



GROSSMONT COLLEGE

Budget Committee

October 9, 2025

3 – 4:30 pm

[Zoom](#)

Meeting Summary

Purpose The Budget Committee encourages transparency and constituency understanding of the budget, works to ensure that the budget allocation process is driven by college-wide planning and strategic priorities, and provides recommendations to the College Council on issues related to budget development and management.

In addition, the Budget Committee provides ongoing oversight in relation to budget changes and information at the State and District levels.

Quorum – Quorum is achieved when 50% plus one of voting members are in attendance.

Consensus – Consensus is reached when 75% of those present are in agreement.

Proxies – Each constituency may send up to two proxy attendees per meeting. Proxy attendees are given full discussion and decision-making rights.

CO-CHAIRS	ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF GROSSMONT COLLEGE	ADVISORY
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Co-Chair, Meya Alomar	<input type="checkbox"/> Sara Markowitz	<input type="checkbox"/> Joan Ahrens
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Co-Chair, Janice Fischer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Khaley Kaesser	<input type="checkbox"/> Adrienne Garay-Lee
	<input type="checkbox"/>	

ACADEMIC SENATE	CLASSIFIED SENATE	ADMINISTRATORS' ASSOCIATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Bergovoy (2022 – 2025)	<input type="checkbox"/> Roma Sitta	<input type="checkbox"/> Abby Algarin for Sara Varghese
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kaiya Rainbolt (2023 – 2026)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Janice Fischer (2023 – 2026)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Veronica Romero
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sharon Sampson for Perla Lopez (2024 – 2027)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa Brlas for Debora Hanssen (2024 – 2027)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Loren Holmquist
		Guest: Pam Luster
RECORDER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patty Sparks		

ROUTINE BUSINESS	
1. Public Comment (5 Minutes)	No Public Comment
2. Welcome and Introductions	Meya Alomar welcomed members. Student representative Khaley Kaesser, Lisa Brlas and Pam Luster introduced themselves to the committee and were welcomed by members.
3. Additions/Deletions to Agenda	No additions or deletions
4. Approve Meeting Notes & Follow-up	September 2025 Meeting Summary . Sharon Sampson motioned to approve, Janice Fischer Seconded, Meeting Summary passed as final.

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NEW BUSINESS

1. Facilities Update	<p>Loren Holmquist (Holmquist) discussed the 2026 Bond Measure strategy to extend the current Proposition. He highlighted the following:</p> <p>The extension will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not increase property tax for the taxpayers - Proposal bond is for \$600M <p>Spending strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Infrastructure needs that protect our assets and safety of students - Renovation and/or replacement of existing structures - Feasibility study - Community awareness campaign <p>What are our needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fire and domestic water improvements - Chiller plant infrastructure improvements (one of three are working currently) - Electronic access controls on all buildings - ADA upgrades across campus - Replace campus storm drains - Replace entire campus cable plant - Install utility isolation valves - Roads and parking lot repairs and upgrades <p>Holmquist further highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demolition of buildings that are potential safety hazards is a priority. He explained there is an old golf putting range and driving cage that is dilapidated and will need to be removed. We also have a ski “training” slope that needs to be removed. - 500 Buildings Renovations for Buildings 51 and 55 are progressing well. Buildings 52, 53, and 54 are currently fenced off, and residents have been relocated to the 100 Village in Lots 5 and 1. The overall project completion is estimated for summer 2026. The project is now moving into Phase 3, which includes work on Buildings 52, 53, and 54. This phase will focus on clean-up efforts and addressing various safety concerns. Additional details about Phase 3 will be shared as they become available. <p>Note: Pam Luster mentioned that Phase 3 is projected to be more costly than initially anticipated. The increased expenses are due to necessary clean-up, painting, and the replacement of outdated cables. These factors may also extend the overall project timeline.</p> <p>Facilities projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Padre Dam is putting in water meters to accommodate the 100 Village. The original water meter installed is insufficient and will be completed over the Thanksgiving break. - Fenced off area between Buildings 60 and 70. The chiller plant lines to the 500s burst and exposed dirt and ground elements, which entailed bringing in Geo Techs to test the soil to see if we can continue the work. - Storm Water Outfall Repair. While driving south on Highway 67, you can see in the canyon that a section of the storm water pipe has deteriorated and fallen apart. This issue is becoming increasingly problematic.
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We need to ensure that any repair work complies with environmental requirements and does not impact the surrounding habitat, specifically, the willow trees and nuthatch bird nests. The environmental impact review (EIR) process may take up to eight months, which raises concerns about how to maintain progress with the rainy season approaching.

