Facilities Needs at Shoreline Schools and Measure "I": Frequently Asked Questions

At Shoreline Unified School District, we are proud of the education we provide and the values we share with our students. We are proud of all the communities we serve, up and down our beautiful part of the California coast. However, as everyone knows, the weather here is punishing, and our homes and other school buildings bear the brunt. Indeed, the classrooms and facilities in Shoreline Unified age much more quickly than schools in most other parts of the State.

As such, we continue to work hard to understand our current facilities needs, anticipate major repairs and upgrades, and identify other capital improvements that will further enhance the excellent education we provide to our students. Earlier this year, our facilities team reviewed all our campuses and updated our needs assessment. The results, including cost estimates totaling nearly $40 million, and other information can be found on our website: shorelineunified.org

At the same time, we have been examining all potential funding options and are aggressively pursuing many. However, to fully address our facilities needs, we need a new local investment. So, after gaining considerable input from the community – and allowing it to shape our priorities and our overall plans – the Board has placed Measure "I" on the November ballot.

What is Measure "I"?
Measure "I" is a $19.5 million General Obligation (GO) bond that would repair and improve classrooms and facilities at all Shoreline schools, including:

- Repairing and modernizing outdated classrooms and facilities
- Upgrading, replacing and installing infrastructure (roofs, siding, windows, etc.)
- Replacing older portables
- Building new classrooms and facilities
- Improving technology, connectivity and access

The Board's current list of specific priorities is on the District's website: shorelineunified.org

What are General Obligation (GO) bonds?
GO bonds are a form of voter-approved debt issued by school districts, commonly used to pay for capital improvements to classrooms and other school facilities. GO bonds have funded a significant portion of school construction projects here in Shoreline and across the State. They can help communities qualify for State matching funds as well. The source of repayment for GO bonds is a property tax levy on all taxable property – residential, agricultural, commercial, and industrial – located within District boundaries.

What would Measure "I" cost me?
If Measure "I" is approved by voters, the projected annual tax rate levied to repay issued bonds is expected to be $39 per $100,000 of a property's taxable value. Taxable values are typically lower than market value, due to Prop. 13 limits. If Measure "I" is approved and bonds are issued, the tax will appear on property owners' future property tax bills, beginning in fiscal year 2019-20. Similar to a home loan, Measure "I" bonds are expected to be repaid over approximately 27 years. The total repayment is projected to cost approximately $37.7 million. This estimated repayment ratio of $1.93 for each dollar borrowed is also similar to a typical home mortgage – though the specific amount will be determined by many factors that exist at the time that voter-approved GO bonds are actually sold (interest rates, bond market conditions, etc.).

Is Measure "I" is responsible?
Understanding many of the concerns that have been raised about other school bond measures, Measure "I" has been written in accordance with all legal requirements, including transparency requirements in the form of citizens' oversight and annual audits of bond spending. Also, Measure "I" includes additional binding covenants, such as a limit on the repayment ratio and a prohibition on the issuance of capital appreciation bonds, which can be a costly form of financing.

Who can vote on Measure "I"?
Election Day is Tuesday, November 6th, and all of the voters within the boundaries of Shoreline Unified (in Marin and Sonoma counties) will be able to vote on Measure "I".