

**Notice of Intent to Adopt
A Mitigated Negative Declaration**
*Global Hispanic Serving Institution Equity Innovation Hub
California State University Northridge*

Pursuant to the State of California Public Resources Code Section 21092, this is to advise you that California State University Northridge (CSUN) has prepared an Initial Study-Mitigated Negative Declaration of environmental impacts for the following project:

Project Title: CSU Northridge Global Hispanic Serving Institution Equity Innovation Hub (HSI EIH)

Project Description: The project will provide a new campus building on the site of an existing surface parking lot on the east side of Jacaranda Hall. The buildable site area is approximately 60,000 square feet (sf) and the new two-story building will be less than 50 feet tall. The primary building entry will be located off of Jacaranda Walk, near its intersection with East University Drive/Lindley Avenue. The architectural style for the Global HSI EIH building will be consistent with Campus Building Guidelines. These Guidelines strive to maintain and enhance the campus as an attractive, accessible, safe and functional environment for learning, living, culture and recreation for students, faculty, and staff (CSUN 2005). The CSUN Master Plan Design Guidelines call for locating buildings of similar functions into one area, focusing on common open space areas and accessible circulation for pedestrian and well as vehicles. The proposed project will be consistent with the principles in the CSUN Master Plan Design Guidelines and the proposed building form and massing will be consistent with development requirements for foreground buildings on campus. Its size, massing, color, architectural features and building materials will serve as a point of reference to Jacaranda Hall. In addition, the project will include site improvements such as outdoor gathering and seating areas, shade trees and landscaping. Outdoor areas will include a "front yard/gathering place" that will include an architectural canopy, porch and outdoor display as well as a "backyard/workspace" that will include hang-out/study spaces and an outdoor lab yard. The project will provide the necessary accessible paths of travel to the new facility as well as maintain or improve access to existing adjacent buildings, parking areas, open spaces and public edges. The proposed building will be built to the standards of IIA Type (Title 24) construction per the California Building Code (CBC). Construction is anticipated to start in January 2023 and will occur over an approximately 18-month period. It is anticipated that soil required for grading will be balanced on-site and no soil import or export is anticipated to be required. The proposed project will have a slab on-grade concrete foundation with no piles required. Per the geotechnical report prepared for the project, existing soil conditions at the site include approximately three to seven feet of fill material underlain with alluvial soils comprised of sand, silt and clay (Geotechnologies Inc, 2021). Since the fill material is not suitable to support the building's foundation, it will be removed/over excavated to a minimum depth of three feet below the foundations and reused for re-compaction.

Project Location: California State University, Northridge (CSUN) campus, located at 18111 Nordhoff Street in the City of Los Angeles (APN 2764-014-906).

Environmental Determination: Based on the findings of the Initial Study-Mitigated Negative Declaration, CSUN has determined that, with mitigation, this project will not result in significant environmental impacts. Mitigation measures for biological resources, cultural resources, noise, and tribal cultural resources will be required to reduce impacts to less than significant. Accordingly, CSUN intends to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration, pursuant to Section 21080(c) of the Public Resources Code.

The project site is not included on the list of hazardous materials facilities, hazardous waste properties, or hazardous waste disposal sites enumerated under Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (Cortese List). A search on the Envirostor database did not identify any hazardous waste facilities or other cleanup within 1,000 feet of the project site. The Envirostor listing nearest to the site is approximately 0.3 miles north at Northridge Academy High School. This property had been identified as having soil contamination due to historic agricultural uses. However, a "No Further Action" was determined by the DTSC for the property as of January 18, 2002 (DTSC 2017).

Public Review/Public Comment Period: Copies of the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study are available for public review at: University Library, 18111 Nordhoff Street, Northridge, California, 91330; Northridge Public Library, 9051 Darby Avenue, Northridge, California, 91325; and online at <https://www.csun.edu/facilities/facilities-planning-services>.

A 30-day public review period for the Mitigated Negative Declaration begins on March 9, 2022 and ends April 8, 2022. If you would like to comment, please send written comments to:

Mary Clare Smithson, P.E., Capital Programs Manager
CSUN Facilities Planning, Design & Construction
18111 Nordhoff Street
Northridge, California 91330
(818) 677-2561

Public Hearing: The California State University (CSU) Board May 24 and 25, 2022. To confirm the date, time, and location of the meeting, please check the CSU Board of Trustees website at <https://www2.calstate.edu/csu-system/board-of-trustees> or contact the California State University Office of the Chancellor at 401 Golden Shore, California, Long Beach 98002, (562) 951-4000.