



City of Emeryville
1333 Park Avenue, Emeryville, CA 94608-3517
TEL: (510) 596-4300 FAX: (510) 658-8095
www.ci.emeryville.ca.us
Emery Unified School District
4727 San Pablo Avenue, Emeryville, CA 94608
(510) 655-6936 (510) 655-3339 – Fax
www.emeryusd.k12.ca.us



**Education And Youth Services Advisory Committee Meeting
Meeting Notes
January 29, 2003**

PRESENT: Elizabeth Altieri, Ruth Atkin, Bob Canter, Marion Casey, Nora Davis, Michelle DeGuzman, Henry Der, Miguel Dwin, John Flores, Karla Golden, John Gooding, Dick Kassis, Marcelline Krafchick, Anita Larson, Jim Martin, Pauline Marx, Mark Salinas, Carmen Santisteban, Joshua Simon, Ken Taylor, Suzy Wallace, Sharon Wasserman, Cheryl Webb, Ellen Whittom, Sharon Wilchar

I. Welcome and Introductions.

II. Citizens to be Heard.

There were no citizens to be heard.

III. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Facilities Subcommittee: Joshua Simon reported that the subcommittee has focused on learning about all of the existing facilities for education and youth services in Emeryville. First, the subcommittee invited the principals/program directors to attend a meeting and provide information about the current condition of the school, recreation and child development facilities. Following this meeting, the subcommittee toured the three school facilities in the district, as well as the Child Development Center and the Recreation Center. The subcommittee will be evaluating both short-term and long-term facility needs.
- b. Programs Subcommittee: Ken Taylor reported that the subcommittee broke into three task areas: 1. Attracting and retaining quality teachers; 2. Assessing and designing support programs for the Math, Science, Technology Initiative (MSTI); and 3. Assessing and designing non-school hour programs. Interviews were conducted with principals, EUSD Director of Curriculum, Chamber of Commerce President, MSTI Program Manager and other key service providers to compile and update a comprehensive listing of current programs offered to youth in Emeryville, as well as a list of the most critical needs. Based on current programs and stated needs, the subcommittee brainstormed information needed to help them in the prioritization and design of programs for the future. The group completed a draft survey composed of pertinent questions from each task area. The final survey will be conducted with all EUSD teachers in late January and February 2003.
- c. Finance Subcommittee: John Gooding reviewed current budget status of Emery Unified School District and potential State budget impacts to the district. He also described the serious budget repercussions of the current year drop in enrollment. He reported that the Finance Subcommittee considered alternatives and unanimously

supported the concept of a parcel tax for EUSD. At tonight's meeting, the Finance Subcommittee is recommending that the EYSAC endorse the proposal and recommend to the City/School Committee that EUSD hold a special election on June 3, 2003 to submit a proposed parcel tax to the Emeryville voters. He reported that EUSD is also pursuing strategies to increase enrollment.

John Gooding read the proposed ballot language and described the proposed structure of the parcel tax. The proposed tax will be levied annually at the rate of \$0.10 per square foot of improved property or \$50.00 per parcel, whichever is greater. If approved, the parcel tax will be effective on July 1, 2003 for a period of 6 years. The ballot measure provides for an exemption for eligible property owners age 65 or over. It also creates a Citizen's Fiscal Oversight Committee. The best estimate is that the average residence in Emeryville will pay approximately \$85 per year for the parcel tax. The proposed tax is estimated to generate approximately \$1 million per year to strengthen academic curriculum, programs and services and to retain and attract quality teachers and staff.

John Gooding stated that all of the surrounding communities already have parcel taxes to help support their schools but Emeryville has never had one. The measure would need at least 2/3 of the vote to pass and will require a significant effort to be successful. He recommended that the EYSAC endorse the proposal so it can go to the City/School Committee and then to the EUSD Advisory Board and the City Council so that they can recommend to the State Administrator that it be placed on the June 3, 2003 ballot. He also read letters of support from EYSAC members who were unable to attend the meeting (Ron Mooney, Steve Jubb and Steve Rasmussen).

There was a brief discussion about the 65+ exemption, and a question of a low-income exemption. Staff responded that State law does not allow for a low-income exemption. The 65+ exemption was recommended because it allows eligible individuals to request an exemption from the tax, which may increase voter support. Experience in many communities has shown that most of those eligible do not request the exemption. Another brief discussion took place regarding the language of the measure. The EYSAC agreed to change the language in one section from "maintain" to "strengthen."

Nora Davis moved to approve the proposal and Liz Altieri seconded. The EYSAC unanimously approved the recommendation and forwarded the parcel tax proposal on to the City/School Committee.

IV. Member Comments. There were no member comments.

V. Meeting Adjourned.

Next subcommittee meetings will be held on Monday, February 3, 2003.

Next EYSAC meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 30, 2003.