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NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR EASTSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROJECT

TO: Agencies, Organizations and Interested Parties

PROJECT TITLE: Eastside Elementary School

SUBJECT: Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Eastside Elementary School Project

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Riverside Unified School District (District), as Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Eastside Elementary School Project (State Clearinghouse No. 2021040779) to address the potential impacts associated with implementation of the proposed project. The purpose of this notice is to (1) serve as a Notice of Availability (NOA) of a Draft EIR pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines Section 15087 and (2) advise and solicit comments regarding the content of the Draft EIR.

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY: Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21083 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15087, the Draft EIR will be available for a 45-day public review from **Friday, April 14, 2023**, through **Monday, May 29, 2023**. Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080.4, responsible and trustee agencies must submit any comments in response to this notice no later than 45 days after receipt.

The Draft EIR is available to be viewed online on Riverside Unified School District, Planning and Development website: https://bit.ly/Eastside_EIR

A hard copy of the Draft EIR could also be reviewed upon request during business hours of the following locations:

- RUSD District Office: 3380 14th Street, Riverside, CA 92501
- District’s Planning and Development Office: 3070 Washington Street, Riverside, CA 92504
- Lincoln High School: 4341 Victoria Ave., Riverside, CA 92507
- SPC Jesus Duran Eastside Library: 4033-C Chicago Avenue, Riverside, CA 92507

RIVERSIDE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

3380 14th Street
Riverside, CA 92501
(951) 788-7135

BUSINESS SERVICES

6050 Industrial Avenue
Riverside, CA 92504
(951) 352-6729

CENTRAL REGISTRATION CENTER

5700 Arlington Avenue
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(951) 352-1200

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WRITTEN COMMENTS: We ask that any person wishing to comment on the Draft EIR provide written comments by the end of the public review period at **5:00 p.m., Monday, May 29, 2023**. Please indicate a contact person and email your comments to:

Gaby Adame: gadame@riversideunified.org

Please include **“CEQA Eastside ES”** in the subject line.

The written comments can also be sent by U.S. mail to: **Riverside Unified School District, Planning and Development Office, 3070 Washington Street, Riverside, CA 92504. ATTN: Gaby Adame, Assistant Director, Planning & Development.**

PUBLIC HEARING: Please also be informed that the District’s Board of Education will hold a public hearing on **August 3, 2023**, or soon thereafter, to receive public comments, and consider the approval or denial of the proposed project and certification of the EIR.

PROJECT LOCATION: The District is considering three site design options (Options 1 through 3) with two different school boundary configurations in the Eastside Neighborhood of the City of Riverside, Riverside County. A total of 29 properties are involved, bounded by 13th Street to the north, 14th Street to the south, Howard Avenue to the west, and Victoria Street to the south. For the purposes of the Draft EIR, all properties and rights-of-way involved within the boundaries of Options 1 through 3 are collectively referred to as the project site.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The District proposes to develop a local school for the Eastside Neighborhood and evaluated three design options for the purposes of the CEQA analysis. All three options would vacate Park Avenue between 13th and 14th Streets, acquire and remove structures on parcels in Block B and C, and construct a school serving up to 800 students in grades transitional kindergarten (TK) through 6th with approximately 33 classrooms. All three options also assume that the existing two historic buildings (the bungalow and the multipurpose room) at the southeast corner of Lincoln High School would not be demolished. Table 1 provides a summary of the three options considered. It should be noted that all three site plan options are conceptual only, and the final design will not be available until an option is selected for further development by the Board of Education.

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Table 1 Summary of Project Options

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	
Option Description	Acquire Block B and C parcels and clear the land; demolish Lincoln High School; construct elementary school	Acquire Block B and C parcels and clear the land; keep Lincoln High School; construct elementary school; joint-use of Lincoln Park	Acquire Block B and C parcels and clear the land; Construct elementary school; Demo existing Lincoln High School and construct new high school	
Project Site Size	A total of 8.62 acres <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23 Parcels (4.05 acres) • 2 alleyways (0.22 acres) • Lincoln High School (3.9 acres, RUSD-owned) • Park Avenue segment to be vacated (0.45 acres) 	A total of 7.07 acres <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23 Parcels (4.05 acres) • 2 alleyways (0.22 acres) • A portion of Lincoln Park (0.78 acres) • A portion of Lincoln High School (1.05 acres, RUSD-owned) • Park Avenue segment to be vacated (0.45 acres) • 13th Street segment to be vacated (0.52 acres) 	A total of 8.62 acres <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23 Parcels (4.05 acres) • 2 alleyways (0.22 acres) • Lincoln High School (3.9 acres, RUSD-owned) • Park Avenue segment to be vacated (0.45 acres) 	
Total Building Demolition	45,505 sq. ft. (26,167 sf on Blocks B and C + 19,338 sf ¹ on Lincoln HS)	32,583 sq. ft. (26,167 sf on Block B and C parcels + 3,800 sf of portables on Lincoln HS)	45,505 sq. ft. (26,167 sf on Blocks B and C + 19,338 sf ¹ on Lincoln HS)	
Total Student Capacity	800 students (TK—6th)	800 students (TK—6th)	800 students (TK—6th)	200 students (Lincoln HS)
New Building Construction	Approx. 61,150 sq. ft.	Approx. 61,150 sq. ft.	Approx. 61,150 sq. ft. (TK—6th)	Approx. 22,200 sq. ft. (Lincoln HS)
Total New Construction	Approx. 61,150 sq. ft.	Approx. 61,150 sq. ft.	Approx. 83,350 sq. ft.	

¹ Total square footage to be demolished for Lincoln High School excludes the historic multipurpose room (8,743 sq. ft.) and the historic bungalow (1,973 sq. ft.).

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES: Based on the analysis in the Draft EIR, the District determined that implementation of the proposed project would result in potentially significant impacts related to air quality, cultural resources, hazards and hazardous materials, noise, and tribal cultural resources; however, with implementation of mitigation measures, all impacts except cultural resources were reduced to a less than significant level. The District determined that implementation of the proposed project would result in significant and unavoidable impacts related to historical cultural resources.

If you require additional information, please contact Gaby Adame at (951) 788-7496 ext. 84708.

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