State Center Community College District Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Reedley College Center for Fine and Performing Arts Project (State Clearinghouse No. 2019069080)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act, State Center Community College District ("District") has prepared an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed Reedley College Center for Fine and Performing Arts Project. Based on the Initial Study, the District has determined that although the project could have a significant effect on the environment, there would not be a significant effect because the District has incorporated into the project mitigation measures that would avoid any significant effects of the project or render them less than significant.

The Board of Trustees of State Center Community College District will consider adopting the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and approving the project on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 4:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as possible. In accordance with State of California Executive Orders 25-20 and 29-20, the Board of Trustees will be conducting meetings remotely using ConferZoom. Instructions for connecting to board meetings using ConferZoom are available at https://www.scccd.edu/lp/board-meetings-on-zoom.html. All interested persons are invited to attend this meeting and present testimony regarding the project.

Project Location and Description: State Center Community College District is proposing to develop and operate the Reedley College Center for Fine and Performing Arts Project ("project"), to be located at the Reedley College campus in the City of Reedley. The project includes construction and operation of a performing arts center located on approximately four acres at the northwest corner of Reed Avenue and College Driveway.

The Center for Fine and Performing Arts Project would include the following facilities: an auditorium with seating for 500-550 patrons; a 1,000 square-foot art gallery; an indoor lobby area configurable to accommodate up to 150 people as a sit-down dinner venue; a concessions area; a green room; a box office; a conference room; restrooms; and miscellaneous areas for storage and equipment. The project also includes an outdoor plaza that would function as a congregational area and may be used as an area for outdoor events; this area would include landscaping, lighting, and possibly public art.

If approved, the project is planned to begin construction in spring 2021 and estimated to begin operation between late 2022 and early 2023.

Mitigation Measures: The District has incorporated into the project mitigation measures for potentially significant project impacts related to aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, noise, transportation, and tribal cultural resources. The mitigation measures are included in the Summary Table of Mitigation Measures of the Initial Study and throughout the body of the report.

Public Review and Comment: Members of the public and interested agencies may review and submit written comments on the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study. The documents are available for review at the State Center Community College District's Operations Department, located at 1171 Fulton Street, Fresno, CA 93721, and on the District's website: https://www.scccd.edu/departments/district-operations/construction-services.html. The public review period will begin on Monday, November 16, 2020 and end on Wednesday, December 16, 2020.

Please submit your comments no later than 5:00 p.m. on December 16, 2020 to George Cummings, Director of Facilities Planning, 1171 Fulton Street, Fresno, CA 93721, Telephone: (559) 243-7191, Email: george.cummings@scccd.edu.