

# Survey shows vote for Cabrillo bonds would come up short

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Less than 50 percent of voters support a multi-million dollar bond measure for Cabrillo College, a survey has revealed.

The survey found that only 49 percent would "definitely" vote for a \$69 million bond to meet the needs of Cabrillo for the next 20 years. A \$47 million bond spread out over 10 years garnered even less support — only 42 percent said they would vote for that measure.

Under current state law, bond

measures need to be approved by a two-thirds vote. An initiative on the November ballot — Initiative 170 — would rescind the two-third requirement. If the initiative is approved, a bond measure could be approved by a simple majority.

Last spring, Cabrillo's governing board approved a proposal to conduct the survey, which was done by Gene Bregman and Associates, with analysis of the survey by Larry Levine and Associates.

The survey, which cost about \$15,000, was completed and results presented to the governing board

at last night's board meeting.

A total of 400 randomly selected voters were contacted by phone.

Although 57 percent said Cabrillo's significance to the community was "extremely important," only 49 percent said Cabrillo's need for additional funding was a "great need." Five percent said there was "no need" for additional funding, and 16 percent said they didn't know.

One of the reasons for a lukewarm reception of a bond measure may be that the public does not know enough about Cabrillo.

"Although the data indicate that most voters think Cabrillo College does a good job of serving the community, there is not enough indication that voters are aware of exactly what programs and services the college provides, nor is there clear evidence that voters are aware of the extent of need for more funding and improved facilities; without a vigorous campaign to overcome the lack of information, there is little chance that voters will approve a bond issue," the report said.

Cabrillo has not indicated when

or if it will actually seek a bond measure, but administrators have discussed the idea of a bond to pay for improvements to present facilities and for new construction. No set amount for a bond has been determined, either.

Data gathered from the survey will be used by Cabrillo to design a public-relations campaign to educate the public about the school and the services it provides.

If Initiative 170 is approved by the voters next month, Cabrillo's chances of launching a successful bond campaign are greatly im-

proved. If the initiative is rejected, Cabrillo faces an uphill battle.

Forty-seven percent of the voters surveyed were males, 53 percent were females. Ages were spread out between 18 and 54. Fifty-seven percent were registered Democrats, 31 percent Republicans, 7 percent independents, and 5 percent were from other party affiliations. A total of 60 percent of those surveyed attends or at one time attended Cabrillo, or has a family member who attends or had attended Cabrillo in the past.