If the existing soil is unsuitable for repair, we should explore other storm water outfall options. An assessment on the west side identified three additional outfalls with similar issues, one of which is clogged and will also require an EIR. There is potential to combine these projects into a single effort for efficiency.

- **Bus stop.** We currently have two temporary bus stop shelters in place. Work is underway with the architects to design two permanent structures to replace them. In addition, we are exploring options to provide shade along the back retaining wall to enhance comfort and usability.
- **Book Store/Gizmo's Kitchen.** The Bookstore is downsizing due to the growing shift toward digital materials, which has created additional available space. The plan is to relocate Gizmo's Kitchen to the lower levels and retain the Bookstore upstairs (Building 62). Pam Luster explained that she and her team are currently working on the logistics. A washer and dryer have been purchased for student use. The goal is to explore additional services that can be offered in the space.
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- **Food Services.** We are currently reviewing options to expand and enhance on-campus food services. VPAS Alomar reported that there are discussions with a vendor, and in the process of discussing contract details to provide specialty coffee/snack services in Java Market. In addition, we are evaluating opportunities with vendors such as fresh and hot baked items with Canteen (current vending machine vendor) to provide a wider variety of items, including fresh fruit and beverages. Site assessments are being conducted to determine ideal placement for these services.
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- **Griffin Grill/Genuine Foods.** The refrigeration systems are down in the Griffin Grill area. The repairs will take 3 -5 days to complete. This work is scheduled to be done during the Thanksgiving Break.
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- **South side entrance, west or east routes.** New gates to be installed. We need to replace the older gates due to damage on Griffin Drive and the east perimeter road. Exploring adding large boulders to deter vehicles from attempting to drive around the gates. The goal is to complete this during winter break. This will ensure security.
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- **Building 34-170 and 171.** Allied Health received a grant that will fund the merger of these two classrooms into a larger instructional space. This new area will be utilized by the Nursing program and other disciplines. The project is scheduled for completion by **June 2026.**
- **Chiller Plant.** Only one chiller plant out of the three is working. This work will be completed during the Thanksgiving break.
- **Football/Softball/Baseball Areas.** Currently there is no sewer or electric availability. We did receive some Covid funds and we were able to purchase a restroom trailer that can be moved to where games were taking place. There is a need to install electrical and sewer lines for restrooms.
- **Security Cameras.** After lengthy discussions with bargaining groups, there will be cameras installed in parking lots, but not the interior of campus. This work should be completed by summer, 2026.
- **Sea containers.** The State has a separate department for public works that oversees institutional projects and governs the applicable building codes. We currently have a number of sea containers and modular units, approximately 100 in total, located in various areas across campus, including between Buildings 25 and 26. These containers

	<p>will need to be relocated. We are working with the Division of the State Architect (DSA) to determine which units can be retained and moved to the dirt lot (formerly the soccer field). This relocation effort will likely impact some programs, and coordination will be necessary to minimize disruption.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water pressure. Currently, we do not have enough pressure to put out fires in some areas on campus. Padre Dam will install a larger pipe to our campus to rectify this issue. - Emergency Eyewash Stations. Some programs require eyewash stations we are currently looking to bring them up to code. - Guardrails. Our perimeter road guardrails are old, some up to 50 years old. We are looking upgrade and this task was added to the bond extension list of infrastructure needs. <p><i>No action taken.</i></p>
3. Review Governance and Decision making handbook	<p>Members reviewed the Governance Book, highlighting the history, philosophy, and the decision making processes. Members then reviewed the Budget Committee's charge and composition.</p> <p>Discussions:</p> <p>It was noted that Committees that prioritize AUPs, should share their rubrics with those who write the AUP funding requests.</p> <p><i>No action taken.</i></p>
4.	
5.	

