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April 14, 2015

ISSUE 72



REGISTER NOW!

CaLBOC - 4th Annual Statewide Conference

May 19, 2015 - Tuesday

9:30 am - 3:00 pm

California Chamber of Commerce, California Room
1215 K Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

\$50 per person, includes lunch & refreshments

Theme: "Value in a Changing World"

Keynote Speakers:

State Senator Jean Fuller

Don Mullinax, Certified Fraud Examiner

Keynote Presentation: The Governor's View of School Facility Finance
State Senator Jean Fuller, State Republican Leader-Elect, and Retired Superintendent of the Bakersfield City School District

Keynote Presentation: Fraud Awareness: School Construction
Mr. Don Mullinax, Certified Fraud Examiner and former Inspector General of Los Angeles Unified School District

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Projects Not Disclosed in Bond Ballot Language

The Next Bond Money Fight: Swimming Pools

April 9, 2015 | By Ashly McGlone | www.VoiceofSanDiego.org

EXCERPT: ... San Diego Unified is still in the midst of a court battle over millions of bond dollars spent improperly on stadium lights, but that's not stopping officials from plunging into a similar endeavor: building swimming pools. ...

But the pools plan is remarkably similar to the district's use of bond money to fund new stadium lights - an approach the Fourth District Court of Appeal rejected. The taxpayer group that successfully sued over the field lights has put the district on notice that it plans to sue again once a drop of bond money is spent on the pools.

That's not the only factor that could complicate the initiative: The bonds the district wants to use are tax-exempt and must be used for a public purpose. ... The district's in-house counsel, Andra Donovan, did not respond to several inquiries. The district's bond counsel, Mary Collins of Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe, declined to discuss the pools and referred me to district officials. ...

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**CaLBOC - 4th Annual Statewide Conference
May 19 - Tuesday**

A G E N D A

9:30 am - Registration

10:00-10:15 am

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

10:15-11:00 am

PANEL PRESENTATION:

1st Cost Reduction Strategies

11:00-11:45am

PRESENTATION: Rethinking How California Funds School Facilities

11:45-12:15 pm - LUNCH:

Plates Catering

an outreach effort of the St. John's Shelter for Homeless Women and Children

12:15-1:00 pm

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION:

The Governor's View of School Facility Finance
State Senator Jean Fuller

1:00-1:15 pm

The Anton Jungherr Award

1:15-2:00 pm

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION:

Fraud Awareness: School Construction
Mr. Don Mullinax, CFE

2:00-2:45 pm

PRESENTATION: Beyond

... Officials, though, are relying on near identical ballot language to rationalize the construction of swimming pools that a court said was insufficient to justify the field lights paid for with Proposition S funds.

Just like the field lights, the swimming pools are only explicitly mentioned on the ballot in a section near the bottom that shows "other costs incidental to and necessary for completion of the listed projects."

For the district to justify the pools, it'll have to sell the notion the pools are necessary to complete other projects listed on the ballot. ...

To read the complete article, please visit:

www.voiceofsandiego.org/topics/education/the-next-bond-money-fight-swimming-pools/

San Diego Unified Is Still in the Dark on Funding Field Lights With Bond Money

April 3, 2015 | By Ashly McGlone | www.VoiceofSanDiego.org

EXCERPT: San Diego Unified is still in the dark about whether it will have to repay millions of dollars in bond money it used to build field lights at several high schools across the district.

A lawsuit over whether the district broke the law by not explicitly disclosing its plans to install stadium lights has volleyed back and forth between courts since 2011, when a group of upset residents near Hoover High School first sued over the lights on that campus.

The group, Taxpayers for Accountable School Bond Spending, argued that the lights at Hoover High and several other schools weren't on the project list sent to voters who passed Proposition S, a \$2.1 billion school bond, in 2008. The group also argued the district violated state environmental laws by not sufficiently studying the project's impact on parking and traffic.

The district initially won the case, but an appellate court overruled San Diego Superior Court Judge Timothy Taylor, and agreed with the residents group in March 2013 that the field light cost and the environmental review that cleared the way for the project didn't pass muster. ...

To read the complete article, please visit:

www.voiceofsandiego.org/topics/education/san-diego-unified-is-still-in-the-dark-on-funding-field-lights-with-bond-money/

The Voice of San Diego's Ashly McGlone explains why the disputes could change the way school construction bonds across California:

www.nbcsandiego.com/video/#!/on-air/as-seen-on/SD-Explained_-High-School-Stadium-Lights/299139951

Reviews and Reports: Actual
BOC Members' Experiences

2:45-3:00 pm
CLOSING REMARKS
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Mission Statement

To promote school district accountability by improving the training and resources available to California's Proposition 39 School Bond Oversight Committees and educating the state legislature, local school boards and the public about the oversight and reporting powers these Citizens' Bond Oversight Committees (CBOCs) have, and to advocate on a state level, where appropriate, on issues of common concern to all CBOCs.

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