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AGENDA
MEASURE J AD HOC COMMITTEE
***** SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE *****
FEBRUARY 19, 2019
PUBLIC MEETING 3:00 P.M.

MEMBERS

Terry Tornek, Mayor
Tyron Hampton, District 1
Margaret McAustin, District 2
Lawrence Torres, PUSD Board President
Patrick Cahalan, PUSD Board Vice President
Kimberly Kenne, PUSD Board District 1

STAFF

Steve Mermell, City Manager
Brian McDonald, PUSD Superintendent

MISSION STATEMENT

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Items on the agenda may not be called in order listed.

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*Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Measure J Ad Hoc Committee **after** distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office at 100 N. Garfield Avenue, Room S-228, Pasadena, during normal business hours.*

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING
MEASURE J AD HOC COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 19, 2019
PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT EDUCATION CENTER
351 S. HUDSON AVENUE, ROOM #236**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special meeting of the Measure J Ad Hoc Committee will occur on Tuesday, February 19, 2019 at 3:00 p.m., at Pasadena Unified School District Education Center, Board Room 236, 351 S. Hudson Avenue, Pasadena. The meeting agenda follows:

- 1. ROLL CALL**
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENT** – Limited to items on this special meeting agenda only. Please limit comments to two minutes per speaker.
- 3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 19, 2018***
- 4. ACTION ITEMS:**
 - A. MEASURE J PRIORITIES
- 5. INFORMATION ITEMS:**
 - A. MEASURE J MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
- 6. ADJOURNMENT**

*Attachment



TERRY TORNEK
Measure J Ad Hoc Committee Chair

POSTING STATEMENT: I hereby certify that this notice, in its entirety, was posted on the Council Chamber Bulletin Board, Room S249, 100 North Garfield Avenue, and the Pasadena Unified School District Education Center and a copy was given to the Main Library for posting on this 14th day of February 14, 2019, by 5:30p.m., and that copies hereof were faxed or personally delivered to each member of the City Council and to each local newspaper of general circulation, radio or television station requesting notice in writing all of which recipients are identified on the distribution list set forth herein below.



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CITY OF PASADENA
PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
MEASURE J AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES

December 19, 2018 – 3:30 P.M.

Special Meeting

Elbie J. Hickambottom Boardroom, Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD)

- OPENING: Mayor Tornek called the ad hoc meeting to order at 3:32 p.m.
- ROLL CALL: Mayor Terry Tornek
Councilmember Margaret McAustin
PUSD Board President Lawrence Torres
PUSD Vice President Patrick Cahalan
PUSD Board Member Kimberly Kenne
Councilmember Hampton (arrived 3:55 PM)
- Staff Present: City Manager Steve Mermell
PUSD Superintendent Brian McDonald
Assistant City Attorney Lisa Hosey
City Director of Finance Matthew Hawkesworth
Leslie Barnes, PUSD Chief Business Officer
Steven Miller, PUSD Chief Human Resource Officer
- PUBLIC COMMENT: Ryan Mackey, Odyssey Charter Schools – Possible funding for charters
- ACTION ITEM: Selection of Chair: Terry Tornek
Motion: Torres Second: McAustin Vote: 5-0 (Hampton Absent)
- INFORMATION ITEMS: Mayor Tornek began the discussion about application and transference of Measure J funds, concluding within 60 days. Many Pasadena voters do not have a direct connection with the district, and are thus either unengaged or uninformed. Dialogue must go wider and deeper. There is an expectation that the district will receive funds; however, City Council needs written assurance that the County will not take over the district.
- PUSD must provide the City with specific suggestions for fund allocation. The charter schools' requests for funding must be addressed. Mayor Tornek stated that it was never the intent to fund the charters; the language on the ballot and on flyers was PUSD specific. It will be PUSD's decision whether or not the charters are funded.