COMMITTEE REPORTS	
1. Report-out Language	Report back to constituent groups.

FOR CONSENSUS	

FOLLOW-UP		
Who	Item	Timeline

NEXT MEETING: November 13, 2025 [Zoom](#)

Budget Committee Norms

Established February 14, 2019

Updated August 13, 2020

- Members agree to raise hands to speak and wait to be called
- Members agree to use the thumbs up, side or down as a way to vote
- Members agree to participate and ask questions before moving on to the next agenda item
- Members understand all questions are welcome
- Members agree to be aware of time when meeting
- Members agree to stick to the agenda – utilize parking lot for items to be discussed at a later time
- Members agree to explain acronyms
- Member agree that food is allowed at meetings
- Members agree to plan a social event once a year
- Members agree to educate proxies
- Members agree that if someone is out of the room for a few minutes, the Committee will wait until they return before votes are taking
- Members agree to communicate with co-chairs/and or note-taker regarding absences when possible
- Members agree to start meetings on time
- Members agree to always be mindful of our purpose in serving students.

Added 8/13/2020:

- Use the “raise hand” feature in the Zoom participant window to avoid talking over each other.
- Mute microphone unless talking.
- For consensus items, the Recorder will type the consensus item in the chat window and voting members (by constituency group) will enter: “Yes” for yes votes, “No” for no votes and “Sideways” for a neutral vote.
- Members are responsible to report and share information to their constituency groups on Budget Committee-related items.

Committees are to establish norms

In order to create valued outcomes, a commitment to participation, dialogue, and the pursuit of value in the form of useful output by all is necessary. It is acknowledged that there are power dynamics in a room. Work must be done to create the equitable and inclusive environment sought for effective and active participation. To do so, council/committee members will establish behavioral norms that include the following meeting rules of engagement, make use of meeting tools, and respect the roles of each member.

Rules of Engagement

In participatory government, a high level of collegiality, respect, and civility is expected. Those expectations include the following rules:

- There is no rank in the room when at the committee table. All participants are treated as peers, both between constituencies and within constituencies.
- Speakers will be heard one at a time and without interruption. Participants will allow for moments of silence for thought and other viewpoints. In consideration of hearing all feedback, members should be mindful of how often and how long they speak. Equity in consensus building means including diverse perspectives at all levels of the organization.
- Members will be engaged and contribute, and challenge ideas, not people. All meeting attendees will be respectful/civil in their comments, responses, and body language.
- Members will listen to others, and seek to focus on the merits of what is being said, while making a good faith effort to understand the concerns of others. Council/committee members are encouraged to ask questions of clarification.
- Each person reserves the right to disagree with any proposal and accepts responsibility for offering alternatives that accommodate individual interests and the interests of others.
- All members should be mindful of the language used in discussions, including use of "I" statements instead of "they" attributions to relate anecdotal evidence or experiences. Members are encouraged to use an asset-minded approach that focuses on what works and how something can be done. This is in contrast to a deficit-minded approach that focuses on the negative and why an initiative, idea, or project can't get done.
- All council/committee members will be aware of the purpose and responsibility of their committees. When issues arise in discussion that are not supported by the committee's charge, the chair will identify the proper council, committee, or constituency group leadership for review, and forward the issue for consideration.
- Once consensus is reached after deliberation, council/committee members will support the group's recommendation.