

September 2023

Dear OUSD Measure G Staff

As the Chair and longest tenured member of the Measure G Committee, it has become clear to me that the committee must restructure the way we engage to comply with the fiduciary requirements of the measure.

The Measure G Committee has failed to conduct consistent efforts as a body. We have been unable to adhere to the annual 8-9 meeting schedule; instead, we typically conduct meetings just 3-4 times a year. We have had significant challenges in obtaining quorum, much of this is due to not consistently having a minimum of four Commissioners at any given time (As you know, our committee is designed for seven members). The greatest number of Commissioners I have experienced in my tenure is five, and that situation existed in less than four months of my four years on this Committee.

What results is that we are unable to provide analysis and thorough review of the budget and processes, and we are many months to years behind in our evaluation of how funds have been allocated. Not only are we playing 'catch up,' but we are exhausting limited OUSD resources, as each meeting must be fully staffed with personnel to support. We have had no fewer than half a dozen meetings over the last two years that have been cancelled due to lack of quorum; some of these meetings were cancelled after staff had shown up fully prepared to conduct business.

Moreover, we have not had any significant community presence at our meetings. Most of our agenda items go without public comment, and I cannot recall more than three public persons speaking to any specific agenda item in my tenure.

In short, we cannot field a consistent committee engagement, we cannot garner community engagement, and we are leveraging many resources given our current format.

I have mentioned to both supporting OUSD staff and the Committee members that I strongly believe we need to limit our meeting times to 3 annual meetings. The Measure G Committee is an advisory committee with no regulatory powers, and it is possible for us to provide substantive recommendations to OUSD under a limited meeting schedule.

I would like to place this proposal as an agenda item for the Committee members in the September meeting. (Restructuring Measure G Committee annual meeting schedule)

Sincerely,

Harold Lowe, Chair, Measure G Committee