

### Los Angeles Unified School District

#### **Board of Education Report**

File #: Rep-101-14/15, Version: 1

Amendment to the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Define and Approve Five Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) Projects

#### **Action Proposed:**

Staff proposes that the Board of Education amend the Facilities Services Division (FSD) Strategic Execution Plan (SEP) to define and approve five Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) projects as listed in Attachment A. The total combined budget for these projects is \$112,000.

#### Background:

On June 18, 2013, the Board of Education amended the FSD SEP to establish the SEEDS program and allocate \$5,000,000 for the development of future projects that will enhance school sites by creating outdoor learning spaces in collaboration with school and community led efforts. There are two components to the SEEDS program. The first component is development of the outdoor learning space that will be constructed by the District and includes capital investments, such as asphalt removal, installation of irrigation and utilities, and any associated testing and inspection. The second component, which is essential to the success of each project, is the collaboration with a school site and/or partner organization that will outfit the outdoor learning space with the plant materials and landscaping features that align with the school's instructional vision and program.

Potential projects are identified through proposals submitted by schools, and or partners. A school site by itself, or in cooperation with a partner organization, may submit a SEEDS application to receive up to \$25,000 of infrastructure improvements. District staff evaluated proposals based on the specific criteria and requirements outlined in the SEEDS program guide to ensure each proposal meets the eligibility requirements. Proposals must include a written project narrative describing the project scope, an explanation of how the project will be integrated into the school's curriculum, and confirmation of the availability of resources to outfit and maintain the outdoor learning space. The projects being recommended have all been reviewed and are found to be in compliance with the program requirements.

#### **Expected Outcomes:**

Approval of this proposed action will enable staff to proceed with the design and construction of these five projects. Approval of these greening projects will improve the learning environment for students, teachers and staff, increase sustainability, and enhance the outdoor school environment.

#### **Board Options and Consequences:**

Approval of this proposed action will authorize staff to proceed with the expenditure of Bond Program funds to execute these projects that support educational programs related to nutrition, health, physical education, literacy, math and science. If these projects are not approved, the school sites will not benefit from the creation of nature-based outdoor learning spaces.

#### **Policy Implications:**

The proposed action is consistent with the District's long-term goal to address unmet school facilities needs and provide students with a safe and healthy learning environment. It is also aligned with the goals and principles of

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the School Upgrade Program, which was approved by the Board of Education on January 14, 2014. Furthermore, it supports the Expand Sustainable Schoolyards and Environmental Initiatives and Curriculum Board Resolution adopted on April 16, 2013.

#### **Budget Impact:**

The combined project budget for the five projects is \$112,000. The proposed projects will be funded by Bond Program funds associated with the School Upgrade Program, earmarked specifically to "Leverage Partnerships to Provide After School Activities and Programming and Community Use of Facilities."

#### **Issues and Analysis:**

In order to ensure the long-term permanence of each SEEDS project, the school site and/or their partner organization must enter into a Maintenance Agreement that provides for the on-going maintenance of the proposed outdoor learning space.

#### **Bond Oversight Committee Recommendations:**

This item was considered by the School Construction Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee (BOC) at its meeting on September 25, 2014. Staff has concluded that this proposed FSD-SEP amendment will help facilitate implementation of the FSD-SEP, and therefore, it will not adversely affect the District's ability to successfully complete the FSD-SEP.

#### **Attachments:**

Attachment A

#### **Informatives:**



## LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT Board of Education Report Attachment A

\*Project budget reflects on the improvements undertaken by the District. The outfitting of the outdoor learning spaces will be provided by the partner organization.

Board of Education October 14, 2014

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#### SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION BOND CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

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Early Education Coalition
Quynh Nguyen, Secretary
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Ron Miller
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L.A. Co. Auditor-Controller's Office
Scott Pansky
L.A. Area Chamber of Commerce
Barry Waite
CA Tax Reform Assn.
Susan Linschoten (Alternate)
L.A. Co. Auditor-Controller's Office

Gary C. Anderson, PhD
Bond Administrator
Daniel Hwang
Administrative Analyst

#### **RESOLUTION 2014-35**

#### **BOARD REPORT NO. 101-14/15**

## AMENDMENT TO THE FACILITIES SERVICES DIVISION STRATEGIC EXECUTION PLAN TO DEFINE AND APPROVE FIVE SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT ENHANCEMENT DEVELOPMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (SEEDS) PROJECTS

WHEREAS, District Staff proposes that the Board of Education adopt an amendment to the Facilities Services Division (FSD) Strategic Execution Plan (SEP) to define and approve five Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) projects (the "Project") as listed in Attachment A to Board Report 101–14/15, a copy of which is attached hereto in the form it was presented to the BOC and is incorporated herein by reference, and which have a total combined budget of \$112,000; and

WHEREAS, on June 18, 2013, the Board of Education amended the FSD SEP to establish the SEEDS program and allocate \$5,000,000 for the development of future projects that will enhance school sites by creating outdoor learning spaces in collaboration with school and community led efforts; and

WHEREAS, District Staff evaluated proposals based on the specific criteria and requirements outlined in the SEEDS program guide to ensure each proposal meets the eligibility requirements and proposals must include a written project narrative describing the project scope, an explanation of how the project will be integrated into the school's curriculum, and confirmation of the availability of resources to outfit and maintain the outdoor learning space and the projects being recommended have all been reviewed and are found to be in compliance with the program requirements; and

WHEREAS, District Staff represents that the proposed Project will be funded by Bond Program funds associated with the School Upgrade Program, earmarked specifically to "Leverage Partnerships to Provide After School Activities and Programming and Community Use of Facilities;" and

# RESOLUTION 2014-35 AMENDMENT TO THE FACILITIES SERVICES DIVISION STRATEGIC EXECUTION PLAN TO DEFINE AND APPROVE FIVE SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT ENHANCEMENT DEVELOPMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (SEEDS) PROJECTS

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WHEREAS, in order to ensure the long-term permanence of each SEEDS project, the school site and/or their partner organization must enter into a Maintenance Agreement that provides for the on-going maintenance of the proposed outdoor learning space; and

WHEREAS, District Staff has concluded that the proposed SEP amendment will facilitate implementation of the FSD SEP, and therefore, it will not adversely affect the District's ability to successfully complete the FSD SEP.

#### NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The School Construction Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee recommends that the Board of Education adopt an amendment to the Facilities Services Division (FSD) Strategic Execution Plan (SEP) to define and approve five Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) projects (the "Project") as listed in Attachment A to Board Report 101–14/15, a copy of which is attached hereto in the form it was presented to the BOC and is incorporated herein by reference.
- 2. This resolution shall be transmitted to the Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education and posted on the Oversight Committee's website.
- 3. The District is directed to track the above recommendation and to report on the adoption, rejection, or pending status of the recommendations as provided in section 6.2 of the Charter and Memorandum of Understanding between the Oversight Committee and the District.

ADOPTED on September 25, 2014, by the following vote:

AYES: 9

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ABSTENTIONS: O

NAYS: O

ABSENCES: 5

Stephen English

Chair

Pamela Schmidt

Vice Chair