

OVERVIEW

Victor Valley College is the primary source of training for many of the highest demand industries in the High Desert and the most accessible path for local students to pursue degree programs. We have served our communities for nearly 50 years and have no current bond indebtedness. All indications are that surrounding communities will continue to grow, placing higher demands on the college for educational services that will require both more and more specialized public safety and workforce training facilities.

To prepare for our future the Victor Valley College Board of Trustees will consider a Victor Valley College Public Safety/Health Care/Job Training Measure at their meeting on August 5th at 6pm.

There are four main components to this Measure.

- First, this potential measure retires past funding for essential improvement projects. Retiring this funding will free up nearly \$3 million annually putting more dollars in the classroom. These extra dollars are critical to delivering the education they are intended to support.
- Second, this plan allows for significant improvements and much needed improvements on our current campus. We must improve our classrooms and labs to help our students prepare for transfer to 4-year universities and prepare for high wage, high tech jobs.
- Third, our campus is impacted by increased traffic congestion on Bear Valley Road. It is becoming clear that we need to look off-site to ensure our students will be able to access our programs in the future without significant traffic delays and bottlenecks. We are therefore investigating a site for a Workforce Development Center on the west side of the district in the City of Hesperia. We anticipate establishing this site with programs that serve our community's growing healthcare, hospitality and logistics industries along with popular general education programs.
- Fourth, the Apple Valley Fire District has invited us to partner with them to create a Firefighter / Paramedic / Police and Public Safety Training Center on donated land in Apple Valley. This partnership gives us a great opportunity to give our students access to facilities that are appropriate for training these disciplines.

The college budget does not provide for construction of new facilities and state dollars are not available to meet our local demand. The state budget continues to be in crisis and funds to education continue to be cut. We must find our own local solutions. A Public Safety/Health Care/Workforce Training Initiative will be placed on the November 4, 2008 ballot, asking the voters to approve \$297.5 million in bonds and require a 55% majority vote of the electorate to provide the resources needed to grow our college so that we may continue serving our community with the education they need to thrive.