

## **NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

### **FEDERATED INDIANS OF GRATON RANCHERIA LEARNING CENTER AT FAIRFIELD OSBORN PRESERVE**

Sonoma State University (SSU) is the lead agency for the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria Learning Center at Fairfield Osborn Preserve project (proposed project). The proposed project consists of improvements to the existing visitor center and adjacent grounds at the Fairfield Osborn Preserve (Preserve) in Sonoma County. The 450-acre Preserve is managed by the SSU Center for Environmental Inquiry and serves as a teaching, gathering, and outdoor exploration space that is frequented by students, faculty, visitors, and community members including Native American tribes. The proposed improvements include expansion of the existing surface parking, improved emergency vehicle access, fire prevention improvements, accessible pedestrian circulation, construction of an outdoor circular seating area and tiered seating area, and minor interior and exterior renovations to the existing visitor center. The total construction area is less than one acre. The visitor center, currently known as the Marjorie Osborn Education & Research Center, will be renamed the "Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria Learning Center at Fairfield Osborn Preserve" upon project completion.

The project site is located within the 450-acre Fairfield Osborn Preserve located at Sonoma Mountain, east of Penngrove, within Bennett Valley. The project site is accessed from Lichau Road. Surrounding land uses include open space and low-density rural residential uses.

SSU has prepared a draft Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) to assess the environmental impacts of the proposed project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act. Potentially significant environmental impacts related to biological resources, cultural resources, tribal cultural resources, and wildfire were identified. The IS/MND includes mitigation measures that would reduce these impacts to a less-than-significant level.

The IS/MND is being circulated for a 30-day public review beginning August 30, 2022, and ending September 28, 2022. The IS/MND is available on the SSU Facilities Management website: <http://facilities.sonoma.edu/services/campus-planning-design-construction/projects>

A copy of the IS/MND is also available for during review during regular business hours at the following location:

Facilities Management  
Sonoma State University  
1801 East Cotati Avenue  
Rohnert Park, California 94928-3609

The Facilities Management office is located in the Corporation Yard on Laurel Avenue west of Petaluma Hill Road.

Interested parties must submit their comments by 5:00 p.m. on September 28, 2022. Comments must be submitted via postal or electronic mail to the following address:

Attn: Anne Collins-Doehne  
Capital Planning, Design, and Construction  
Office of the Chancellor  
401 Golden Shore  
Long Beach, CA 90802-4210  
[acollins-doehne@calstate.edu](mailto:acollins-doehne@calstate.edu)

Following the end of the review period and consideration of comments received during public review, the final document will be considered by the Trustees of The California State University for certification prior to potential approval of the project.