

Annual Report

A look at 2009 and the year ahead

January 19, 2009

The past year has been an active one for the Bond Accountability Commission, and 2010 promises to be even more so.

The transformation plan announced January 5, 2010, if adopted by the Board of Education, will have a significant impact on the Cleveland Metropolitan School District's construction program and the spending of taxpayer money under Issue 14 – focal points of the BAC's mission as an independent public monitor.

The District also will launch Segment 5 of the 10-segment construction program this year. The segment, which includes four high schools, is expected to cost local taxpayers \$90 million to \$100 million, plus interest. The BAC will monitor expenditures and the pace of construction. It has advocated that Cleveland's citizens have an opportunity to influence the design of these schools through school-by-school Core Teams of students, parents, teachers, neighbors and other community representatives.

Segment 5 will also be the District's first under a requirement of the Ohio School Facilities Commission that all schools be designed and built to energy-conservation and environmental-responsibility standards established by the U.S. Green Building Council. This was the subject of a BAC report in December 2009, and the BAC will report on Segment 5 green innovations as they are developed.

The District will need to issue bonds or notes to finance Segment 5 construction, and the BAC plans to report on the sales, with an eye to whether taxpayer interests are protected. In that regard, the BAC late in 2009 retained a team of consultants to analyze the District's conduct of previous bond and note sales under Issue 14, and their final report is expected this spring.

The BAC has taken a strong interest in whether Cleveland residents and contractors have an opportunity to participate in the construction program, sponsoring forums during the past year to address issues among representatives of labor, contractors and the School District. More activity on that front will occur this year.

The public has had an opportunity to interact with the BAC at open meetings held every two months at Cleveland schools and other public locations. Each meeting has included presentation of a report on the construction program's progress, including activities at each school in the active segments, as well as a budget report.

In all, the BAC issued 13 written reports in 2009. All of the reports are posted on the District's Web site at <http://net.cmsdnet.net/Administration/BAC.htm>.

Finally, on a number of occasions the BAC has reported on the construction Master Plan of 2008, calling on the District to adjust allocation of plan school space to expected enrollment. The transformation plan addresses this issue. In addition, the OSFC will likely require reduction of the Master Plan, and the BAC will report on whether this is accomplished in a way that reflects academic-neighborhood population.

The BAC's mission

The Bond Accountability Commission is an independent, non-profit, all-volunteer organization appointed by Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson.

In authorizing the current BAC, the Cleveland Metropolitan School District Board of Education resolved that the Commission's responsibilities include monitoring implementation of and revisions to the Facilities Master Plan; working to review the design, engineering, contract bidding and awards, procurement, and construction of projects funded by the voter-approved Issue 14 (May 2001); communicating its findings to the community; regularly reporting to the Board; holding at least quarterly public meetings; and issuing an annual report.

A Memorandum of Understanding signed in February 2007 by leaders of the Bond Accountability Commission 2, Inc., and the School District says the mission of the BAC is "to monitor and inform the public concerning the expenditure of funds by the School District for the School Facilities Projects." The memorandum says that to accomplish its mission, the BAC has the "authority to monitor and review the development, content and implementation of the Facilities Master Plan; the construction of the School Facilities Projects; and the expenditure of Issue 14 Funds."

The memorandum says the District commits to support the oversight process by providing access to records, documents and other information, and adds that "this information will enable full and fair participation by the public in the evaluation of the School District's plans to acquire, build, repair, replace, and modernize the School Facilities."

BAC meetings and report summaries

January 24, 2009: Memorial-Nottingham Branch, Cleveland Public Library.

BAC retreat (open to the public):

Discussion topics included the general financial health of the District; possible ways to improve cost efficiency in the District's construction program, including the possibility of bulk purchasing; ways to verify the inclusion of minorities, women and CMSD residents in the construction workforce; the BAC's own financial outlook; analysis of the District's strategy for funding the construction program through Issue 14 and beyond; and questions about the planned scope of Cleveland School of the Arts and Max Hayes Vocational High School.

Jan. 26, 2009: Campus Center Lounge, Cuyahoga Community College, Metro Campus.

