

ESPLOST COMMUNITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE – MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting Date: October 12, 2021 8:30 am in HT Edwards, Heritage Conference Room and by virtual attendance.

Attendees:

Alex Sams	Nancy Hart	Mike Waldrip	Rick Parker	Smith Wilson
Andrew Malec	Lara Mathes	Erwin Greene	Tad MacMillan	Greg Davis
Patricia Yager	Allison Wright	Xernona Thomas	Dexter Fisher	John Gilbreath
Troy Basset	Gerald Arscott			

Staff Reports: Copies of the following were distributed prior to the meeting:

- September, 2021 Meeting Summary
- October, 2021 SPLOST Monthly Report
- October, 2021 SPLOST Contingency/Change Order Report
- October, 2021 Construction Schedule
- August, 2021, 2020 SPLOST 5 Financials
- August, 2021 SPLOST 5 Budget Projections
- August, 2021 SPLOST 5 Revenue Monthly Trend

West Broad Campus – Dexter Fisher reported that investigations are taking place for temporarily locating early learning students in order to be able to maintain the grant, until a solution for a permanent location is determined. Any temporary location(s) would have to fully comply with all the relevant codes and Early Learning standards.

Board HQ: Work is progressing well. The elevator is being delivered this week and will take 3-4 weeks to install. Internal painting has commenced and carpeting will begin to be laid next week. HVAC units are also being delivered next week. The emergency generator is delayed and this may require a temporary solution. Bids for moving services are due to be received this week. The move is planned to take place December 18 – 23. This will free up classroom space at HT Edwards and Whitehead Annex. This should be noted as one of the important gains of this project in addition to having all HQ staff together. Plans will be made to give COC members an opportunity to visit the project.

Clarke Middle School: At a recent Local Building Committee the architect presented three schemes. Feedback from the Principal and LBC is awaited. The architect is developing preliminary prices and likely phasing of the project. Because of the site, and the occupation of the current building during construction, the new construction will have to be on a phased basis and temporary classrooms will be required. The build is likely to take 24 months, taking into account of the need to phase the project and possible long lead times on some materials. The start date is proposed for summer, 2022. A decision has not yet been made on the form of construction contract to be used, either CM at Risk or Hard Bid.

School C: Enrollment numbers will continue to be monitored, but a substantial increase would be required/anticipated to justify proceeding with the new school. With the move of HQ staff currently based at the Whitehead Road Annex to Prince Avenue a further eight classrooms will become available for Whitehead

Road school which impacts the need for School "C". Reference was made to the potential legal issue for the school not having been built in ESPLOST 4 and whether that should be raised at meetings with state representatives. That was considered to be a matter for financial/legal advice and not for the COC. School C was not built at the anticipated time due to the inability of the general fund to pay the \$1million operating costs. In order to accommodate increased student numbers Oglethorpe, Whitehead Road and Barnett Shoals were made larger. The same financial legal issues apply to the anticipated Easom School as well.

Cedar Shoals Field-House: Schematic designs have been presented to the school with a few minor revisions. A site survey is currently being carried out. This is required for stormwater management purposes, which will need to be reviewed because the new building increases the impervious surface at the school. The project is going forward under ESPLOST 5 but if additional funds were required elsewhere (i.e. West Broad) the fieldhouse would be moved to ESPLOST 6. This would not make any material difference to the progress of the project.

Early Learning Center Kitchen Extension: Work is in progress. The emergency generator has been re-located which frees up the outdoor space for laying of the slab. Plumbing rough-ins are done.

Transportation & Technology: Four propane powered buses, partially funded by ESPLOST 5, are due for delivery in October. Technology is primarily completion of infra-structure work.

COC Membership: Alex Sams encouraged COC members to seek out other candidates to join the Committee.

ESPLOST 6: Andrew Malec is pursuing contacts with parents and LSGTs as the primary thrust for encouraging people to vote. This, together with the use of social media, is considered to be the most effective means of communication

Communication between the COC and BOE: This new item on the agenda has arisen because there seems to be some uncertainty about the COC. Patricia Yager reports on the COC at every BOE Work Session and, more recently, this has included supplying copies of the COC meeting Summaries. It was suggested that it would be helpful if other BOE members occasionally attended the COC. There would be opportunity for this over the next few months when Dr. Yager will be unavailable.

Sales Tax Revenue: The July figure was \$2.64m.

Future Meetings

Future meetings are scheduled for:

November 9, 2021

December 14, 2021

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 am.