



COUNTY OFFICE FACILITY PLANNERS MEETING UPDATE
JANUARY 2018

UPCOMING EVENTS

CASH January Workshops
Strategies for Managing School Construction Cost Acceleration
1/23/18, Sacramento
1/25/18, Ontario

CASH Monthly Workshop
Significant Changes Affecting School Facility Projects
2/1/18, Sonoma COE

CASH 39th Annual Conference
February 26-28, 2018
Hyatt Regency Hotel/Sacramento Convention Center

UPDATE

CASH Annual Conference, February 26-28, 2018 – Registration is Open!

The upcoming 39th CASH Annual Conference on School Facilities will highlight the opportunities and challenges for school districts and their private sector partners presented by the implementation of Proposition 51. The Annual Conference will include presentations on when state bonds will be sold and when funding for projects will be available, as well as on changes to the Office of Public School Construction (OPSC) School Facility Program (SFP) project processing, including the Upfront Grant Agreement and new Local Audit Requirements, and much more.

Visit the CASH website (www.cashnet.org) to view the Conference Brochure for more highlights and to register for this event.

Proposition 51 Update

On December 6, 2017, the State Allocation Board (SAB) provided Unfunded Approvals to projects worth \$164 million. Those projects were eligible to participate in Priority Funding Round 14; requests to participate in that Priority Funding round were due to the Office of Public School Construction (OPSC) by December 7, 2017. Priority Funding requests submitted during Round 14 are eligible for an apportionment from January 1, 2018 to June 30, 2018.

As of December 6, 2017, districts had submitted School Facility Program applications to OPSC worth \$3.1 billion (\$2.0 billion for new construction, \$1.1 B for modernization). With the actions taken by the Board on December 6, 2017, there were projects worth \$200.6 million that were eligible to participate in Priority Funding Round 14, signifying the universe of potential projects to be funded out of a spring bond sale.

CASH believes that funding only \$200 million worth of projects in the first half of 2018 is insufficient and contrary to the will of voters in approving Proposition 51. We are waiting to see the bond sale plan in the Governor’s FY 2018-19 budget proposal, which will be released by January 10, 2018. CASH’s *Sell School Bonds* press efforts are ongoing, educating legislators, policymakers, and local communities about the need to increase the size and frequency of bond sales. We are encouraging school districts to pass school board resolutions in support of this effort; please contact the CASH office for more information.

Legislative Update

The Legislature reconvened in Sacramento on January 3, 2018, to kick off the second year of the two-year legislative session. Bill introductions began at that time, and CASH staff will be reviewing new bill proposals to evaluate potential impacts on school facilities. The deadline to introduce bills is February, 16, 2018; after that, committee hearings to review detailed policy proposals will begin in earnest. Around that time, budget subcommittees will also begin their work to review the details of the Governor’s FY 2018-19 budget proposal.



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Bills that failed to meet legislative deadlines in 2017 are called “two-year bills” and have a second opportunity to move forward in this legislative session. In order to stay alive, they must meet tight deadlines, including passage out of the house of origin by January 31, 2018.

There is a major leadership transition on the horizon in the State Senate, where Toni Atkins has been selected by her fellow senators to succeed Senate President Pro Tem Kevin de León. It is unclear when the transition will take place. Senator Atkins previously served as Assembly Speaker, the top leadership role in that house.

AB 195 (Obermolte)

CASH was recently made aware of AB 195, which will likely have significant impacts to local school bond elections. During the legislative process in 2017, the bill was characterized as a technical clean-up that would have minimal impacts. AB 195 requires a local ballot measure that imposes a tax or raises the rate of a tax to include on the ballot label the amount of money to be raised annually and the rate and duration of the tax to be levied. This additional information would count toward the 75-word cap for ballot labels. There is not currently legal consensus on whether this new law will require local school bonds to provide this information, or if it just applies to parcel taxes, and how much latitude a district has in specifying this information. If your district is considering a bond in 2018, we strongly encourage you to discuss this issue with your legal counsel.

New State Policy for Agricultural Pesticide Use Near K-12 Schools and Daycare Centers

In late 2017, the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) approved Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) regulations (DPR Modified Proposed Regulation 16-004) regarding pesticide applications near K-12 schools and childcare. The regulations establish minimum distance standards for certain agricultural pesticide applications near schools and annual notifications to schools. The goal is to reduce the chances of unintended pesticide exposure to children by increasing communication between growers, County Agricultural Commissioners, and schools. *The new regulations take effect on January 1, 2018.* More information, including facts sheets and dedicated website, can be found at www.cdpr.ca.gov/schoolnotify.

