



## **BEX/BTA Capital Programs Oversight Committee**

December 14, 2018, 8:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Conference Room 2750, John Stanford Center

2445 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South, Seattle, WA 98134

### **Minutes**

#### **Call to Order (John Palewicz)**

1. John Palewicz called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.
2. Guests introduced themselves
3. New Member Janet Donelson introduced herself and committee introduced themselves to her
4. Roll Call:
  - a. Committee Members Present: Janet Donelson, Freeman Fong, Rob Stephenson, John Palewicz, Kyle Wang, Warren Johnson, Steve Goldblatt, Daniel Williams
  - b. Committee Members Absent: Steve Tatge, Duncan Griffin
  - c. Board Attendees Present: Eden Mack
  - d. Staff Present: Melissa Coan, Eric Becker, Richard Best, Lucy Morello, Becky Asencio
5. Approval of the agenda: Steve Goldblatt made a motion to accept the agenda. Daniel Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
6. Approval of minutes from November 9, 2018: Steve Goldblatt made a motion to accept the minutes. Daniel Williams seconded the motion and the minutes were accepted unanimously.

#### **Budget Update (Melissa Coan/Richard Best)**

1. Melissa Coan reviewed BEX IV Program Cost Summary
2. This report included all activities through 10/31/18, including year end close for fiscal year 2018
3. The BEX IV program budget is managed in accordance with the Board approved budget:
  - a. \$629M has been spent to date
  - b. The budget is in the black
  - c. There are no variances to report
  - d. Completed project underspend is \$3.9M, to cover overages in Cedar Park and Hazel Wolf projects ^51,029 has been earmarked awaiting Board guidance. The funds haven't been transferred yet. Richard Best proposed drafting a memo to the Operations Committee on the process for approval and changes for these budget transfers. He noted one-time expenditures that exceed \$250,000 require Board approval, however this overage is the result of numerous expenditures per project that have added up to totals slightly greater than \$250,000. He desires to inform the Board of the necessary budget transfer but is unsure of the mechanism. He noted that he will discuss the memo with Director Mack.
4. Melissa Coan reviewed the BTA IV Program Cost Summary
  - a. \$127M has been spent to date. She highlighted that the program is now in the black. It was previously in the red but has been balanced by recent levy collections.
  - b. Ms. Coan reported that Capital Projects staff anticipate spending all the project budgets.



5. Director Mack inquired into the changes requested for two buildings at Lincoln High School. Richard Best explained that those projects are not included in the current budget. They are measures proposed as part of BEX V and will require a design phase and the development of construction bid documents. He noted that the BEX V levy must pass to include these improvements.
6. Daniel Williams inquired into lessons learned about budgets and bidding for future levy projects. Richard Best described the two methods the department is currently utilizing to capture learning:
  - a. In September, Capital Projects staff employ an annual debrief to recognize Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT)
  - b. Insights are logged in a database and shared with the BEX/BTA Oversight Committee in a presentation.

#### **BEX V Capital Levy Update (Richard Best/Becky Asencio)**

1. Richard Best referred the committee to two documents in the meeting packets:
  - a. Hard copy of the levy mailer, which will be issued to the community
  - b. The map of projects for BEX V, detailing which projects are planned for locations throughout the district.
2. Tom Redman alerted the committee that the Operations Levy has been renamed, "Educational Programs and Operations Levy."
3. All levy documents have been submitted to King County Elections.
4. Superintendent Denise Juneau has participated at media outlets.
5. Chief Financial Officer, JoLynn Berge is presenting information about the levies at community meetings around the district.
6. There are three community meetings coming up in January, which will make a total of 16 community meetings about the levies.
7. A media briefing in late January is planned at one of the schools on the list of proposed projects.
8. Community Relations is developing eight 1-minute videos for the proposed major projects, one for each selected site to articulate the facility needs and visually show the condition of the building.
9. Tom Redman reminded the committee that the district can only share data about the levies; they cannot promote the levies. Schools First Seattle, a volunteer citizens organization, can campaign and promote the levies.
10. Ballots will be mailed on January 23, 2019. The district will distribute an informational brochure about the levies just prior to their mailing.
11. The first informational brochure from the district is scheduled to be mailed the week of December 17, 2018. The mailer is a Report to the Community, which details what it has done with prior levy funds.
12. In January 2019, the district will issue a mailer describing its plans for the new levy funds should the levies pass February 2019.
13. Tom Redman directed the committee to a link on the Seattle Public Schools homepage, for more information about the levies:  
<https://www.seattleschools.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=627&pageId=36191053>



14. Steve Goldblatt referred to the levy's presentation, which Richard Best had made at the October meeting of the committee, and asked that it be sent to the new members.

#### **Ensuring Opportunities for Educational Racial Equity (Deborah Northern)**

1. Richard Best introduced Deborah Northern, from the Department of Racial Equity Advancement. He noted that the Board has requested that all Board Committees receive Racial Equity training.
2. Deborah Northern made a presentation to the committee on Racial Equity within the district and facilitated a discussion of the information shared. The presentation and corresponding video link were e-mailed to the committee.
3. A recurring discussion point was what the committee can do to advance racial equity in the district.
  - a. Director Mack cited the difference between prioritizing racial equity instead of capacity when evaluating proposed projects for the district, such that a focus on capacity reinforced an implicit racial bias by limiting the projects in minority communities in the district. Prioritizing racial equity brought more projects to improve the condition of school buildings in underserved communities.
  - b. Richard Best reported that the Capital Projects Department desires to analyze the education outcomes of BEX IV schools to identify the impact the buildings are having on student learning. He cited that while we know new and renovated buildings influence student enrollment, we still need to evaluate how they influence educational outcomes.
  - c. Conversation will continue in order to identify and amplify the committee's role in ensuring that the consequences of depressed economic environments are not perpetuated by the committee's work.
4. Daniel Williams suggested inviting Deborah Northern to the next committee meeting to participate in a de-brief discussion.

#### **Project Labor Agreements/Community Workforce Agreements (Richard Best)**

1. Richard Best requested information on Public Labor Agreements and Community Workforce Agreements.
2. He asked the committee for weblinks and reputable sources.

#### **Meeting Re-cap and Next Meeting Agenda Items (John Palewicz)**

1. The next meeting will be on Friday, November 9, 2018, at 8:30am.
  - a. It will include a follow-up discussion on the Ensuring Opportunities for Educational Racial Equity training and committee's next steps.
2. Energy use outcomes of BEX IV school and solar projects for BEX IV schools will also be an agenda topic.

The committee requested more data on BEX III projects and the impact of those buildings on student outcomes.

#### **Adjournment**

John Palewicz adjourned the meeting at 10:30.