sadly, the purchasing power of that original \$180 million has shrunk by nearly 30% and continues to decline rapidly. This decline represents a loss of \$54 million in purchasing power. The loss is due to soaring prices for land, rising costs for construction materials, sudden shortages of available contractors, and the escalating expenses of complying with new labor laws.

This means fewer Measure G projects will be completed than originally proposed. It also means the projects we do launch and finish will cost more than originally estimated.

## Planned Future Projects...

The following is a list of projects less than 10% complete including those projects yet to be launched. Some of these projects may be dropped due to the sharp decline in bond money purchasing power caused by the steep rise in nearly all categories of expenses.

### Bakersfield College

- **Speech, Arts & Music Building Modernization:** Budget: \$5.7 million.
- **Delano Campus Multi-use Facility:** Budget: \$10.4 million.
- **Allied Health (nursing & other medical programs) Building New Construction:** Budget: \$6.8 million.
- **Student Services Building Modernization:** Consolidation of all student services into one location. Budget: \$6.7 million.
- **Campus Center Remodel:** Budget: \$7.6 million.
- **Business/Computer Information Science Building Remodel:** Budget: \$2.7 million.
- **Master Environmental Impact Report:** Comprehensive report covering all proposed projects. Budget: \$168,000.

### Cerro Coso College

- **Science Modernization:** Upgrades to the science facility's 1972 lab construction and technology. Budget: \$5.7 million.

- **Spray Fireproofing Abatement:** Removal of asbestos material from part of Main Building. Budget: \$37,000.
- **Kern River Center Modernization:** Dry wall and tile repair, add carpeting, paint, new entry door, shelving, exhaust fan and signage, 4% complete. Budget: \$50,000.
- **Vocational Art Building:** Build and furnish a new facility. Budget: \$5.1 million.
- **Main Building Administration, Third Floor:** Construction and furnishings. Budget: \$4.1 million.
- **Performing Arts Theater Project:** Construction and furnishings. Budget: \$16.5 million.

### Porterville College

- **Science Math Modernization:** Modification of 1976 structure to accommodate modern science technology. Budget: \$5.2 million.
- **Library Expansion:** Remodel and expand the existing library, 7% complete. Budget: \$19 million.
- **Master Environmental Report:** Covering the impact of all proposed projects. Not started. Budget: \$50,000.
- **Wellness Center:** Expansion and modernization of current Physical Education facilities. Budget: \$5.5 million.

### How Big is KCCCD?

Few people are aware of how huge a geographic area the Kern Community College District serves. The five-county service area covers 24,000 square miles including most of Kern County and parts of Tulare, Mono, Inyo, and San Bernardino counties. That is an area roughly equal to the combined size of Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Vermont and Rhode Island.



# Who Is Looking Out For Your Money?

The Measure G Bond Oversight Committee meets three times a year. Each member of the committee is appointed by the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees to a two-year term of service. The committee conducts all its meetings in compliance with the provisions of the "Ralph M. Brown Public Meetings Act of the State of California." Minutes of these meetings are available online at [www.kccd.edu](http://www.kccd.edu).

The committee reviews all Measure G expenditures. It prepares an annual report on these expenditures that is presented in public session to the KCCD Board of Trustees. The committee also makes its report and periodic findings available for public information and public scrutiny.

In addition, the integrity with which Measure G bond funds are handled is reviewed annually in an independent audit. Our auditor is Certified Public Accountant Darrell Harris, who monitors the evidence that supports the amounts spent and who certifies that all financial statements are free of misstatements.

## MEASURE G BOND COMMUNITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Fran Florez, Shafter (Committee Chair)  
George "Bud" Biery, Ridgecrest  
Ruth Cooper, Ridgecrest  
Kathi Farr, McFarland  
Kenneth Goodwin, Springville  
David Hall, Bakersfield  
Lara Solorio, Tulare  
Jack Thomson, Bakersfield  
Jonathan Webster, Bakersfield

## KERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Dennis Bebee (President)  
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Rose Marie Bans (Clerk)  
Dr. Herbert Bonds  
Pauline Larwood  
John Rodgers  
Stuart Witt



Sandra V. Serrano

## A Message From the Chancellor

Thank you for your support of local community colleges through Measure G. These funds are essential to improving student learning in ways that you, our citizens and customers, demand.

That demand continues. The number of students enrolling in our district's community colleges in the next 15 years will continue to grow from its current enrollment of 24,000. This increase will require more classrooms. Additionally, the growing need for public safety workers, nurses and medical technicians means we must increase our laboratory and clinical training facilities.

Community support through such efforts as Measure G helps us successfully meet these challenges in the face of increasing costs. We are finding that our Measure G monies are funding fewer improvements and modernizing fewer facilities than we'd hoped. We

must continue with this work if we hope to offer the kind of education that is essential the economic and workforce development in our communities.

We must also increase learning opportunities for our students. Access to education is a core element of Kern Community College District's mission of service. With your support, all citizens who desire to improve their lives through education will find ready partners in Bakersfield, Cerro Coso and Porterville colleges. Thank you for making such access possible.

Sincerely,

Sandra V. Serrano  
Chancellor, Kern Community College District