

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

To:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of Planning and Research 1400 Tenth Street, Room 113 Sacramento, CA 95814	From:	(Lead Agency) Hacienda La Puente Unified School District 15959 East Gale Avenue <hr/> City of Industry, CA 91716-0002
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Clerk County of <u>Los Angeles</u> 12400 Imperial Highway, Rm 2001 Norwalk, CA 90650	Applicant:	<u>Same as above</u>

Subject: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

New Replacement K-5 School and Four Baseball Fields Retention, No Residential Development (Variant) (formerly known as the Wedgeworth K-8 School and Residential Development Project)

<u>Project Title</u>		
SCH No. 2019071040	Joel Duarte, Director of Purchasing and Warehouse	626-933-3932
<u>State Clearinghouse Number (If submitted to Clearinghouse)</u>	<u>Contact Person</u>	<u>Area Code/Telephone/Extension</u>

16949 Wedgeworth Drive, Hacienda Heights, CA 91745 (Assessor's Parcel Number 8209-001-901).

Project Location:

The approved project involves development of a K-5 school with 600 students and retention of all four existing baseball fields. No residential units would be developed. The athletic fields and hardcourts design would be modified to maintain the existing four baseball fields. The existing light poles on the two baseball fields will be updated to meet the current Division of State Architect codes for safety, even though the school will not be using the nighttime lighting. The approved project requires updates to the rest of the baseball fields for safety reasons, as described in the Baseball Field Hazard Assessment: Wedgeworth E.S. The EIR was certified; the MMRP, Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations were adopted; and the lead agency decided to carry out the project by a Resolution adopted on May 11, 2021. See Attached Resolution.

Project Description:

This is to advise that the Hacienda La Puente Unified School District has approved the above described
 Lead Agency or Responsible Agency)

project on May 11, 2021 and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project:
 (Date)

1. The project [will will not] have a significant effect on the environment.
2. An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
 A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures [were were not] made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [was was not] adopted for this project.
5. A Statement of Overriding Considerations [was was not] adopted for this project.
6. Findings [were were not] made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the final EIR with comments and responses and the record of project approval is available to the General Public at:

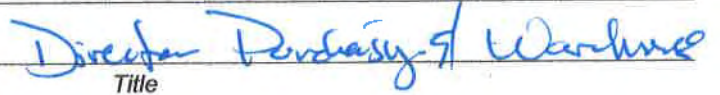
CEQA: California Environmental Quality Act

District Website: WWW.HLPSCHOOLS.ORG/WSP and District Offices: 15959 East Gale Avenue, City of Industry,
California 91716-0002

Date received for filing and posting at OPR:



Signature (Public Agency)



Title



HACIENDA LA PUENTE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

15959 EAST GALE AVENUE • P.O. BOX 60002 • CITY OF INDUSTRY, CALIFORNIA 91716-0002 • (626) 933-3800

DR. ALFONSO JIMENEZ, Superintendent

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

JEFFREY DE LA TORRE, President
JOSEPH K. CHANG, Ph.D., Vice President
CHRISTINE H. SALAZAR, Clerk
ANTHONY DUARTE, Member
STEPHANIE SERRANO, Member

RESOLUTION NO. 2020/21-39

OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE HACIENDA LA PUENTE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT CERTIFYING THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AND ADOPTING FINDINGS, MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM, AND STATEMENT OF OVERRIDING CONSIDERATIONS; AND DECIDING TO CARRY OUT THE WEDGEWORTH K-8 SCHOOL AND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

WHEREAS, the District created the Wedgeworth K-8 School and Residential Development Project (“Project”), which would be implemented in two phases, with the first phase demolishing the Wedgeworth Elementary School and redeveloping the campus into a Kindergarten through Eighth Grade; and the second phase would consist of creating a marketable, entitled residential development parcel to be sold for District revenue; The new K-8 campus will support 1,200 students in five new, permanent classrooms and support buildings, playfields, hardscape, parking, drop-off and pick-up area, and landscaping; the residential development could support up to 160 residential units;

WHEREAS, the District engaged Placeworks (“Environmental Consultant”) to conduct environmental review of the Project;

WHEREAS, the Environmental Consultant analyzed and determined that the Project may potentially create a significant or cumulatively considerable environmental impact and that the appropriate environmental document would be an Environmental Impact Report (“EIR”);

WHEREAS, on July 29, 2019, the District issued a Notice of Preparation of a Draft EIR for the Project for public review and comment. The comment period ended August 27, 2019. Thirty-four (34) comment letters/emails were received that raised concerns with air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, hazardous materials and hazards, land use and planning, transportation, recreation, tribal cultural resources, noise, storm water, utilities, and wastes. The Environmental Consultant and District staff considered all of these comments in preparing the Draft EIR;

WHEREAS, on September 14 and 18, 2019, the District conducted community meetings on the school portion of the Project;

Vision Statement

The Hacienda La Puente Unified School District is a community committed to developing lifelong learners who value themselves and the diversity of all people; apply decision-making skills leading to responsible actions; and use creativity, critical thinking, and problem solving in meeting the challenges of a changing society.

