

BOARD MEMO

Date: 05/06/21

For ACTION _____

For INFORMATION x

Board Agenda: Yes x

No _____

FROM: Sophie Huemer, Planner II
Erika Gulick, Director of Capital Programs, Planning and Design
Dr. Alicia Hart, PMP, Executive Director of Facilities and Operations

THROUGH: Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr., Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

TO: The Honorable Meagan Alderton, Chair, and
Members of the Alexandria City School Board

TOPIC: Land Acquisition Update #1

ACPS 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:

Goal 1: Systemic Alignment

Goal 4: Strategic Resource Allocation

SY 2020-2021 FOCUS AREA:

Focus Area 3: Strategic Plan Implementation

FY 2021 BUDGET PRIORITY:

Facilities Audit Implementation

SUMMARY:

This presentation is an overview of the system-wide space needs of ACPS in the near term, updates on land available to ACPS through city development, and existing space leases. Current space needs include the Maintenance Warehouse, Transportation Center, Swing Space (if deemed necessary for the next two elementary projects), Chance for Change, and a new 600-student school. Please note that, due to funding constraints, all of these are not reflected in the School Board's FY 22-31 CIP.

Options for land acquisition through the City's land development process include North Potomac Yard, Landmark, Eisenhower East, Simpson Fields, and Greenhill. This presentation also includes an update on the status of leases for Central Office, the Maintenance Warehouse, and Chance for Change. Essential questions for discussion during the Board meeting and the future of land acquisition for ACPS include:

- Do we want to work on establishing a strategic process for land acquisition?
- Should ACPS use real estate assistance to help secure property?
- What is the long-term approach for existing leases?

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BACKGROUND:

Enrollment in ACPS is expected to grow by 1,800 students in the next ten years and many schools already operate at or over their measured capacity. In addition to modernization of existing facilities, ACPS continues to look for land opportunities to address capacity needs for all school levels. It is critical that the School Board is prepared to act as opportunities become available, considering Alexandria is only 15.3 square miles and we have limited land availability. Additionally, ACPS will have land available which is dedicated through the City's land development process in the next ten years and will need to determine uses at these sites.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends that the School Board receive and review information on land acquisition and process.

IMPACT:

This information and discussion will assist ACPS in developing a long-term plan for land acquisition to address enrollment growth and the modernization program.

ATTACHMENTS:

210506_Att_1_Presentation_Land_Acquisition_Update_v1

REFERENCES:

N/A

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