

COMMENT FROM THE PUBLIC

Wayne Kuntz, President and Director
Mary Brennan, Vice-President and Director
John Merchant, Director
Dick Taylor, Director
Bill White, Director

Rancho Murieta Community Services District
P.O. Box 1050
Rancho Murieta, Ca. 95683-1050

DECEMBER 15, 2004

COSUMNES RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL & RANCHO MURIETA COMMUNITY CENTER

As most of you know by now Elk Grove Unified School District is planning to construct a replacement school facility for Cosumnes River Elementary which will hopefully welcome students no later than the Fall of 2007. The student population for the "new" Cosumnes River School will primarily come from within the Rancho Murieta community.

It is expected that EGUSD will spend between 12 and 13 million dollars on the "new" CRES. There are a number of obstacles yet to be overcome, but generally it is expected that sometime in February or March the CEQA document will be completed and adopted and the District can move forward with acquiring the land. The property selected by EGUSD is a portion of two larger pieces of property owned by the Frank Family of about 15 acres. Paul Frank and his family are residents of Rancho Murieta.

The current plans for the school call for a 'basic' elementary school to handle around 850 students. Completing the final plans and bid package, bid opening, and selecting a contractor should take place during the balance of 2005. For the school to be open by the Fall of 2007, construction must start by May of 2006.

A number of years ago, a community based group of about 80 concerned parents formed *Operation Education* and has been pushing for the school completion at the earliest possible date. That group is headed by Tom J. Shewchuk. In addition to looking for an early completion date of a new home for the Roadrunners, they would like to see a number of "upgrades" from the 'basic' package that is currently planned by EGUSD. Those upgrades would need to be submitted with the Construction application to the Office of the State Architect.

The 'upgrades' discussed by Operation Education include:

- Multi-Purpose Room upgrades
- Library and Science Room upgrades
- Child care facilities, and
- Improved and expanded playfields

Rancho Murieta Community Services District

COMMENT FROM THE PUBLIC

This is where Rancho Murieta CSD could come in. The timeline from now until the submission of final plans to the state architect provides the community a one-time opportunity to assist in upgrading the facility from a standard school, and assist by committing to entering into a "Joint Use Agreement" and providing the funding necessary to have an expanded educational environment, plus a expanded community center. The expanded community center would also double as an emergency evacuation center.

I've come here this evening to begin the policy discussion and respectfully request that Rancho Murieta Community Services District take the steps necessary to help facilitate these upgrades. For CSD to become involved, I would envision CSD becoming a "lead" Joint Use Partner, along with Elk Grove Unified School District, and possibly add other agencies and non-profits and maybe even elements of higher education.

The current best estimate of the upgrades which would need to be committed to in advance of the plans going to the State would be between \$2.2 and \$3.0 million. EGUSD is in the process of providing working schematics for the increased building size for the multi-purpose room portion of the improvements, since that upgrade requires the largest change in the footprint on the new Cosumnes River campus.

The office of Public School Construction has a program to cost share these kinds of improvements, up to \$1 million with a 50% match. They require the project to be part of a new construction application with a joint use agreement in-place. Additionally, there are certain federal matches for some of the costs associated with the upgrade for emergency evacuation centers, but the route to cost sharing is less defined. Robert Schultz, Information Technology Manager of the Sacramento County Sheriffs Department has extensively researched this element in relation to a project he proposed for eastern Sacramento County, some months ago. He is one of the committee persons of Operation Education.

Over the next 120 days, this project either will or won't happen. Only RMCS D has the ability to make it work efficiently and involve the broader community effectively through the public process to make it happen.

My firm belief is that an expanded Cosumnes River Elementary School and Community Center would be good for Our Community. It is the most important project in the last 10 years for the long term benefit of Rancho Murieta and our surrounding neighboring community.

I would be pleased to answer any questions.

COMMENT FROM THE PUBLIC

Contact:

JOHN SULLIVAN
P O BOX 1230
RANCHO MURIETA, CA 95683

916 354 9630

OPERATION EDUCATION
TOM J. SHEWCHUK, CHAIRMAN
14925 TRINIDAD COURT
RANCHO MURIETA, CA 95683

916 354 1374

&

ROBERT SCHULTZ, COMMITTEE PERSON
6549 Via De Robles DRIVE
RANCHO MURIETA, CA. 95683

916 354 2537