WHEREAS, on December 5, 2019, the District issued and filed a Notice of Availability and the Project's Draft EIR for public review and comment. The Notice of Availability was also published on the District's website, in a local newspaper, and directly mailed to each commenter on the Initial Study and affected public agencies. The Draft EIR was made available on the District's website and at the District's Offices. The District held community meetings on the Proposed Project and Draft EIR on December 10 and 14, 2019. The comment period for the Draft EIR ended on January 21, 2020. Comments were received and contained suggested feasible mitigation measures and an alternative to reduce the recreation impact to less than significant. The alternative suggested was for a K-8 school that keeps all little league fields and does away the residential development;

WHEREAS, the Environmental Consultant prepared a Recirculated Draft EIR to analyze these suggested mitigation measures and alternative. On February 19, 2021, the District issued and filed a Notice of Availability and the Project's Recirculated Draft EIR for public review and comment. This Notice of Availability was published in the newspaper, and directly mailed to each commenter on the Draft EIR and affected public agencies. The Recirculated Draft EIR was made available on the District's website and at the District's Offices. Thirty-three (33) comment letters/emails were received that raised many of the same concerns raised on the Draft EIR and several suggested a variant to Alternative 4, a new K-5 school that retains all four little league baseball fields and eliminates the residential development portion of the Project;

WHEREAS, in all, besides the Project, the combination of the Draft EIR, Recirculated Draft EIR, and the Final EIR environmentally analyzed the following alternatives and one variant:

- Alternative 1 – No Project / Existing School
- Alternative 2 – New Expanded K-8 School and Two Baseball Fields Retention
- Alternative 3 – New Replacement K-5 School and Residential Development
- Alternative 4 – New Expanded K-8 School and Four Baseball Fields Retention
- Variant – New K-5 School and Four Baseball Fields Retention

WHEREAS, on April 23, 2021, proposed responses to the public agency commenters on both the Draft EIR and Recirculated Draft EIR were delivered to each respective agency.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Education ("Board") hereby determines, finds, and resolves as follows:

SECTION 1. That the above recitals are true and correct.

SECTION 2. In totality, none of the comments identified a new significant or cumulatively considerable environmental impact, an increase in the severity of a significant or cumulatively considerable environmental impact, a feasible alternative to the Project or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed that would clearly lessen a significant environmental impact, or a feasible way to mitigate the one unavoidable significant traffic impact that the Project may cause. Further, the new information contained in

the Final EIR merely clarifies or amplifies and makes insignificant changes to the Draft EIR and Recirculated Draft. Accordingly, the Draft EIR, together with the Recirculated Draft EIR, are adequate and need not be further recirculated for additional public review and comment.

SECTION 3. The Final EIR, which contains the Comments and Responses to Comments, is attached as Exhibit 1 and complies with CEQA.

SECTION 4. The Findings prepared by the Environmental Consultant, attached as Exhibit 2, are the findings of this Board.

SECTION 5. The Project would cause two unavoidable significant impacts: the first to traffic at the intersection of Azusa Avenue and Pepper Brook Way; and the second for operational VMT. Although Mitigation Measures TRAN-1, to restripe the eastbound approach at Azusa Avenue and Pepper Brook Way and prohibiting right turns on read at the westbound approach could lessen this significant impact, it is not with the jurisdiction of the District to implement, and therefore, its implementation is speculative, and there are no other feasible mitigation measures available to reduce this traffic impact to less than significant; additionally, there are no feasible mitigation measures to reduce the significant VMT impact to less than significant; accordingly, a Statement of Overriding Considerations prepared by the Environmental Consultant (Exhibit 2) is the Board's Statement of Overriding Considerations. The Project will provide many generations of students with safe and secure facilities that maximize their learning environment, and the residential development sale will generate substantial revenue for the District. These social benefits outweigh the significant traffic and VMT impacts.

SECTION 6. The Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program ("MMRP"), attached as Exhibit 3, includes feasible mitigation measures that will mitigate those identified significant or cumulatively considerable impacts to less than significant.

SECTION 7. A reasonable range of Project alternatives is evaluated in the combination of the Draft EIR, Recirculated Draft EIR, and Final EIR.

SECTION 8. The Draft EIR, Recirculated Draft EIR, Final EIR, Responses to Comments, MMRP, Findings of Fact, Statement of Overriding Considerations, the Board Item, all referenced documents, the whole of the record of proceedings, and this Resolution have been independently reviewed and considered by the Board, and they wholly reflect the Board's independent judgment and analysis.

SECTION 9. The requirements of CEQA have been fulfilled for the Project, each Alternative, and the Variant.

SECTION 10. The District's Director of Purchasing and Warehouse, Joel Duarte is the custodian of the documents and other materials which constitute the record of proceedings upon which the Board's decision is based. The record of proceedings shall be maintained at the District's Offices located at 15959 E. Gale Avenue, City of Industry, California 91745.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby certifies that:

SECTION 1. The Draft EIR, Recirculated Draft EIR, and Final EIR have been completed in compliance with CEQA;

SECTION 2. The Draft EIR, Recirculated Draft EIR, and Final EIR were presented to the Board and that the Board has reviewed and considered the information contained in the Draft EIR, Recirculated Draft EIR, and Final EIR prior to approving the Project; and

SECTION 3. The Draft EIR, Recirculated Draft EIR, and Final EIR reflect the Board's independent judgment and analysis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby adopts:

SECTION 1. The Final EIR (Exhibit 1).

SECTION 2. The Findings of Fact/Statement of Overriding Considerations (Exhibit 2).

SECTION 3. The Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (Exhibit 3).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby decides to carry out (i.e., approve) the Project / ~~Alternative 1 / Alternative 2 / Alternative 3 / Alternative 4~~
K5 Variant. *with 4 Baseball Fields retention and no residential component*

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at a meeting of the Board of Education of the Hacienda La Puente Unified School District, at a meeting thereof duly held on the 6th day of May 2021 by a majority vote of all of its members.

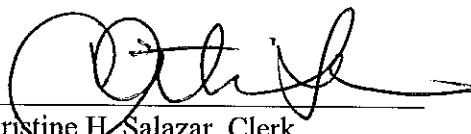
ADOPTED by following vote:

AYES, and in favor of, Members: 4

NOES, Members: 1

ABSTAIN, Members: 0

HACIENDA LA PUENTE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT


Christine H. Salazar, Clerk
Board of Education