Transcript, WCC Board of Trustees Meeting, November 19, 2019

44:00

RB: - May I just

44:01:

BMJr: - Please

44:02:

RB: - Thank you. Just to remind the Board, the reason we are really interested in mixed use —looking at mixed use space — not only because of the comments that we have heard, but when we went through all the — uh- trends in enrollment that this environmental scan, and we read books, and we've been talking about it, and we're starting to see the beginning of it — the enrollment is not going to be where it always has been. And it is going to continue to be more challenging. And that's not a surprise to any of us.

RB: - Right now the community colleges - well, first – and number two, my second point I want to make, is that we are going to need to bring in some additional revenue, so that – in addition to our tax base- so that we can provide the quality of programming that we are – that we want to continue to provide for our students. And you can imagine the increasing technology costs – I mean – and ... and what lies ahead of us.

RB: - In order to do that, we have to look at some other revenue options. And the – the comm – the colleges – the community colleges that are – there are two in particular that are extremely well positioned now, regardless of their enrollment, and that's Schoolcraft College, as I know Dianna knows from our – from MCCA, where that – sorry that president through the years has invested in mixed-use opportunities for his college, so he has revenue coming in.

RB: - The other is Macomb Community College, and that president, the one I worked with, um, had – I mean – we own everything around – on Garfield. And all of that mixed use, you know, land brings in revenue to the College. And so, they don't really have to worry too much about their enrollment, because they have other ways to bring in revenue to support their college.

RB: - So what – that was one of the reasons we thought about we might need to start looking at some mixed use opportunities for our college. Just to remind you. I know you were all part of that, but – about why– this is an important thought for us.