



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**COMMUNITY SUPPORTS FUNDING FOR MONTEREY PENINSULA COLLEGE
TO MAINTAIN AFFORDABLE EDUCATION AND JOB TRAINING**

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A recently commissioned independent survey communities served by Monterey Peninsula College shows that respondents highly approve of the job the College is doing but perceive funding is needed so the College can continue to serve the needs of students and veterans with affordable education, job training, and preparation for transfer to four-year universities.

The survey, conducted June 1-8, 2016 by the highly respected opinion research firm of Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin, Metz & Associates (FM3), provides insight into public opinions regarding Monterey Peninsula College and its educational and facility needs, including evaluating interest in a potential College bond measure.

Respondents are highly satisfied with the College, with over two-thirds of respondents giving the College an excellent or good job performance rating. At the same time, 65% perceive that the College has a need for additional funding.

“The cost to attend public universities has risen to at least six times that of attending community college,” said Superintendent-President Dr. Walter Tribley. “Monterey Peninsula College can save families tens of thousands of dollars with an affordable alternative for local students and veterans as they increasingly rely on us to earn college credit, certifications, learn job skills, or prepare to transfer to four-year universities. Additional funds are needed to increase these opportunities for our community.”

“Monterey Peninsula College has served thousands of veterans, many recently returned from war zones that face unique challenges, including post-traumatic stress or permanent disability. Upgrading and expanding veteran career services, job training and mental health counseling so returning veterans have the support to complete their education and return to the civilian workforce are top priorities,” said Vice President of Administrative Services Steve Crow.

When asked about a potential local Monterey Peninsula College education bond measure, 67% of likely November voters are supportive of an education bond to upgrade Monterey Peninsula College facilities.

Any potential bond measure would be subject to strict accountability requirements, including independent annual financial audits, a Citizens Bond Oversight Committee, and no funding could be used for administrators’ salaries.

“We are encouraged by the support we see in the community for continuing to improve our local community college,” said Tribley. “This feedback will help the Board as we consider how best to continue serving future generations of students, veterans and the community.”