Program:

Representatives from Turner Logistics, which was retained by the Cincinnati Public Schools to coordinate bulk purchasing for the Cincinnati district's construction program, presented an overview of how their program works.

Reports:

Progress Update 9: Construction is completing at three of the nine Segment 3 schools, and classes are to begin at two of them after the District's winter break. The current completion targets for the nine Segment 3 schools range from three to nine months behind schedule. In Segment 4, work is under way at two schools, contracts were to be awarded this month for two more, bids were advertised in December for three schools, and another is to be bid soon. Design work continues for the remaining two. Current completion targets range from August 2010 to January 2011, 14 to 20 months behind the schedule. The Board of Education approved a revised Master Plan at the end of July 2008, and the OSFC approved it in late November, allowing architectural work to begin on the 11 schools of Segment 5. The District will need to secure more money through a bond issue planned for early 2009 before the OSFC will provide co-funding. The District hopes to begin design of the five Segment 6 schools in the second half of 2009. The estimated cost of Segment 3 is 22.3 percent above the Project Agreement budget, and of Segment 4, 21.5 percent over budget. It appears that the District will lack sufficient funding to complete Segment 7 as currently envisioned.

Master Plan Update 9: Core Teams are supposed to work with architects as each school is designed. In November 2008, school principals in each of the Segment 3, 4 and 5 schools were asked to assemble Core Teams including the principal, the Student Parent Organization president, parents of current students, students, Cleveland Teachers Union representative, the District-employed family liaison, City Council representatives, religious leaders, Community Development Organization director, city planning liaison, ward club leader, civic club representatives, neighborhood residents, business partners, and city Building and Housing Department representative. If that is done, the Core Teams will be a great improvement over previous rosters, which were predominantly employees of the District. The District's Web pages for the building program are in serious need of updating. The new Master Plan is not shown. The segment-by-segment list of schools is for the defunct Master Plan. The last Construction Manager's report posted was for February 2008. The Core Team lists have not been updated. The District says that several potential sites have been identified for the new West Side Relief High School and that once the architects have been selected for Segment 5, they will do feasibility studies of the sites and help prepare cost/benefit analysis of the options. Part of the designated Hayes site at West 65th St. and Walworth Ave. is contaminated by chemicals from a former dry-cleaning plant. Several members of the Board of Education have expressed concern about this. The District Administration has expressed the preliminary view that,

based on reports from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and consultants, the contaminated portion can safely be used for the school after minimal excavation and covering the area with a parking lot.

Community Inclusion Update 5: The District's diversity officer and deputy chief of capital projects outlined efforts to verify the accuracy of contractor certified payroll reports that are the basis of District reporting on workforce composition regarding minorities, women and District residents. Those efforts consist largely of spot checks of workforce composition during random visits to construction sites. However, as the diversity officer noted, site visits only give a picture of the workforce at the time of the visit. The District had advertised for bids for an outside organization to perform more extensive monitoring of worksite composition, but the contract had not been awarded. As an alternative, the District was said to be considering other methods of verification, such as a "thumbprint" time clock system used on some non-District projects. In response to BAC inquiries, the District audited its reports on contracting with minority- and female-owned companies and found numerous errors. New reports, beginning in October, show a decrease in involvement of prime minority- and female-owned firms, but increases in subcontracting for those categories. The overall result is improved performance of more than two percentage points, to 35.8 percent as of Dec. 31, 2008. The District's goal for construction is 30%. The District's contracting report now also identifies the minority- and female-owned subcontractors listed by the prime contractors. Of 18 Max Hayes High students recruited for the post-graduate pre-apprenticeship program of UCIP-ASAP, 14 accepted and began training; and 11 of those completed the training; of those, seven were in varying stages of apprenticeship and working in related fields, while four had apprenticeship status but were still awaiting placement in a work-related field, according to the District. The BAC previously noted a number of problem areas in Max Hayes construction trades training, some of which were noted in the District's own evaluation in May 2007, and has suggested possible improvements. Among those problems are union reluctance to participate on grounds of District refusal to relieve the unions of financial responsibility for student injury, lack of transportation for students for field trips and required on-the-job training, union complaints of inadequate math skills, lack of certain training deemed by unions to be necessary, and lack of adequate student preparedness to participate successfully in the workforce. Aside from the cooperative effort with UCIP-ASAP, no improvements have been announced, although the District has suggested it could make curriculum changes at Max Hayes that may allow 2009 Hayes graduates to "test out" of the ASAP program and directly enter union apprenticeships.

