

Performance Audit Bond Construction Fund (Measure X) June 30, 2024

Gavilan Joint Community College District



Independent Auditor's Report on Performance

To the Board of Trustees and Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee Gavilan Joint Community College District Gilroy, California

We were engaged to conduct a performance audit of the Bond Construction Fund (Measure X) of Gavilan Joint Community College District (the District) for the year ended June 30, 2024.

We conducted this performance audit in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives.

Audit Authority/Purpose

The general obligation bonds associated with Measure X were issued pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of California (the State), including the provisions of Chapters 1 and 1.5 of Part 10 of the California *Education Code*, and other applicable provisions of law. The bonds are authorized to be issued by a resolution adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County (the County Resolution), pursuant to a request of the Gavilan Joint Community College District made by a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of the District.

The District received authorization at an election held on November 6, 2018, to issue bonds of the District in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$248,000,000 to finance construction and modernization of certain District property and facilities, the acquisition of equipment, and to pay the costs of issuance associated with the Bonds. The proposition required approval by at least 55% of the votes cast by eligible voters within the District.

Purpose

The general obligation bond funds of the District would be used to finance the design, acquisition, installation, restoration, and construction of public schools and school facilities and providing facilities improvements and upgrades, and the acquisition of related facilities costs, including, but not limited to, financing the following: renovation of classrooms and science labs; upgrading of electrical systems and wiring to safely accommodate computers, technology, and other electrical devices; repair and replacement of fixtures and systems. Project costs for expansion of existing facilities may include, but is not limited to, some or all of the following: vocational and technical training programs and to enhance nursing, firefighter, paramedic, public safety, and hi-tech job training. Project costs for furniture and equipment may include, but is not limited to, some or all of the following: desks and tables; window and floor covering; computer, media recording, and presentation equipment; science laboratory equipment; and/or other electronic equipment.

Authority

On November 7, 2000 California voters approved Proposition 39, the Smaller Classes, Safer Schools, and Financial Accountability Act. Proposition 39 amended portions of the California Constitution to provide for the issuance of general obligation bonds by the District, "for the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of school facilities, including the furnishing and equipping of school facilities, or the acquisition or lease of rental property for school facilities", upon approval by 55% of the electorate. In addition to reducing the approval threshold from two-thirds to 55%, Proposition 39 and the enacting legislation (AB 1908 and AB 2659) requires the following accountability measures as codified in *Education Code* Sections 15278-15282:

- Requires that the proceeds from the sale of the bonds be used only for the purposes specified in Article XIIIA, Section 1(b)(3)(C) of the California Constitution, and not for any other purpose, including teacher and administrator salaries and other school operating expenses.
- 2. The District must list the specific district facilities projects to be funded in the ballot measure, and must certify that the governing board has evaluated safety and information technology needs in developing the project list.
- 3. Requires the District to appoint a citizens' oversight committee.
- 4. Requires the District to conduct an annual independent financial audit and performance audit in accordance with the *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States of the bond proceeds until all of the proceeds have been expended.
- 5. Requires the District to conduct an annual independent performance audit to ensure that the funds have been expended only on the specific projects listed.

Objectives of the Audit

Our audit was limited to the objectives listed below which includes determining the compliance with the performance requirements as referred to in Proposition 39 and outlined in Article XIIIA, Section 1(b)(3)(C) of the California Constitution. Management is responsible for the District's compliance with those requirements.

- 1. Determine whether expenditures charged to the Bond Construction Fund (Measure X) have been made in accordance with the bond project list approved by the voters through the approval of Measure X.
- 2. Determine whether salary transactions, if any, charged to the Bond Construction Fund (Measure X) were in support of Measure X and not for District general administration or operations.

Scope of the Audit

The scope of our performance audit covered the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. The population of expenditures tested included all object and project codes associated with the Bond projects. The propriety of expenditures for capital projects and maintenance projects funded through other State or local funding sources, other than proceeds of the bonds, were not included within the scope of the audit. Expenditures incurred subsequent to June 30, 2024, were not reviewed or included within the scope of our audit or in this report.

In planning and performing our performance audit, we obtained an understanding of the District's internal control in order to determine if the internal controls were adequate to help ensure the District's compliance with the requirements of Proposition 39 and outlined in Article XIIIA, Section 1(b)(3)(C) of the California Constitution but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion of the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

Methodology

We obtained the general ledger and the project expenditure reports prepared by the District for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, for the Bond Construction Fund (Measure X). Within the fiscal year audited, we obtained the actual invoices, purchase orders, and other supporting documentation for a sample of expenditures to ensure compliance with the requirements of Article XIIIA, Section 1(b)(3)(C) of the California Constitution and Measure X as to the approved Bond projects list. We performed the following procedures:

1. We identified expenditures and projects charged to the general obligation bond proceeds by obtaining the general ledger and project listing.

- 2. We selected a sample of expenditures using the following criteria:
 - a. We considered all expenditures recorded in all object codes.
 - b. We considered all expenditures recorded in all projects that were funded from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 from Measure X bond proceeds.
 - c. We selected all expenditures that were individually significant expenditures. Individually significant expenditures were identified based on our assessment of materiality.
 - d. For all items below the individually significant threshold identified in item 2c, we judgmentally selected expenditures based on risk assessment and consideration of coverage of all object codes and projects for the period starting July 1, 2023 and ending June 20, 2024.
- 3. Our sample included transactions totaling \$19,086,425. This represents approximately 49% of the total expenditures of \$38,636,382.
- 4. We reviewed the actual invoices and other supporting documentation to determine that:
 - a. Expenditures were supported by invoices with evidence of proper approval and documentation of receipting goods or services.
 - b. Expenditures were supported by proper bid documentation, as applicable.
 - c. Expenditures were expended in accordance with voter-approved bond project list.
 - d. Bond proceeds were not used for salaries of administrators or other operating expenses of the District.
- 5. We determined that the District has met the compliance requirement of Measure X if the following conditions were met:
 - a. Supporting documents for expenditures were aligned with the voter-approved bond project list.
 - b. Expenditures were not used for salaries of administrators or other operating expenses of the District.

The results of our tests indicated that the District expended Bond Construction Fund (Measure X) funds only for the specific projects approved by the voters, in accordance with Proposition 39 and outlined in Article XIIIA, Section 1(b)(3)(C) of the California Constitution.

Audit Results

The results of our tests indicated that, in all material respects, the District has properly accounted for the expenditures held in the Bond Construction Fund (Measure X) and that such expenditures were made for authorized Bond projects. Further, it was noted that funds held in the Bond Construction Fund (Measure X) and expended by the District, were used for salaries of administrators only to the extent they performed administrative oversight work on construction projects as allowable per Opinion 04-110 issued on November 9, 2004 by the State of California Attorney General.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the District, Board of Trustees, and Citizens Bond Oversight Committee, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Rancho Cucamonga, California

Ede Saelly LLP

December 2, 2024

Gavilan Joint Community College District Bond Construction Fund (Measure X) Findings, Recommendations, and Views of Responsible Officials

June 30, 2024

None reported.