

San Diego Unified School District
Charter Schools Facility Committee

Review of Planning Applications

Prepared by Ray Rodriguez 1/28/15

Total Applications Submitted – 4

Categories

Planning

2

Project

2

COMMENTS:

On 12/18/2014, The Committee received the following applications for Prop Z funds.

Arroyo Paseo Charter High School

Seeking funds to do a feasibility study and develop a master facilities plan with a focus on identifying and relocating to permanent facilities. Currently co-located at Wilson Middle School, the Arroyo Paseo Academy must relocate due to a construction project currently planned to start in 2016.

High Tech High International

Seeking funding for the construction of a new classroom building on the former Hale Jr High site. High Tech High Schools purchased the property, from the District, in March of 2014. They propose to dedicate a 1.5 acre portion of the property to the District for the construction of a multi-story high school facility to be used by the High Tech High International School. Other buildings on the site will be modernized by High Tech High Schools at their expense. Terms of this proposal will need to be reviewed and approved by District Real Estate and Legal counsel prior to any action by the Board of Education.

Innovations Academy

Seeking funds to do a feasibility study and develop a master facilities plan with a focus on identifying and relocating to permanent facilities in the Mira Mesa or adjacent area. Innovations Academy has been operating on several sites in the District most recently at the former temporary site for EB Scripps Elementary on Spring Canyon Road in Scripps Ranch. Because of the temporary nature of their current facility and the potential for future development on the site, the school would like to begin the planning process and at a future time, be able to seek funding for a potential site acquisition.

Urban Discovery Academy

Seeking funds to complete construction of, and to provide the furniture fixtures and equipment for, a facility that is being built by the school on property leased from the San Diego Community College District. The applicant has identified six general areas where the funds would be used including the purchase of furniture and equipment, purchase and installation of built in cabinetry, purchase and installation of various security components, Street improvements, fencing, artificial turf and other components for the construction of a rooftop playground, Purchase and installation of room dividing

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partitions. Total funding requested is \$750,177. The regulations governing the use of Prop Z funds may very well prohibit their use on many of these requests. A review of this application by Bond Counsel would be required prior to any action on funding.

Findings and Recommendations

- There are several questions and concerns that may impact on the projects, such as:
 - Use of the Public Contracts Code
 - Use of District authorized contractors and consultants
 - Use of District Design Guidelines
 - Allowable uses of Prop Z funds in non-district owned facilities

- The applications submitted fall into 2 general categories, Planning and Projects

- Within the Planning group there are 3 applications for planning funds. The committee should consider awarding these applicants an appropriate amount of funding necessary to complete the pre-schematic exercise and or master plan

- Within the Project Group there are 2 applications which needs further discussion and review of potential legal, financial, or regulatory challenges.
 - High Tech High International
 - Urban Discovery

Next Steps

- Take action on the Planning grants and allocation of funds for the work
- Identify issues and concerns regarding the Project grants and request that the appropriate District department respond accordingly
- Schedule a time to review the District response and to take action on the applications