March 18, 2009: Campus Center Lounge, Cuyahoga Community College, Metropolitan Campus.

Program:

James Fortlage, CMSD chief financial officer, and assistant Dennis Kubick provided an update on the District's plans to issue bonds for the facilities program. The \$55 million issue would exhaust the Issue 14 authorization provided by voters in May 2001. They also distributed copies of the District's facilities program financial status as

of the end of February 2009, and Mr. Kubick provided an analysis of Master Plan cash flow.

Mr. Fortlage listed six firms that the District had selected to be members of the underwriting team for the \$55 million bond issue.

Regarding the possible CMSD benefits of alternatives to traditional tax-exempt municipal bonds, such as federally subsidized, taxable Qualified School Construction Bonds and Build America Bonds, Mr. Fortlage said there were still too many questions to say which type, or combination of types, might be best. However, he promised that the District would thoroughly investigate.

Mr. Fortlage said that the District had no firm timeline for issuing the bonds, saying that improving market conditions and other factors suggested wisdom of waiting for a period. He said the District had no pressing needs for the funds in the short term.

Regarding retirement of \$15 million in notes that the District issued in late 2008, due in September 2009, Mr. Fortlage said that depending on what the District does with the bond sale, it will have enough in the bond retirement fund to retire the note or will roll over any outstanding balance as part of a new issue.

Reports:

Bulk Purchasing: Commissioner Sanchez reports that the District is interested in the idea of bulk-purchasing for the facilities program and is continuing to assess feasibility.

Program Progress Update 10: The District is now about \$5.6 million short of the money needed to complete Segment 7 as planned.

Federal Stimulus Legislation: The federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of February 2009 may provide opportunities for facilities program funding. Grants would be distributed through the state government, which means availability of any money cannot be certain until the biennial state budget is approved, which usually occurs on the last day of June. The District has not applied for any renovation funds. The ARRA authorizes issuance of new types of tax-credit bonds that could save District taxpayers millions of dollars.

May 19, 2009: Garfield K-8, 3800 West 140th St.

Program:

Gary Sautter, CMSD deputy chief of capital projects, gave a brief rundown of the active construction segments.

Addressing numerous residents of the John Marshall High academic neighborhood in attendance, he said the District still needed to have its plans for the high school approved by the City Plan Commission and Landmarks Commission and needed to engage in more community dialogue to determine whether the plan to build a new Marshall for 1,400 students will be possible and is the best option.

Asked whether the District had recruited Core Teams to work with Segment 5 architects, Mr. Sautter mentioned that the District's outreach coordinator, Lee Fields, was on medical leave. Rhonda Saegert, principal of Marshall, said that all principals had been asked to recruit Core Teams, but that there had not been much dialogue. Ian Heisey of the Bellaire-Puritas Development Corp. clarified that the Marshall Core Team had not met.

Asked whether Core Team meetings would be posted on the District's Web site, Mr. Sautter responded in the affirmative.

BAC Commissioner Nancy Schuster suggested that the District needed a central, over-arching Core group to advise the District on recruiting and energizing Core Teams. Mr. Sautter said that this made sense and that he would bring it up with consultants. She asked for a report on Core Teams.

Asked about the status of the West Side high school, Mr. Sautter said several sites were under consideration, including near Halle school and a city-owned industrial site at West 110th St. and Berea Road. He said some sites would require \$1 million to \$1.5 million and up to a year and a half for property acquisition. He said the problem with announcing sites in advance is that the property owners can use that information to demand higher prices. He said the District had been in contact with Council members Keane, Westbrook, Zone and Sweeney regarding the matter.

