

Measure K Proposal Summary

October 18, 2017 Prepared by Susan Domenighini, Executive Director

Background

The proposal for the use of Measure K funds has been vetted by both the Facilities and Finance Committee. Concerns have been voiced around the shape of the current building and its viability to house a Waldorf school. The current lease is up in September of 2019. The biggest current issue is to determine where we will be housed and if we will work on a new lease or to purchase this or other property. This proposal would allow Blue Oak the funds to examine the issue and make a conclusive decision. Mike Weisenborn, the Measure K Project Mentor, has advised the Facilities Committee on this proposal and is also working with Chico Unified administration to assure it is within the bond language.

Linda Hovey and I had the opportunity to meet with Tim DeWitt an architect with rga. This firm was approved by the Measure K committee for large projects. He is currently working with Chico Unified on Loma Vista. Mr. DeWitt is also familiar with Waldorf pedagogy, his children attended Live Oak, a Waldorf school. He toured our campus and gave us an informal review.

- The school campus is of more than sufficient size to serve our current enrollment.
- Interior halls add 20% to the overall need. Interior halls are not preferred in Waldorf, but are often preferred for school safety.
- The building in of commercial grade and is in good shape overall. The building is not sinking; door hinges are wearing out. This is general wear and tear and aging. There are no significant wall cracks. Schools put higher demands than commercial use on a building, therefore things like hinges wear out faster. The overhangs are good for protecting the wall structure. No evidence of leaks other than those caused by the installation of the sun tubes were seen.
- HVAC's are designed to wear out and be replaced.
- The location has good potential for development as an urban farm and would promote a natural interest if developed for Waldorf.
- The main building is set back from the street which improves safety.
- Changing the facade from the colonial motif to something more Waldorf inspired is a minor cosmetic change.

- Current new school projects are running 32 million for 650 students. He estimated purchasing this property at half that cost.
- He suggested using George Hoffecker to facilitate a community discussion on the move/stay decision.
- He does not design play structures but had some suggestions of Waldorf schools who have installed developmentally appropriate structures.

A second proposal concerning the replacement of the play structure is still in discussion.