

FACT SHEET: YES ON MEASURE US



What is Measure US?

Measure US is an LAUSD construction bond on the November 5 ballot that will provide \$9 billion for facilities upgrades — including HVAC at over 500 schools, replacing lead pipes, new roofing, technology upgrades, and more.

Why does the district need a bond?

The district has \$80 billion in capital upgrade needs. LAUSD schools desperately need improvement — anyone who experienced the heatwave without working air conditioning in their classroom would surely agree, and HVAC upgrades are just one issue on the bond project list.

What can the bond money be spent on?

General obligation bonds can only be spent on facilities. Many of the items on the bond project list — HVAC upgrades, lead pipe replacements, green school yards, new roofing, earthquake proofing, ADA compliance, internet connectivity, and electric school buses — are things we will likely be making demands on in contract negotiations.

Can the bond money be spent on salaries, class size, or student services?

While the bond money cannot be spent on salaries, class size, or services, having this infusion of funds for facilities improvements minimizes the competing priorities for General Fund money (which can be spent on salaries and other important needs). The bond would relieve pressure on the General Fund in two critical ways:

1. It would pay off other types of debt the district has on its books that require large reserves to be held as collateral (like COPs bonds).
2. It would fund facilities upgrades separately so that these needs don't compete with staffing/salaries for dollars from the General Fund.

How can we make sure the money is spent on the things we need?

LAUSD will be held accountable for how they spend the money by public oversight and audits — and most importantly, UTLA members can help set priorities for how the money is spent through our contract negotiations. We know we will be making proposals on green space, technology, and other facilities improvements. Those proposals can shape how LAUSD spends much of this money.

How is the bond funded?

Measure US gives the district the authority to levy a property tax in 2026. The tax will be paid disproportionately by the wealthy. The tax is \$25 on every \$100,000 of assessed property value. If a home is assessed at \$500,000, the annual tax would be \$150. Assessed value is far less than market value. Many working- and middle-class families are in homes that they bought many years ago that are assessed at far lower amounts — for example, a home could be assessed at \$300,000, while the market value is \$700,000 or more.

Who will pay the most?

Large landowners, including oil and gas companies and real estate firms, will pay the most. Universal Studios, for example, would pay \$675,358 based on the assessed value of its property holdings last year.

The UTLA Board of Directors and House of Representatives voted overwhelmingly to endorse Measure US.