Reports:

Program Progress Update 11: All Segment 3 schools except Willson will be open for the start of the next school year. Construction or site work is under way for a number of Segment 4 schools, though the occupancy date for two, Mound and Lake, has been pushed back to March 2011. Architectural contracts for Segment 5 schools have not yet been awarded, pending results of outside consultants' study of the District's facilities needs. The District is now on pace to be short of enough Issue 14 money to build two to five of the elementary schools planned for Segment 7. The report includes a project-by-project breakdown of employment of minorities, women and District residents on facilities projects through April. The District has failed to meet its goals in those categories for Segment 3.

Municipal Debt Financing: A primer on how local governments, including school districts, finance large projects such as the CMSD facilities program by selling notes and bonds that they pay off over time with interest. The report is an educational tool to help people understand the basics of a complicated process, with references to how CMSD conducts its financing operation.

July 21, 2009: Collinwood High School auditorium, 15210 St. Clair Ave.

Forum, Community Inclusion:

Panelists for the forum on community inclusion in workforce participation and contracting: Loree Soggs, director, Cleveland Building and Construction Trades Council; Cindy Marizette, director, Union Construction Industry Partnership--Apprenticeship

Skills Achievement Program (UCIP-ASAP); Terri Sandu, director, Hard-Hatted Women; Glenn Shumate, Construction Employers Association of Cleveland; Nicholas Jackson, District executive staff, and Gary Sautter, District deputy chief of capital projects.

Mr. Soggs said the UCIP-ASAP program was patterned after a model created by Hard Hatted Women. The program each year gives eight weeks of intensive training to three classes of about 20 pre-apprentices, using full-time instructors from the building trades. The building trades unions agreed to place graduates as apprentices. That model was included in negotiations of a project labor agreement with University Hospitals for its construction program. He credited Mr. Jackson with the idea of placing UH-sponsored Max Hayes High School graduates of UCIP-ASAP into jobs on the UH project, which was included in the agreement. He said such provisions could be written into a project labor agreement with the District, if an agreement were to be negotiated.

Ms. Marizette said that since its inception in 2003, UCIP-ASAP has placed 172 of 258 graduates in apprenticeships. She said that of 14 Hayes graduates of UCIP-ASAP, 10 were placed. She said the other four did not enter the construction field. She said the program was training six Hayes graduates this summer. She said the experience of last year's class showed the need to improve the time frame between UCIP-ASAP graduation and apprentice placement.

Ms. Sandu said Hard-Hatted Women gets numerous calls from women, mostly Cleveland residents, who are seeking construction employment, so she thinks her organization could help contractors improve their performance regarding hiring goals established by the District. She said her organization was working with Ms. Marizette, Mr. Soggs and contractors. She said Hard-Hatted Women began its work in 1992 with the Gateway project, which she said more than 200 women helped build. She expressed belief that the percentage of women working on school projects can be improved, citing the new federal courthouse, where 7 percent of the work was done by women.

Mr. Shumate said his 90-year-old non-profit represents 150 organizations and contractors, providing bargaining and safety and education services. He said it is working with 17 students of the Cleveland schools to help them find jobs when they graduate and is working with Ohio State University to expand the program. He said his organization is working with UCIP-ASAP and Hard-Hatted Women to identify employment opportunities, and also seeks to match small contractors with work opportunities.

Mr. Jackson said the District had hired The Project Group, effective June 1, 2009, to assist in workforce-participation monitoring and reporting and in recruitment of businesses and to advocate for minority workers. He also outlined a new District program that provides for case-by-case exceptions to District rules barring people convicted of certain criminal offenses from participating in the construction program.

Mr. Sautter reported that the District had recently held a contractor-awareness meeting at Rhodes High School to impress upon contractors the seriousness with which the District regards its goals for workforce participation by minorities, women and District residents and subcontracting with minority- and female-owned businesses. He said a community meeting would be held in the fall.

