

## 3. Project Description

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### 3.1 PROJECT LOCATION

Del Norte High School is located at 16601 Nighthawk Lane in San Diego, San Diego County, California (APNs 678-23-040 and 678-23-012). As shown in Figure 3-1, *Regional Location*, the City of San Diego is surrounded by the cities of Poway, Escondido, Solana Beach, Del Mar, Santee, and El Cajon and by unincorporated San Diego County. The Pacific Ocean forms the county's western margin.

Del Norte High School campus totals 62 acres and is bounded by Nighthawk Lane to the northwest, Del Sur Ridge Road and Lone Quail Road to the north, Deer Ridge Road to the east, and Camino San Bernardo to the south. The western 40 acres of the campus (APN 678-23-040) are in the City of San Diego, and the eastern 22 acres (APN 678-23-012) are in the unincorporated County of San Diego (see Figure 3-2, *Local Vicinity*). Del Norte High School is part of two master planned communities—the western 40 acres is in the Black Mountain Ranch Community Plan, and the eastern 22 acres is in the 4S Ranch Specific Plan.

The area of disturbance for the proposed project is the existing varsity baseball field and varsity softball field near the southeast corner of the Del Norte High School campus. The varsity baseball field is bordered by portable classrooms to the north, varsity softball field to the south, hardcourts and junior varsity baseball field to the east, and Deer Ridge Road to the west. The varsity softball field is bordered by the varsity baseball field to the north, softball practice field and turf athletic field to the east and south, and Deer Ridge Road to the west. See Figure 3-3, *Aerial Photograph*.

### 3.2 STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES

Objectives for the proposed project will aid decision makers in their review of the project and associated environmental impacts:

1. Extend use of the existing varsity baseball field and varsity softball field into evening hours by providing sports lighting.
2. Prevent detrimental consequences to baseball and softball games and practices from the new school start time of 8:30 am, prompted by Senate Bill 328.
3. Allow community use of the ballfields in the evening hours even after the new school start time of 8:30 am, prompted by Senate Bill 328.

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### 3.3 PROJECT CHARACTERISTICS

“Project,” as defined by the CEQA Guidelines, means:

... the whole of an action, which has a potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, and that is any of the following: (1)...enactment and amendment of zoning ordinances, and the adoption and amendment of local General Plans or elements thereof pursuant to Government Code Sections 65100–65700. (14 Cal. Code of Reg. Section 15378[a])

#### 3.3.1 Description of the Project

The District proposes to add competitive sports lighting to the existing varsity baseball and softball fields (ballfields) at Del Norte High School. See Figures 3-4, *Proposed Sports Lighting Locations*, and 3-5, *Sports Lighting System Summary*. No additional sports programs would be added that could increase participants or spectators. As with the existing conditions, the newly lit athletic facilities would be available for use by community groups after school hours, when the facilities are not in use by students, and during weekends, as provided by the District’s use policy under the Civic Center Act.

The proposed project would require limited demolition of hardscape and softscape to install lighting poles at the existing sports facilities. No structural demolition would be required, and no PA system would be installed. The lighting has been designed to meet the California Interscholastic Federation field lighting recommendations for competitive events. Sports lighting would consist of concrete bases with galvanized steel poles between 60 and 90 feet tall, with LED luminaires mounted at various heights (described below).

##### 3.3.1.1 VARSITY BASEBALL FIELD

The varsity baseball sports lighting would consist of eight galvanized steel poles (four 70 feet, two 80 feet, and two 90 feet tall) with LED luminaires mounted at various heights (see Figure 3-5). Four 70-foot outfield poles (C1, C2, D1, and D2) would each have 4 luminaires; two 80-foot infield poles (A1 and A2) would each have 6 luminaires; and two 90-foot poles (B1 and B2) by the bullpens would each have 10 luminaires—for a total of 48 LED luminaires mounted at various heights, from 16 feet to 90 feet. Average light levels for the baseball field would be approximately 52.6 foot-candles (fc) for the infield and 32.1 fc for the outfield.

