

Notice of Availability (NOA)

for the

San Rafael High School

Capital Improvements Project

Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SCH No. 2016082017)

DATE: January 17, 2024

TO: State Clearinghouse, Responsible and Trustee Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties

LEAD AGENCY: San Rafael City Schools

In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), San Rafael City Schools (District) has prepared a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR), consistent with Articles 7 through 10 of the *CEQA Guidelines*, for the San Rafael High School Capital Improvements Project. The District requests your comments on the adequacy of the environmental analysis presented in the Draft SEIR, in accordance with Section 15087 of the *CEQA Guidelines*. Copies of the Draft SEIR are available on the District's bond program website (under the San Rafael High School link) at <http://www.srcsbondprogram.org>, at the City of San Rafael Main Library (1100 East Street, San Rafael), and at San Rafael High School's Administrative Office (hard copy) (address provided below).

As specified by the *CEQA Guidelines*, the Draft SEIR will be circulated for a 45-day public review period. The District welcomes public input during this period. Due to the time limits mandated by State of California law, your written comments must be sent at the earliest possible date but not later than the close of the public review period on Monday, March 4, 2024.

RESPONDING TO THIS NOA: Responses to this NOA and any related questions or comments regarding the scope or content of the Draft SEIR must be directed in writing to **Mr. Tim Ryan, San Rafael City Schools, 310 Nova Albion Way, San Rafael, CA 94903** or by email to ryan@srcs.org. Comments on the Draft SEIR must be received at the above mailing or e-mail address by no later than **Monday, March 4, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.** Please reference the project as "SRHS Capital Improvements Project SEIR" in all correspondence.

The District will consider certification of the SEIR at their meeting of **May 13, 2024 at 6 PM** to be located in the District Board Room at 310 Nova Albion Way, San Rafael.

Project Description

The Draft SEIR provides minor changes and additions to the 2017 EIR on the San Rafael High School Master Facilities Long-Range Plan and Stadium Project that are necessary to address the current San Rafael High School Capital Improvements Project. The primary project components evaluated in the Draft SEIR are the following:

- Aquatics Center (demolition of existing pool and construction of new competition-level pool [132 feet x 75 feet] and aquatics center, low-level lighting on 50-foot poles, replacement pool deck, replacement bleachers, new turf viewing area with shade structures adjacent to pool, construction of new snack shack, pump house and storage building, improved access to locker rooms, and relocation of 10 portables). [Proposed new improvements not addressed in 2017 EIR.]
- New Performing Arts Plaza, and redevelopment of access corridor between AD and AR buildings. [Proposed new improvements.]
- Baseball and softball turf replacement (artificial turf to replace grass turf), replacement of existing and/or installation of new dugouts, storage, and relocation of storage containers. [Proposed new improvements.]

The project also includes the following components that are not evaluated in detail in the Draft SEIR because they do not have the potential to cause significant environmental impacts not already evaluated in the 2017 EIR:

- Modernization and improvements to main and small gyms, and reconfigurations and renovations of PE support spaces, including locker room expansion, wrestling/dance space and classrooms remodel, and construction of a new fieldhouse building with new team lockers and restrooms. [Reduced scope from 2017 EIR, including reduced demolition and construction.]
- Demolition and replacement of existing Arts (AR) Building with new Visual Arts Building (reduced size) to include black box theater, visual arts classrooms, music classrooms, special education classroom and ancillary facilities, and other arts related teaching facilities. [Reduced scope as a result of reduction in square footage from improvements addressed in 2017 EIR.]
- Renovation of lower level of AD Building to connect to Performing Arts Plaza, modernization and upgrades, and internal improvements to Hayes Theater. [Proposed new improvements.]
- Modernization (vs. replacement) of Science Classroom, including installation of rooftop heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) screens, and modernization of LA, MU, and TE Buildings, including window replacement. [Reduced scope from 2017 EIR.]
- Landscaping, grading, and related site work (utility work, storm drainage upgrades including new higher capacity underground storm drain lines and improvements to bioswales and other rainwater retention areas (including 5,000 square feet of new bioretention areas); repaving and reconfiguration of parking lots; adjustment to track fence; new flatwork at the western, southern, and eastern sides of gym buildings; and grading, paving, and drainage improvements to facilitate storm water diversion and safe ingress/.egress to campus). [Modification of parking lots reconfiguration and expanded storm drainage improvements from components previously addressed at a program level in 2017 EIR.]

Potential Environmental Impacts

All potential impacts identified for the project could be mitigated to a less-than-significant level. Mitigation measures are recommended for the following topics: aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, geology/soils/seismicity, hazards, hydrology, and noise.