The following is a summary of the major components of the regulations:

Who Is Involved?

- School Administrators – Receive annual pesticide use notification from nearby growers.
- County Agricultural Commissioners – Enforce regulations and answer questions.
- Growers – Follow pesticide use restrictions and provide annual pesticide use notification.

Pesticide Use Restrictions

- Growers cannot make certain types of pesticide applications Monday through Friday between 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
- Exceptions apply (when a school is closed, for example).



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- Instances where extended restriction days are necessary or extracurricular activities need to be addressed are handled through a written statement between the school, the County Agricultural Commissioner and the grower.

Annual Pesticide Use Notification

- Growers must provide annual written notification of all agricultural pesticides that may be used on fields within ¼ mile of a school – no exceptions.
- The notification will include: 1) map of field and schoolsite, 2) list of pesticides that may be applied, and 3) contact information for grower and County Agricultural Commissioner.
- Pesticides not on the annual notification may be used as long as the grower amends the notification at least 48 hours before use.
- Annual notifications must be sent to schools by April 30 of every year, beginning in 2018.
- A new grower, through purchase or lease of fields, is required to provide a notification to schools within 30 days of assuming control of the property.

Website and Fact Sheet: Resources for Schools

- The DPR will establish a website that will allow schools to verify site boundaries and view the annual pesticide use notification(s). If the boundaries of the schoolsite are incorrect, schools can redraw them in the website (the County Agricultural Commissioner will review and approve changes).
- The DPR will provide Fact Sheets to supplement the website.

Newly Revised CASH Facility Inspection Tool (FIT) Guidebook Available

Although the Facility Inspection Tool (FIT) has been a very useful document since it was first introduced in 2007, practitioners in the field have expressed the need for a user guide that could assist them to “fill in the blanks” when conducting school facility inspections. To address this need, CASH developed a FIT guidebook that provided practical information, specific examples and useful “tips” on how to best utilize the FIT. Since 2007, the FIT and CASH FIT Guidebook have become widely-used and valuable tools for school maintenance and facility departments, and county offices of education across California. While these documents have proven to be very useful tools, ten years have passed, and much has changed in California.

The biggest change occurred in 2012 when California’s school finance system underwent a radical change with the creation of the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) and its Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP). In the transition to the LCFF, “Categorical Programs” were eliminated and merged with LCFF Base Funding. For school maintenance and facilities departments, this means that the Deferred Maintenance Program funding (averaging about \$250 million annually), and the required local match, are no longer earmarked for school maintenance. While the dedicated funding has been removed, the statutory requirement to maintain schools in “Good Repair” has been incorporated into the LCAP’s “Priority 1/Basic Services.”



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The goal of the updated 2017 CASH FIT Guidebook (which can be found online at www.cashnet.org/TheNewsroom.htm) was to ensure that the Guidebook retained the basic architecture of the first version, but was updated to reflect the significant changes in State maintenance funding programs as a result of the LCAP, new requirements as a result of Federal and State legislation, and updated resources.

The following is a summary of the changes:

- Updated “How to Use This Guidebook”
- Adds “Integrating Facility Needs and Improvements Into Your LCAP”
- Adds “County Offices of Education Important Part of the LCFF/LCAP Process”
- Adds “School Violence and Disaster Preparedness”
- Adds “Funding Your School Maintenance Program”
- Adds “School M&O Departments Need a Strong Communication Strategy”
- Adds additional resources and Best Practices on how to address new and emerging school maintenance issues.

Upcoming Networking Mixers

Join your fellow school facility professionals at a CASH Networking Mixer! These mixers are open to all school facilities professionals, no RSVP required.

Escondido – Stone Brewery Mezzanine Room
Thursday, January 18, 2018 | 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
1999 Citracado Parkway, Escondido, CA 92029
Testing beer, wine and appetizers will be provided.
Beverages and appetizers sponsored by Erickson Hall, BakerNowicki Design Studio, The KYA Group and Tandus Centiva.

Questions about the CASH Networking Mixers? Please contact Mike Vail at (949) 498-8993 or mgvailsancllemente@sbcglobal.net.

For the latest updates on important matters affecting school facilities, be sure to check the CASH Register news website, www.cashfacilitiesnews.org.

CASH is on Facebook! Click the Facebook link on the CASH homepage to connect with us. You can also follow us on Twitter at @CASHFacilities.