Reports:

Program Progress Update 12: All Segment 3 schools except Willson will be open for the start of the next school year. Construction or site work is continuing for most Segment 4 schools. The award of architectural contracts for Segment 5 schools is awaiting a final report from facilities and program consultants. Although the cost of Segment 3 is estimated at 23.6% above the target in the Project Agreement with the Ohio School Facilities Commission, the latest estimate for Segment 4 is 20.1% over the target but expected to decline, owing to lower prices for energy, steel and concrete. The District will not be able to begin actual construction of Segment 5 schools until it executes a \$55 million bond issue. Issue 14 appears insufficient to complete all of Segment 7. Two to five schools will have to be eliminated.

Master Plan Update 10 – K-8 Space Allocation: Report calls for the School District to revise the Master Plan governing the school construction and renovation program so that it better reflects the probable need for K-8 school space in the program’s planned final year, 2015. The report cites enrollment data and trends for the last year and last 11 years, showing that all academic neighborhoods have declined in enrollment, some dramatically. The Master Plan would provide enough new or fully renovated school space in 2015 for more students than some neighborhoods have now, even though those neighborhoods have suffered some of the steepest declines in the last 11 years and last year. Conversely, a few relatively stable academic neighborhoods are planned for substantial enrollment declines by 2015 under the Master Plan. Delay in adjusting the Master Plan runs the risk of preserving the apparent inequity and waste of taxpayer money for generations, because the buildings cannot be “unbuilt” or moved. The report calls for adjusting the Master Plan before each construction segment, including the pending Segment 5, to make the plan conform to the latest available enrollment data, thereby minimizing waste of tax dollars.

October 7, 2009: Buhrer K-8 school, 1600 Buhrer Ave.

Reports:

Program Progress Update 13: All schools in Segments 1 and 2 have been completed, as have eight of the nine Segment 3 elementary schools. The last Segment 3 school could open for classes this January, making the segment’s school completions five to nine months behind schedule. In Segment 4, work is under way at eight elementary schools. Current completion targets range from August 2010 to June 2011, 14 to 25 months behind the Project Agreement schedule. Segment 5 is to have 11 schools, including four high schools. The School District received architectural and engineering design bids early this year but did not award the contracts. District officials have cited a desire to await consultant studies of school needs, done as part of the ongoing Strategic Development Initiative, before awarding the Segment 5 contracts, indicating the possibility that not all Segment 5 schools will be built as planned. The latest word from the District was that the segment’s contracts will be awarded this fall. The District will need to secure more money through a bond issue before the Ohio School Facilities Commission will co-fund Segment 5. The Board of Education authorized the bond sale early this year, but the District’s chief financial officer recently said the bonds now will

probably be issued in 2010. The District sold \$15 million in School Improvement Notes on Dec. 30, 2008, to allow hiring of architects for Segment 5 without OSFC co-funding. The District previously expressed the desire to begin design of the five currently planned Segment 6 schools, all preK-8, in the second half of 2009. That plan is now on hold pending the outcome of the Strategic Development Initiative.

December 8, 2009: Ginn Academy, 655 East 162nd St.

Program:

Nick Jackson of the School District's management team explained the role of the Project Group, a consultant hired by the District to assist with worksite monitoring and other efforts to improve community inclusion of minorities, women and District residents in the construction program workforce. He presented a preliminary monitoring report by the consultant.

Tuan Bustamante, a principal of the Project Group said that field monitoring was done two to three times a week. He said the project performance of each contractor regarding the District's goals was being analyzed and weekly progress meetings were held. He said the next step would be to meet with contractors found not to be showing a good-faith effort to meet the goals. The contractors will be expected to develop a plan on how they will work to meet the goals. He spoke of creating a database of available minority, female and District residents workers to assist contractors in meeting the goals.

