



# GARDEN GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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## **NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT for the SPORTS FACILITIES LIGHTING PROEJCT AT LA QUINTA HIGH SCHOOL**

**Subject:** Notice of Availability (NOA) of a Draft Environmental Impact Report

**Project:** **Sports Facilities Lighting Project at La Quinta High School**

**Lead Agency:** Garden Grove Unified School District

**Review Period:** June 15, 2022 to August 1, 2022 (45 days)

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that Garden Grove Unified School District has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Sports Facilities Lighting at La Quinta High School Project to address the potential environmental effects associated with implementation of the project. Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21165 and the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines (CEQA Guidelines) Section 15050, the Garden Grove Unified School District is the lead agency for the project. The purpose of this notice is to (1) serve as a Notice of Availability (NOA) of a DEIR pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines Section 15087 and (2) advise and solicit comments regarding the content of the DEIR.

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY:** Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21083 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15087, the DEIR will be available for a 45-day public review from **Wednesday, June 15, 2022, through Monday, August 1, 2022**. 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.

Copies of the DEIR are available for review at the following locations:

Garden Grove Unified School District  
District Office  
10331 Stanford Avenue  
Garden Grove, CA 92840

La Quinta High School  
Front Desk  
10372 McFadden Avenue  
Westminster, CA 92683

Garden Grove USD  
Facilities Department  
11700 Knott Avenue  
Garden Grove, California 92841

The document can also be accessed online at: <https://www.ggusd.us/departments/facilities>

**WRITTEN COMMENTS:** We ask that any person wishing to comment on the DEIR provide written comments by the end of the public review period at 5:00 p.m., **Monday, August 1, 2022**. You may send comments by email or mail to the addresses below:

**Subject: La Quinta High School Sports Lighting Project**      **Subject: La Quinta High School Sports Lighting Project**

By email: [facilities@ggusd.us](mailto:facilities@ggusd.us)

Attn: Kevin Heerschap, Assistant Director  
Garden Grove USD – Facilities Department  
11700 Knott Avenue  
Garden Grove, California 92841

**PROJECT LOCATION:** La Quinta High School is located at 10372 West McFadden Avenue in the City of Westminster. The proposed improvements would occur at La Quinta High School’s football/track, soccer, baseball, and softball fields, and 10 tennis courts.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The Garden Grove Unified School District plans to light the tennis courts, and football/track, baseball, softball, and soccer fields at La Quinta High School by installing 22 light poles. The proposed lighting improvements are prompted by the passage of Senate Bill (SB) 328, which requires high schools to start no earlier than 8:30 a.m. Instituting a later start time is expected to reduce the negative impacts of sleep deprivation on adolescents and give them multiple, safety, and learning benefits. However, with the later start time, schools will also end later, which will affect sports activities unless the athletic fields and courts are lighted for evening use.

The proposed sports lighting project would allow extended use of the listed athletic facilities into evening hours for the benefit of existing students. No additional student sports programs would be added that could increase participants or spectators. 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.

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 50 and 90 feet tall, with LED luminaires mounted at heights ranging from 16 feet to 80 feet. Construction of the sports lights is anticipated to take five months and is scheduled to start on March 1, 2023, and finish by August 30, 2023.


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.

**ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES:** Based on the analysis in the DEIR and comment letters received in response to the Notice of Preparation (NOP), the District determined that Implementation of the proposed project would result in significant and unavoidable impacts to Aesthetics.

**Project Sponsor:** Garden Grove Unified School District

**Consulting Firm:** PlaceWorks

**Date:** June 15, 2022

**Signature:** 

Kevin Heerschap, Assistant Director, Facilities Department Garden Grove Unified School District