SUBJECT: Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan

☐ Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED,

☐ Information Only

☒ Action Item

Proposal:
That the Board of Trustees approve the District's ADA Transition Plan.

Background:
Measure E contains $2.5 million dollars to improve campus safety and accessibility. This is necessary to be in compliance with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). The ADA refers to Federal civil rights legislation that was enacted in 1992, to ensure equal access and opportunities for individuals with disabilities, both mental & physical. Federal enforcement is normally under the Department of Justice, Office of Civil Rights Division.

ADA imposes specific architectural standards in new and renovation type construction as is the case with the Measure E Facilities Master Plan. This includes parking, path-of-travel/circulation pathways (walkways, ramps & elevators), building entries, toilet and other public spaces. It also includes specific features, such as lighting, building hardware, signage, mounting-heights, and other features that ensure reasonable accommodation.

The renovations outlined in the Facilities Master Plan fall under the jurisdiction of the Division of State Architects. All renovation plans must be approved by the DSA and must meet the requirements of the ADA as well as other California statues. All public agencies are required to do the following three (3) things to achieve compliance with the ADA and other California Statues:

1. Perform a comprehensive Assessment, which identifies barriers to the disabled public.
2. Develop an ADA Transition Plan for the identification and removal of identified barriers.
3. Remove barriers in accordance with the agency’s approved ADA Transition Plan.

At the same time the District’s Facilities Master Plan was being developed, the District was also completing the first two (2) items above; a comprehensive assessment and the development of an ADA Transition Plan.

The comprehensive assessment, item #1 above, included a self-evaluation survey that solicited comments and opinions regarding how the District could better serve individuals with disabilities. The solicitation period was from August 1, 2005 to October 31, 2005. A “Gavilan College Public Notice and Posting” was posted in all District classrooms and major bulletin boards, on the District’s web site, and was provided to every Gavilan employee on Staff Development Day with the request that it also be shared with students. In addition, a separate cover letter and survey was sent to agencies and organizations that provide services to individuals with disabilities.

As a result of the comprehensive assessment, an ADA Transition Plan has been developed, item #2 above. The entire plan is available for review by contacting the Office of the Vice President of Administrative Services.

The plan is considered a separate stand alone document requiring a separate action by the Board. The elements within the ADA Transition Plan, however, will be incorporated into each phase of the District’s Facilities Master Plan over the next 8 years. This will achieve the compliance as required in # 3 above.

**Budgetary Implications:**
Funds are included in the Measure E funding.

**Follow Up/Outcome:**
Implement the ADA Transition Plan.

Recommended By: Joseph D. Keeler, Vice President of Administrative Services

Prepared By: __________________________________________
Joseph D. Keeler, Vice President of Administrative Services

Agenda Approval: _________________________________________
Dr. Steven M. Kinsella, Superintendent/President