



PRESS ADVISORY

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RIO HONDO COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES REVIEW CAMPUS MASTER PLAN

Whittier- At a special meeting of the Rio Hondo College Board of Trustees, Karl Schrader, Rio Hondo Program Manager and the Project Management Team reviewed the Draft Facilities Master Plan and the Landscape Master Plan. The information session was designed to inform the Board about specific projects, timelines, and funding, as well as how each project fits into the overall Facilities Master Plan. Although the Board will not vote on the adoption of the Master Plan until their June meeting, they have been eager to learn the details.

Peter Mitsakos, Principal of West Edge Architecture Group to the President spoke about the three sections of the proposed Plan: Planning Criteria, Master Plan Components, and Implementation and Phasing. In an interactive discussion with the Board, Mr. Mitsakos elaborated on gathering spaces and the options that they afford, including topics such as lighting and handicap accessibility.

Richard Barrett, Senior Associate at Wallace Roberts and Todd and the Landscape Architect for this project, reviewed the Landscape Master Plan and highlighted the correlation between the landscape and the building projects. Mr. Barrett shared both long and short-term projects. Short term project include, replanting and relocating the square planters that are in the quads as well as the construction of a sidewalk on North Drive.

“This was a very important meeting,” said Gary Mendez, President of the Rio Hondo College Board of Trustees. “The Board needed to understand the project budgets specifically, but more importantly how they fit into the larger Campus Master Plan.”

Karl Schrader went over the construction timeline and possible areas of the campus that would be impacted during the construction process, while Teresa Dreyfuss, Vice President of Finance and Business, talked about the projected cost for each of the projects.

“The staff prepared a very comprehensive report for the Board,” said Dr. Rose Marie Joyce, President of Rio Hondo College. “Their hard work and preparation was evident in the presentation.”

The presentation addressed many of the questions previously raised by the Board and went a long way toward giving the Trustees the information they need to make project priority decisions.

Located in Whittier, California, Rio Hondo College is a collaborative center of lifelong learning which provides innovative, challenging, and quality educational offerings - including programs and courses leading to transfer and vocational degrees and certificates - for its diverse students and community. For information on the College or its programs, please call 562-692-0921 or visit www.riohondo.edu.

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