

Merced Union High School District
Merced High School Stadium Project

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

Date: June 7, 2019

To: Responsible, Trustee, and Other Agencies Property Owners, Residents, and Interested Citizens	From: Merced Union High School District PO Box 2147 Merced, CA 95344 Ted Walstrom, CSRM Director of Facilities & New Construction Telephone: (209) 325-2043 Email: twalstrom@muhsd.org
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Environmental Impact Report: Notice is hereby given that the Merced Union High School District (District) will be the Lead Agency and will prepare an environmental impact report (EIR) for the proposed Merced High School Stadium Project at the Merced High School campus.

The EIR will be prepared under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the State CEQA Guidelines and will describe and analyze the significant environmental effects of the project and discuss ways to mitigate or avoid the effects.

Notice of Preparation: The purpose of this Notice of Preparation (NOP) is to solicit guidance from agencies and individuals as to the scope and content of the environmental information to be included in the EIR.

Responsible, trustee and other agencies should provide the District with input on the scope and content of environmental information related to the agency's area of responsibility that should be included in the draft EIR.

If you are a property owner or resident, we invite your comments on the impacts that the project may have upon your property or upon the environment.

Response Deadline: Due to time limits mandated by State law, please send your response to the NOP to Ted Walstrom (see contact information provided above) no later than Wednesday, July 10, 2019, or 30 days after the receipt of this notice, whichever is later.

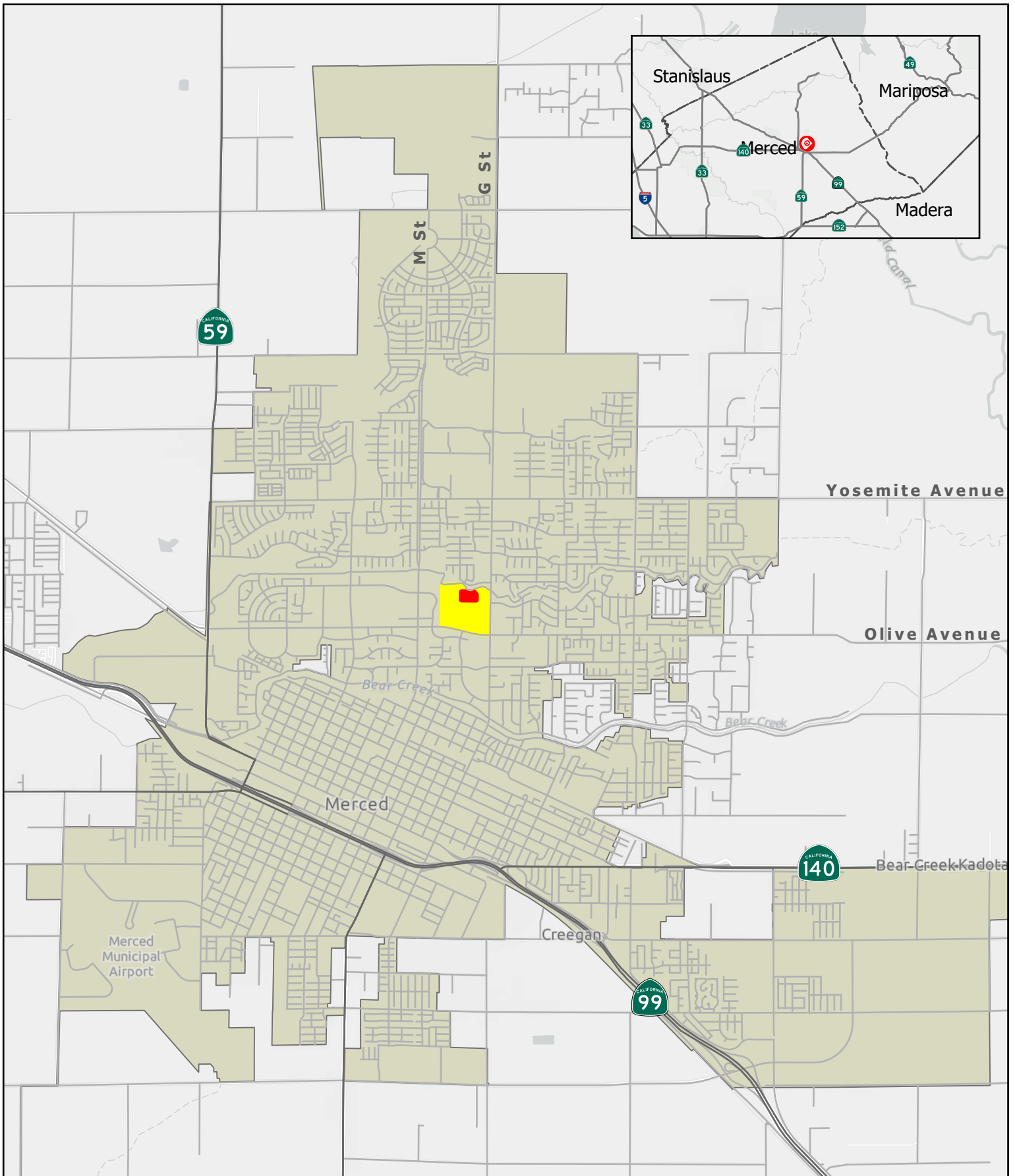
Project Location: The project is located on the northern portion of the Merced High School campus in the City of Merced. Figure 1, following the text of this NOP, identifies the regional location of the project. Figure 2 identifies the specific location of the project on the Merced High School campus.

Project Description: Construction of a high school football stadium with a seating capacity for 3,100. The first 2,000 seats will be constructed in the first phase with an additional 1,100 seats completed in a future phase. Grandstands will be located on the south, east and north sides of the stadium, connected by concrete walkways around the perimeter of the football field to an entry gate structure located at the southeast corner of the stadium and to a concessions/restroom building on the east side of the stadium. The project includes the construction of walking paths connecting the stadium to existing parking on the southern portion of the high school campus. Construction of the stadium is anticipated to begin in early 2020.

The project site has been used as a campus football field since 1986. The stadium project will utilize the existing lights at the football field, which have been in place since 2009.

Probable Environmental Effects of the Project: The potential environmental effects of the project are listed below. These effects have been identified on a preliminary basis, and may or may not be identified as potentially significant effects once evaluated in the Draft EIR. There may be other environmental effects identified in response to this Notice of Preparation, or during the preparation of the Draft EIR. The EIR will evaluate the probable environmental effects of the project on all resources and conditions listed in Appendix G of the State CEQA Guidelines.

1. The project could have aesthetic impacts due to construction activities, the appearance of the stadium, and lighting.
2. Project-related air quality impacts would result from construction emissions and from operational activities. Particulate emissions would be the pollutant of greatest concern during the project construction phase. Operational air emissions would result primarily from project-related transportation.
3. Construction activities could potentially disturb previously undiscovered subsurface cultural resources.
4. The construction and operational phases of the project would consume energy resources.
5. The project would generate greenhouse gas emissions, which would contribute on a cumulative basis to global climate change.
6. Construction and grading activities at the site and installation of impervious surfaces could affect site drainage and the amount and quality of storm runoff.
7. The project may expose people to noise levels in excess of adopted standards during construction activities and during the operation of the stadium.
8. Traffic generated by the project may adversely affect the existing and planned circulation system. Increased pedestrian and vehicular activity in the vicinity of the site may result in safety issues.



Project Location

Merced High School Stadium Project
 Merced Union High School District

Merced High School
 Project Site
 Merced City Limit

Figure 1



Project Site

Figure 2

Merced High School Stadium Project
 Merced Union High School District

Merced High School Project Site