Reports:

Green schools / Cleveland's building program enters a new era: All schools built in the future under the state-subsidized program must meet design and construction standards for energy efficiency and environmental responsibility established under a program of the U.S. Green Building Council. The LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) program serves as a design guideline for green buildings and offers third-party validation of a building's green features. The program promotes a whole-building approach to sustainability by rating performance in site sustainability, energy and water efficiency, conservation, building materials and resources, indoor environmental quality, design innovation, and compatibility with regional environmental priorities. The LEED rating system has four levels – Certified, Silver, Gold, and Platinum -- which are awarded based on the number of criteria met during design and construction. The Cleveland District will be required to meet LEED for Schools 2009 Silver qualifications for Segments 5 through 10 of its construction and renovation program. However, the District has chosen with OSFC approval to make Segment 4's Mound preK-8 school its first LEED Silver project. Studies and reports by reputable though not necessarily impartial organizations conclude that in green schools the students learn better, the teachers teach better, everyone in the school is healthier and the taxpayers save money. Indirect benefits include reduction in greenhouse gases, less dependence on foreign suppliers of energy, and conservation of natural resources.

Program Progress Update 14: The estimated cost of Segment 3 is 23.37 percent above the budget outlined in the Project Agreement with the OSFC. Segment 4 total costs are projected to be 19.74 percent above the Project Agreement. It appears that the District will not be able to make Issue 14 – the major source of local matching funds for the construction program -- last through Segment 7, as had been planned. The District will need to cut the equivalent of at least two elementary schools from Segments 5 through 7 of the Master Plan, according to current projections. However, if plans to spend interest earnings and federal technology reimbursements are thwarted, the shortfall could be six schools. Further LFI spending to repair schools not in the Master Plan will increase the shortfall. An alternative to cutting schools from Segment 5-7 would be to request and win voter approval of additional bond-issuance authority before the start of Segment 7. The District previously estimated that it would need voter approval of an additional \$217 million in bonds to complete the final three segments of the 10-segment program, but if all sources of revenue are considered, the total need could be as low as \$188 million.

Master Plan Update 11: A new enrollment forecast by a consultant for the Ohio School Facilities Commission (OSFC) is likely to require substantial reduction of the construction and renovation plan for Cleveland public schools. This could result in the elimination of some schools from the program's Master Plan and/or paring of the planned capacity of schools. The OSFC has released a draft of a new forecast that predicts further District enrollment decline by 2015, to 37,215, and also, due primarily to delays in execution of Segments 4 and 5 of the 10-segment program, extends the build-out year to 2017, by which time enrollment is predicted to be the new target of 36,234. If the OSFC adheres to its policy of requiring Master Plan adjustments to conform to the enrollment forecast, the District will be required to space for 3,915 preK-8 students and 594 high school/vocational students eliminate from the Master Plan of 2008. The BAC previously reported that although the Master Plan of 2008 met the district-wide enrollment target of 40,743 at the time, it distributed the preK-8 space in a way that gave some of the District's 10 academic neighborhoods more space than it appears they are likely to have in the target year, which would be a waste of taxpayer money. Some academic neighborhoods are planned for more students in 2015 than they had last school year, despite a decade-long record of steep enrollment decline. A few neighborhoods are planned for fewer students than they were likely to have in the target year. The BAC previously called on the School District to make adjustments in the Master Plan to fix those apparent problems before the start of Segment 5 and to use the latest enrollment records to adjust the Master Plan further, if necessary, before the start of each future construction segment. This would help the District avoid having unused space in some new school buildings, as already has occurred with some schools in Segments 1 and 2, and not enough space in others. The ongoing Strategic Development Initiative transformation effort may result in recommendations to close or consolidate some schools. The District may consider turning over operation of some District schools to charter school organization, which could require a further cut in the Master Plan. As it stands, the reduction dictated by the enrollment forecast is quite large, the equivalent of eight or nine preK-8 schools and a small high school. However, the forecast itself could be revised, and perhaps it should be: A District enrollment count dated October 21, 2009, shows 3 percent more preK-8 students and nearly 5 percent more high school students

than the forecast predicted. The BAC has analyzed the latest District enrollment numbers and the historical trend for each school and academic neighborhood to produce a range of suggested preK-8 cuts that would help the District meet the new target but minimize overbuilding in some neighborhoods. The BAC acknowledges that some of the suggestions would leave some young children with too far to walk to school, even if they were within the District's two-mile maximum range.