##### 3.3.1.2 VARSITY SOFTBALL FIELD

The varsity softball sports lighting would consist of six galvanized steel poles (two 60 feet and four 70 feet tall) with LED luminaires mounted at various heights (see Figure 3-5). Two 60-foot outfield poles (C3 and C4) would each have 4 luminaires; two 70-foot poles by the bullpens (B3 and B4) would each have 7 luminaires; and two 70-foot poles near the infield (A3 and A4) would each have 5 luminaires—for a total of 32 LED luminaires mounted at various heights, from 16 feet to 70 feet. Average light levels for the softball field would be approximately 50.6 fc for the infield and 35 fc for the outfield.

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Figure 3-1 - Regional Location



Note: Unincorporated county areas are shown in white.  
Source: ESRI, 2019

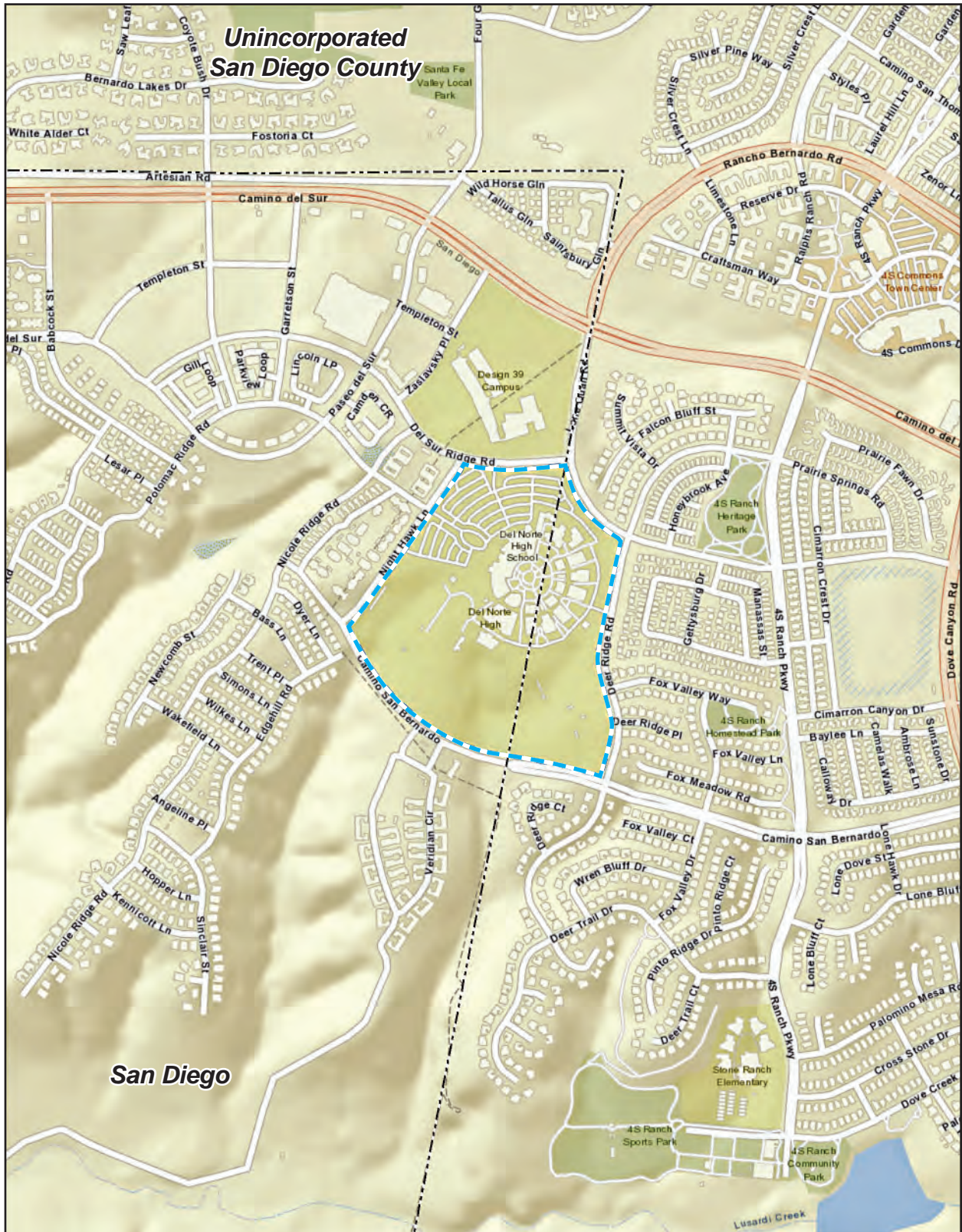


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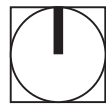
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Figure 3-2 - Local Vicinity