Councilmember McAustin stated that there is general consensus that the funding go first to PUSD for necessary reserves and that it fund programs not salaries. She needs accountability of the funds in order to respond to constituents and there should be no separate allocation to charters.

City Manager Mermell suggested a consideration of the mechanics of the funds, annual identification of the amount available, appropriating one-third to PUSD, and then truing up later in the year. The funding can distributed annually through the City's budget or a contractual arrangement that the City will transfer the funds on a specific date annually. Councilmember McAustin asked whether or not the money needs to flow through the County; Board Vice President Cahalan stated that it does need to go through the County. PUSD CBO Barnes stated that if the money is distributed on an annual basis, PUSD can only put it in its books once a year. City Director of Finance Hawkesworth stated that the money must flow through the City first, and then through the County.

Mayor Tornek suggested a Memorandum of Understanding for long-term distribution so that PUSD is assured of the funding stream. PUSD should provide a report or proposal of annual spending. These reports could also be used to showcase and highlight what PUSD is providing for its students.

Councilmember McAustin stated that the funds should be for betterment – as a result of Measure J, PUSD is preserving X programs. Councilmember Hampton agreed that no new programs should be instituted with these funds.

Mayor Tornek also asked what PUSD's game plan is with the newly formed Master Planning/Boundary subcommittee. He offered the City's help regarding facilities, especially the property exchange and asked to be invited to meetings.

Mayor Tornek summarized the City's requests of PUSD: (1) a general statement of assurance that the County will not take over PUSD; (2) identification of use for the money (district priorities); and (3) whether or not charter schools should be factored in.

Board President Torres expressed excitement over PUSD's deepening relationship with the City. PUSD will provide an annual report with regard to expenditures. Perhaps, for the

first year, a semi-annual report can be prepared for the comfort level of the constituents. The ballot should have

stated “public schools AND charters” if the intent was to include them. Not everyone knows that charters are public schools also. Pasadena has numerous charters, not all of which are based in the city or chartered by PUSD.

City Manager Mermell suggested, as an initial approach, removing some of the items from the recent PUSD \$10m cut list and funding same with Measure J monies.

Board member Kenne clarified that the \$10m is actually \$5m cut from its budget compounded each year for the next three years. It is important that PUSD have a multi-year commitment from the City for budgetary decisions. PUSD board policy states that there must be a 6% reserve, but with deficit spending, the reserve will go down to 3%. By using Measure J monies, PUSD can maintain its reserve. Salaries may need to be considered to maintain programs. Learning Works Charter School enrolls PUSD dropouts, thereby serving PUSD, although the District does not fund it in any way.

Councilmember McAustin reiterated that it is the public’s understanding that the funds will be going to PUSD and not to the charters. Mayor Tornek and PUSD Vice President Cahalan concurred with the earlier statement that PUSD should receive all funding and reserve the right to include charters. Cahalan also concurred that PUSD should use the accountability documents as a marketing tool for the District and that because PUSD’s state funding dips continually, a four-year commitment with annual renewal is essential.

Councilmember Hampton requested that PUSD’s reports be broad in scope with regard to programs after year three and also concurred that the funds should not include charter schools not chartered by PUSD.

Mayor Tornek reiterated his request to include the City in the Master Planning/Boundary subcommittee’s discussions.

It was agreed that PUSD will discuss its funding priorities at its upcoming January 10 study session and, by consensus, provide the list to the City. The City will provide its commitment with conditions; e.g., a four-year MOU with evergreen provisions and a mutually agreed spending plan.

This Ad Hoc committee will meet after PUSD’s January 10 meeting. PUSD CBO Barnes will contact the County regarding its acceptance of the First Interim in order to provide the City with assurances, as requested.

ADJOURNMENT:

Board President Torres moved and Mayor Tornek adjourned the special meeting of the Measure J Ad Hoc Committee meeting at 4:45 p.m.

TERRY TORNEK
Measure J Ad Hoc Committee Chair

ATTEST:

DIANE D'ARCO ORONA
Recording Secretary