



Santa Barbara City College

Measure P Frequently Asked Questions

How does Santa Barbara City College serve our local community?

Santa Barbara City College (SBCC) has provided affordable college education and career training to local students for over 100 years. Offering a wide range of high-quality undergraduate degrees, university-transfer courses, dual enrollment, certificate programs, career and technical education, SBCC provides affordable access to the education and job training students need to succeed and the skilled workers needed to fuel our local economy.

How is community college education changing?

With the rising cost of four-year colleges and universities, nearly half of local students rely on community colleges like SBCC for affordable higher education at a fraction of the cost of Cal State, University of California (UC) and private universities. SBCC provides local students who can't afford high university prices with an opportunity to succeed in college and their future careers.

Do many students transfer to SBCC to UC or Cal State schools?

Yes. In fact, SBCC ranks fourth among California community colleges for student transfers to the UC system.

What is the state of SBCC's facilities?

While SBCC has served the community well for decades, most college facilities were built over 60 years ago and need repairs and upgrades to meet current academic and safety standards. Some classrooms were built so long ago that they have asbestos and lead pipes, and do not meet current earthquake safety standards.

How can SBCC repair and upgrade aging facilities?

To repair and upgrade aging college facilities, local funding is needed. That is why the SBCC Board of Trustees voted to place Measure P, a \$198 million facilities improvement bond measure, on the November 2024 ballot. Measure P would simply **extend the current bond tax rate previously approved by voters**.

Why is Measure P needed to fund facility improvements?

The State provides very limited funding for improvements to community college facilities. Local funding is needed to address these needs at our school and continue providing a high-quality education to local students for jobs and university transfer.

What projects would be funded by Measure P?

If approved by voters, Measure P would provide funding to:



Provide modern science labs, career training facilities and equipment so students are prepared for in-demand careers in fields like nursing, health sciences, engineering, chemistry, technology and skilled trades



Repair or replace leaky roofs, old rusty plumbing and faulty electrical systems



Remove hazardous materials like asbestos and lead pipes where needed



Upgrade older buildings so they meet current health and building safety codes, and provide proper access for students with disabilities



Retrofit older buildings so they are earthquake safe



Modernize classrooms, labs and equipment to keep pace with current industry standards

How much would Measure P cost?

If approved by voters, Measure P would simply **extend the current bond tax rate previously approved by voters** of \$8.50 per \$100,000 of assessed (not market) value generating up to \$198 million in locally controlled funding for improvements to college facilities. Measure P **would not increase the tax rate** beyond previously approved rates.



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Would Measure P raise tax rates?

No. Measure P **would not increase the tax rates beyond the rate already approved by voters.**

What fiscal accountability protections would be included in Measure P?

Measure P includes strict accountability and local control requirements, including:

- By law, all funds from Measure P may only be used to improve SBCC facilities
- No funds from Measure P could be taken away by the State or diverted to other uses
- An independent citizens' oversight committee, mandatory annual audits and public disclosure of all Measure P spending is required
- No funds raised by Measure P could be used for administrator salaries or benefits
- Measure P **would not increase current tax rates beyond the rate already approved by voters**

Haven't we already voted on a college facilities measure?

Yes. In 2008, voters in Santa Barbara Community College District approved Measure V, a \$77.2 million college facilities improvement bond measure with a 70.4% vote in favor. Measure P **will simply extend the current tax rate previously approved by voters.** Additionally, in 2014, voters in were asked to vote on Measure S, a college facilities improvement bond measure. Measure S was unsuccessful, receiving a 50.3% vote in favor.

Would passage of Measure P help SBCC qualify for state matching funds?

Yes. Measure P would help Santa Barbara City College qualify for state matching funds that would otherwise go to improve schools and colleges in other communities. In fact, SBCC has already qualified for millions in state matching funds that cannot be accessed without the local matching funds. SBCC's access to these state funds will expire soon without the local matching funds from a bond measure.

What is the difference between assessed and market value?

The cost of bond measures is based on the assessed value of properties. The assessed value of a property is based on the original purchase price and may not increase by more than 2% a year while the market value tends to grow at a much faster rate based on market conditions. Thus, the assessed value is usually much lower than the market value, especially if a property was purchased long ago at a much lower price than it could be purchased for today. It is this lower assessed value upon which the cost of a bond measure is based.

Could the State take away Measure P funds?

No. Every penny from Measure P would stay local to support SBCC. None of these funds could be taken away by the State.

When will Measure P appear on the ballot?

Measure P will appear on the November 2024 ballot.

How can I learn more or ask questions about Measure P?

To share your input or ask questions, please contact SBCCBond@SBCC.edu.