- — — School Boundary
- · · · City Boundary

Source: ESRI, 2020



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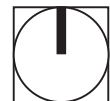
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Figure 3-3 - Aerial Photograph



--- School Boundary

0 325  
Scale (Feet)



Source: Nearmap, 2022

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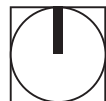
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Figure 3-4 - Proposed Sports Lighting Locations



- School Boundary
- C1 Lightpole Locations

0 150  
Scale (Feet)



Source: Nearmap, 2022; MUSCO, 2021

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Figure 3-5 - Sports Lighting System Summary

Lighting System

Pole / Fixture Summary						
Pole ID	Pole Height	Mtg Height	Fixture Qty	Luminaire Type	Load	Circuit
A1-A2	80'	80'	4	TLC-LED-1500	5.72 kW	A
		20'	1	TLC-BT-575	0.58 kW	A
		65'	1	FUTURE	0.40 kW	C
A3-A4	70'	70'	3	TLC-LED-900	2.67 kW	B
		20'	1	TLC-BT-575	0.58 kW	B
		65'	1	FUTURE	0.40 kW	C
B1-B2	90'	90'	3	TLC-LED-1500	4.29 kW	A
		90'	4	TLC-LED-900	3.56 kW	A
		20'	1	TLC-BT-575	0.58 kW	A
		80'	2	TLC-LED-1200	2.34 kW	A
B3	70'	70'	1	TLC-LED-1200	1.17 kW	B
		70'	1	TLC-LED-600	0.58 kW	B
		70'	3	TLC-LED-900	2.67 kW	B
		20'	1	TLC-BT-575	0.58 kW	B
		60'	1	TLC-LED-900	0.89 kW	B
B4	70'	70'	1	TLC-LED-1200	1.17 kW	B
		70'	4	TLC-LED-900	3.56 kW	B
		20'	1	TLC-BT-575	0.58 kW	B
		60'	1	TLC-LED-900	0.89 kW	B
C1-C2	70'	70'	1	TLC-LED-1500	1.43 kW	A
		70'	2	TLC-LED-900	1.78 kW	A
		16'	1	TLC-BT-575	0.58 kW	A
C3-C4	60'	60'	3	TLC-LED-900	2.67 kW	B
		16'	1	TLC-BT-575	0.58 kW	B
D1-D2	70'	70'	2	TLC-LED-1500	2.86 kW	A
		70'	1	TLC-LED-900	0.89 kW	A
		16'	1	TLC-BT-575	0.58 kW	A
<b>14</b>			<b>80</b>		<b>77.00 kW</b>	

Light Level Summary

Calculation Grid Summary									
Grid Name	Calculation Metric	Illumination					Circuits	Fixture Qty	
		Ave	Min	Max	Max/Min	Ave/Min			
BB LF Bull Pen	Horizontal	41	23	56	2.50	1.78	A	46	
BB RF Bull Pen	Horizontal	41.7	23	56	2.39	1.81	A	46	
Baseball (Infield)	Horizontal Illuminance	52.6	38	60	1.57	1.38	A	46	
Baseball (Outfield)	Horizontal Illuminance	32.1	23	50	2.20	1.40	A	46	
Far Sidewalk Spill	Horizontal	0	0	0	0.00		A,B,C,D,E	80	
Far Sidewalk Spill	Max Candela (by Fixture)	61.7	0.01	473	33055.44	6165.75	A,B,C,D,E	80	
Far Sidewalk Spill	Max Vertical Illuminance Metric	0	0	0.01	0.00		A,B,C,D,E	80	
Near Sidewalk Spill	Horizontal	0.12	0	2.88	0.00		A,B,C,D,E	80	
Near Sidewalk Spill	Max Candela (by Fixture)	1754	0	33336	0.00		A,B,C,D,E	80	
Near Sidewalk Spill	Max Vertical Illuminance Metric	0.16	0	3.06	0.00		A,B,C,D,E	80	
Road Spill	Horizontal	0	0	0.04	0.00		A,B,C,D,E	80	
Road Spill	Max Candela (by Fixture)	151	0	1222	0.00		A,B,C,D,E	80	
Road Spill	Max Vertical Illuminance Metric	0.01	0	0.07	0.00		A,B,C,D,E	80	
SB LF Bull Pen	Horizontal	41.5	22	55	2.47	1.88	B	30	
SB RF Bull Pen	Horizontal	42.1	26	55	2.16	1.62	B	30	
Softball (Infield)	Horizontal Illuminance	50.6	37	58	1.58	1.37	B	30	
Softball (Outfield)	Horizontal Illuminance	35	21	48	2.27	1.67	B	30	
Spill 0 Grid	Horizontal	1.49	0	32	131771.50		A,B,C,D,E	80	

