

## Does Washoe County School District Need More Money for Repairs and Renovations?

The answer is no. Here it is in writing, clear as can be. What more do you need? Confirmed by WCSD Mr. Sutton and COO Mr. Etchart, Pedro Martinez and the Oversight Committee minutes.

From WCSD Riley Sutton August 2016 edited and underline added for brevity) From: RSutton@WashoeSchools.net Aug 15, 2016 9:21 AM

“In FY 15-16 we bonded for \$20 million based on the rollover authority. We could have bonded for more, however, there were a lot of reasons we did not. We knew what we wanted to spend \$20M in repairs on, so we bonded for that. ...While we could have used the additional bonding capacity to fund more repairs and renovations, we do not currently have the staffing capacity to plan and oversee those projects. ... We're trying to hire additional folks now. ..”

The \$20M is for improvements/repairs/renovations, nothing has been said about what that other \$15M might be used for the reasons I stated below (we don't have the staff capacity to handle that in additional repairs projects right this moment, nor is it enough to build a school)... (8-15-16)

[RSutton@WashoeSchools.net](mailto:RSutton@WashoeSchools.net) Date: Aug 16, 2016 3:02 PM

I just got an answer back from Finance... For FY 15-16, we received about \$52M from the treasurer in property taxes for our capital fund...

We do anticipate some more growth, which is factored into the \$315 million estimate over the next decade.

And:

Oversight Board Minutes December 2015: "\$35 million being approved today will to be used for facilities improvement this school year... ... Washoe County School District is proposing to issue a bond not to exceed \$35 million. This is tentatively scheduled for initially \$20 million and then \$15 million later in the year.

AND:

Pete Etchart (Chief Logistics and Operations Officer, Washoe County School District): Senate Committee on Revenue and Economic Development April 9, 2015 :

The passage of the bond rollover extension provides an average of approximately \$20 million a year in funding through 2023. This is roughly the amount the District requires for critical repairs to existing schools and to continue the process of renovating the 40-plus-year-old facilities. ... Accounting for school repairs, renovations and growth, the Washoe County School District will conservatively need \$20 million a year.

And:

PEDRO MARTINEZ: Assembly Taxation Feb 19, 2013

We know right now that, at a minimum, we are going to have \$20 million of repairs we are going to have to make every year. Having this \$20 million dedicated revenue source

would allow us to be responsibly proactive on our buildings, rather than waiting for things to break, having to make emergency repairs, putting our children in danger, and paying a huge price for it.

And:

Letter to State LCB June 2014 from Oversight Committee/ See Minutes too

I find this to be a complete admission as already shown by other data. The WCSD claims of needing money for repairs is 100% false or is Mr. Sutton wrong? Was Mr. Etchart wrong? Was Pedro Martinez wrong. Was the info presented to the Oversight committee wrong? Of course not!

They got \$52 million in FY 15-16 specifically for Capital Projects!

They did approve bonding of \$35 million and did bond \$20 for repairs and renovations, could have bonded more, it was an internal decision not to use all the \$35 FY15 only money for repairs not a lack of money! That 35M is each year for an estimated \$315 to \$350 million over 10 years. The failure to do more repairs and projects is blamed on staffing not tax money! A refreshing admission, although I think the real motive by some was promoting WC1 under the sky is falling scenario. Complete email on request.

MEDIA: This is the smoking gun admission. What more do you need? It completely contradicts the Pro-W1 argument about more money solving the (repair & renovation) problem. You just can't spin this. They have \$15 million more they can bond anytime they want if the \$20 doesn't cover it.

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