

Community Bond Oversight Committee
Co-chairs Cheryl Bradley and Lori Moya
February 2025

Members of the Board of Trustees,

As co-chairs of the Community Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC), and in compliance with our charge, we submit this report for your review.

The CBOC's charge is to provide oversight of all bonds underway in Austin ISD. Our oversight is focused on ensuring bond projects remain faithful to the voter-approved scope and that they are completed on time, with quality and within budget. The district staff provides valuable updates on their progress, including any challenges they face and the strategies they use to meet the overall project scope.

We have worked closely with Austin ISD staff to create the 2024 Annual Report to the Board, which details progress of the 2013, 2017 and 2022 bond programs and conveys key findings to the Board as of June 2024. In this report, you will find the status of bond projects that are completed and underway, financial reports, information on the district's work with historically underutilized businesses, sustainability efforts and ongoing bond communications.

Because this report is being submitted in early 2025, we have included attachments to this letter that outline additional work and decisions that have been made between June 2024 and January 2025 so that the board can have a clear understanding of where the bond programs stand at this point in time. Please see the additional pages of this letter for that information.

We sincerely appreciate your efforts and dedication as board members that have made these transformational investments possible for our Austin ISD community.

Regards,

Cheryl Bradley
Lori Moya

Bond Program Financial Status

The CBOC would like to ensure the Board of Trustees is aware of the real estate update on page 18 under the 2017 Bond Finances section. This section mentions that the district has not identified any land sales, leases, or other opportunities to provide the \$40 million in unspecified real estate revenue that was included in the 2017 Bond Program referendum approved by voters to fund a portion of the bond program. If sources for this income are not identified, surplus bond funds may be needed to fund this gap.

Issues, Risks and Substantial Changes

Program-wide Challenges and Strategies

The CBOC would like to call out the information on page 31 related to the challenges the district is facing on the 2022 Bond. Due to staffing limitations, competition in the market, material availability, long-lead times and more, the district is seeing budget overages of 30-40 percent on projects. These challenges and overages are seen on projects globally. The report highlights the strategies the district is taking to combat these challenges.

As a committee, we recommend exploring cost-saving measures, including replacing LEED certification requirements with adopted performance standards and/or Austin Energy Green Building (AEGB) certification. LEED certification is costly, and the district can achieve the same sustainability goals by integrating performance criteria into the Educational Specifications (Ed Specs). AEGB, which influenced the development of LEED's rating system, provides a more cost-effective alternative without compromising sustainability. By establishing clear sustainability requirements in contracts and maintaining control over facility standards, AISD can effectively meet its environmental objectives while optimizing budget resources.

Notice of Significant Change

The June 2024 CBOC Report to the Board of Trustees includes information on page 32 about the Notice of Significant Change. This information is accurate as of June 2024, but since then, Burnet Middle School has gone through the NSC process, and the opening date changed from Q1 2027 to Q3 2027.

House Park

Page 34 of the CBOC Report highlights issues and significant changes with the 2017 Bond project at House Park. Progress has been made since June 2024 and the CBOC would like to ensure board members are aware of where that project stands now. Updates since June 2024 include:

The district is now in the final stages of the site permit process. The final building layout has been reviewed by Coach Jason Glenn and design adjustments have been made to better serve