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### 3.3.1.3 ACCESS

The ballfields are currently accessed through the main campus and through the existing pedestrian gate, which is just south of Deer Ridge Place on Deer Ridge Road, near the varsity softball field. A new emergency vehicle-only access driveway and a new pedestrian gate would be constructed on Deer Ridge Road between the varsity baseball field and the softball field. However, the new driveway and the access gate are not part of the proposed project and would be in place by the time the proposed project begins. No changes to the on- or off-site access to the ballfields would occur due to the proposed project.

### 3.3.1.4 ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE

There are a total of four ballfields at the high school, two baseball fields and two softball fields, and the proposed sports lighting project would allow extended use of the two varsity fields into evening hours by both students and the general public. As shown in Table 3-1, *Activities Schedule*, both ballfields are currently used by the students from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm for practices and from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm for games between February and June. When all four fields are used at the same time, there could be up to 175 participants and spectators combined. With installation of the sports lighting at two ballfields, the games and practices could be staggered into the evening hours, with approximately 60 participants and 80 spectators, a total of 140 people, during games on both fields. The proposed sports lighting project is not anticipated to change the number of practices and games or the number of attendees but would extend the hours of use until 8:00 pm on weekdays for practices and 6:30 pm for games. And from August to November, the weekday practice time for community use/little league would change from 4:00 pm to 6:30 pm to 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. No change in use during weekends is anticipated except for special occasions pursuant to the District's facilities use policy.

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**Table 3-1 Activities Schedule**

