SJECCD Facilities Master Plan Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the Facilities Master Plan?

A: A Facilities Master Plan is a 10- to 20-year roadmap for improving and maintaining college facilities across the District. The plan will recommend updates for EVC, SJCC, and Milpitas Extension. The plan supports education programs, basic needs, technology, and evolving workforce demands by identifying projects that improve student experience and community access.

Q: Why do we need it now?

A: Many buildings are aging, student needs are evolving, and we must plan investments wisely. This update makes sure facilities match academic programs, community expectations, and funding realities. The plan is needed to guide investments ahead of potential funding efforts.

Q: What's different about this FMP update compared to past plans?

A: There are several key differences:

- This update isn't about adding new buildings. It's about taking care of what we already have.
- The focus is on infrastructure and facilities roofs, utilities, energy systems, technology, accessibility, and safety.
- This District-wide FMP weaves together college-specific feedback (from SJCC and EVC leadership) to address needs districtwide. The last plan looked at each campus separately.

Q: How are projects prioritized in the FMP Update?

A: Projects are scored using a clear methodology that balances leadership priorities and technical evaluation of needs to create a transparent framework so decisions aren't arbitrary.

- The scoring gives us a districtwide standard while still leaving room for local priorities.
- The methodology ensures resources are directed first toward the most critical infrastructure and facility needs.
- The project score helps explain why certain projects rise to the top.
- The scoring system makes the plan more accountable and defensible when seeking funding or explaining choices.

Q: How does this help students?

A: Facilities upgrades directly support student success — by modernizing classrooms and labs, improving student services, and creating safe, welcoming campus spaces.

Q: Why focus on campus open spaces (gateways, commons, plazas)?

A: These projects create a stronger sense of place, making campuses easier to navigate, more welcoming, and better aligned with student life.

Q: Is sustainability part of the plan?

A: Yes — the plan integrates energy efficiency, long-term cost savings, and environmental responsibility. We're considering the full lifecycle cost of facilities, not just construction.

Q: How do we pay for this?

A: The plan helps the District secure and guide bond investments and other funding. It ensures we're ready to act when resources become available.

Q: What happens next?

- A draft FMP Update is now available for public review and feedback on the project website: https://sjeccd.edu/facilities-master-plan-task-force
- Join us online or in person for any of the forums happening in September 2025.
- The Board of Trustees will consider adoption in October/November 2025.