BAC financial report

Revenues, expenditures and outlook

	1/1/2009- 12/31/2009	1/1/2010- 12/31/2010	1/1/2011- 12/31/2011
Balance Forward	\$ 55,801.94	\$ 104,931.73	\$ 93,131.73
Salary, taxes	\$73,801.13	\$73,900	\$73,900
benefits	\$6,346.37	\$10,000	\$10,000
payroll service	\$1,183.28	\$1,300	\$1,300
office supplies, printing	\$1,138.40	\$1,500	\$1,500
govt fees	\$0.00	\$300	\$300
rental, equipment	\$0.00	\$1,500	\$1,500
outreach	\$0.00	\$1,200	\$1,200
bank fees	\$58.49	\$100	\$100
consult **	\$70,350.00	\$3,000	\$3,000
Total expenditures	\$152,877.67	\$92,800	\$92,800
Grant income *	\$200,000.00	\$80,000	\$0
Interest	\$1,950.83	\$1,000	\$0
Other income	\$56.63	\$0	\$0
Totals Income	\$202,007.46	\$81,000	\$0
Year-end Net	\$49,129.79	-\$11,800	-\$92,800
Year-end Asset total	\$ 104,931.73	\$ 93,131.73	\$ 331.73

* Income includes money received from CMSD and Gund Foundation, money due from CMSD July 2010 (\$80,000)

** encumbrance reflecting anticipated maximum expense of contract

Commissioner Profiles

Alfonso Sanchez, chairman: Retired Executive Vice President of Turner Construction, where he presided over major construction projects, including the Key Tower, the Galleria, Cleveland Public Library, and Cleveland Clinic buildings. He continues to help owners manage complex projects from site acquisition to final occupancy. Mr. Sanchez earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Illinois and a Juris Doctor degree from Cleveland State University.

Sandra Morgan, vice-chairwoman: Director of development for the Kent State University College of Arts and Science. She is a mother of three, all of whom attend or graduated from Cleveland public schools, and is a former member of the Cleveland Board of Education with a long-standing interest in public education.

Nancy C. Schuster, secretary: Principal of the Cleveland law firm Schuster & Simmons Co. L.P.A., and former chief federal prosecutor for the Northern District of Ohio, Officer of OCNW (the Ohio City community development corporation) and former President of the Parma City School Board. She is an Ohio Supreme Court Commissioner on the Rules of Practice and Procedure for Ohio Courts and a Master Bencher of the William K. Thomas Inns of Court. She has represented plaintiffs and defendants before the U.S. District Court, U.S. Circuit Court and the courts of many Ohio counties. She attended Cleveland State University Law School at night, graduating with honors.

Eric Paszt, treasurer: Retired Purchasing Director at Turner Construction Co., where he was instrumental in purchasing for numerous major construction projects, including the Cleveland Clinic Cancer Center and Cole Eye Clinic, the Bank One Building, Cleveland Public Library, and Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital.

Lillie Bell: Moved to Cleveland in 1964, transplanting her "values, roots, pride, teaching, training and love for neighborhood and community" from Alabama. She has been a resident of the Union-Miles area for 37 years. She retired after 34 years and currently is President of the Ward 2 Democratic Club and Chairperson of the Cleveland Education Committee.

Diane Downing: Cleveland District Director, Office of U.S. Sen. George Voinovich. Formerly Vice President of Administration for the Cleveland Browns. She was project manager for construction of Cleveland Browns Stadium and served in the cabinets of two Cleveland mayors, Michael White and George Voinovich.

Robert H. Jackson: Senior Partner in the Cleveland law firm of Kohrman, Jackson & Krantz PLL. He is a corporate lawyer, book collector and supporter of public libraries. Mr. Jackson is chair of the Advisory Committee of the Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities at Case Western Reserve University, and a director at the Western Reserve Historical Society.

Pieter van Dijk: Architect and design consultant with Westlake Reed Leskosky. Mr. van Dijk was responsible for the designs of Blossom Music Center, the IMG Building, University School, Cleveland State University Music Building, Playhouse Square theater restoration, and Federal Reserve Bank restoration.