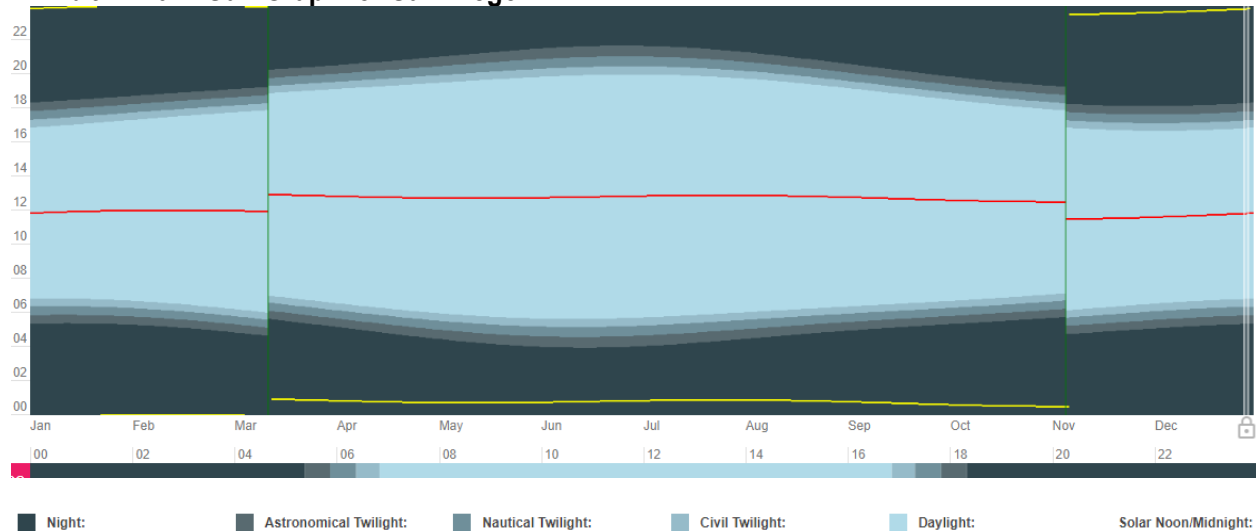
Use/Activity	Season (month)	Number per Season	Participants (players and coaches)	Spectators	Activities	
					Start	End
<b>Existing Use (Without Lighting)</b>						
<b>Varsity Baseball Field</b>						
Practices	Feb – June	Daily	Up to 35	0	2:00 pm	<b>6:00 pm</b>
Games/Events	Feb – June	15 (1–2 weekly)	Up to 60	80	3:30 pm	<b>5:30 pm</b>
Weekday Little League/ Community Use	Aug – Nov	3 times weekly	35	0	<b>4:00 pm</b>	<b>6:30 pm</b>
Weekend Little League/ Community Use	Aug – Nov	2 times a week	35	50	9:00 am	5:00 pm
<b>Varsity Softball Field</b>						
Practices	Feb – June	Daily	Up to 35	0	2:00 pm	<b>6:00 pm</b>
Games/Events	Feb – June	15 (1–2 weekly)	Up to 60	80	3:30 pm	<b>5:30 pm</b>
Weekday Little League/ Community Use	Aug – Nov	3 times a week	35	0	<b>4:00 pm</b>	<b>6:30 pm</b>
Weekend Little League/ Community Use	Aug – Nov	2 times a week	35	50	9:00 am	5:00 pm
<b>Proposed Use (With Lighting)</b>						
<b>Varsity Baseball Field</b>						
Practices	Feb – June	Daily	Up to 35	0	2:00 pm	<b>8:00 pm</b>
Games/Events	Feb – June	15 (1–2 weekly)	Up to 60	80	3:30 pm	<b>6:30 pm</b>
Weekday Little League/ Community Use	Aug – Nov	3 times a week	35	0	<b>5:30 pm</b>	<b>9:00 pm</b>
Weekend Little League/ Community Use	Aug – Nov	2 times a week	35	50	9:00 am	5:00 pm
<b>Varsity Softball Field</b>						
Practices	Feb – June	Daily	Up to 35	0	2:00 pm	<b>8:00 pm</b>
Games/Events	Feb – June	15 (1–2 weekly)	Up to 60	80	3:30 pm	<b>6:30 pm</b>
Weekday Little League/ Community Use	Aug – Nov	3 times a week	35	0	<b>5:30 pm</b>	<b>9:00 pm</b>
Weekend Little League/ Community Use	Aug – Nov	2 times a week	35	50	9:00 am	5:00 pm

**Bold text signifies change in schedule.**

As shown in below on Exhibit A, *2022 Sun Graph for San Diego*, from November to February, daylight is available until around 5:00 pm when the sun starts to set; from March to October, daylight is available until around 6:30 pm and as late as around 8 pm from May to July. The red line across the middle of the exhibit represents noon, and the shift in the lines shows daylight savings time between March and November. In February to early March, when the sun sets as early as 5:00 pm, the lights would be on until 8:00 pm for school practices, up to about three hours. From mid-March to June, daylight could be available as late as 7:00 or 7:30 pm, only requiring lights for an hour or less. From August to November, when the practices by community groups could go until 9:00 pm three times a week, the lights could be on for four hours in late October and November, but less earlier in the year.

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**Exhibit A: 2022 Sun Graph for San Diego**



Source: <https://www.timeanddate.com/sun/usa/san-diego>.

### 3.4 INTENDED USES OF THE SEIR

This DSEIR is a project SEIR that examines the environmental impacts of the proposed project. This DSEIR also addresses various actions by the District and others to adopt and implement the proposed project. It is the intent of this DSEIR to supplement the 2006 EIR and evaluate the environmental impacts of the proposed project, which was not included in the Certified EIR, thereby enabling the District, other responsible agencies, and interested parties to make informed decisions with respect to the proposed project. The anticipated approvals required for this project follow.

Lead Agency	Action
Poway Unified School District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approve the proposed project.</li> <li>Certify the SEIR.</li> <li>Adopt the Revised Mitigated Monitoring and Reporting Program.</li> </ul>
Responsible Agencies	Action
Department of General Services, Division of State Architect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approval of construction drawings.</li> </ul>

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