

Merced Union High School District
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
Buhach Colony High School Stadium Project

Project Title: Buhach Colony High School Stadium Project

Lead Agency and Project Sponsor: Merced Union High School District

Contact Person:

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Project Location and Description:

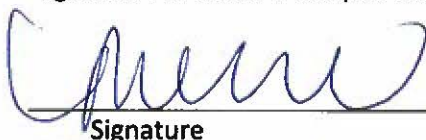
The project is proposed to be constructed on the existing Buhach Colony High School campus, located at the southeast corner of Buhach Road and Avenue Two in the City of Atwater, California. The stadium site is located within the interior of the existing campus in an area that is currently occupied by existing campus athletic facilities (a football field, running track, and baseball/softball fields). The project includes construction and operation of a 3,000-seat athletic stadium which would serve Buhach Colony High School's athletic programs. Facilities planned as part of the project include bleacher seating, monument entry, a ticket booth, an announcer's booth, two concession/team room/restroom buildings, a natural turf competition field, a rubberized running track, and a scoreboard. The existing football field and track has field lighting that would be used for the project. Additionally, the project includes landscaping features and new concrete-paved areas within the campus.

The project would operate year-round, with most activity occurring during the fall sports season. Games and practices would be scheduled on weekdays and weekends, and events would be scheduled during daytime and evening hours (not to exceed 10:00 p.m.). The project may also be utilized for hosting occasional non-athletic special events, such as pep rallies and graduation ceremonies.

If approved, the project is anticipated to begin construction in fall 2023 and begin operation in fall 2024.

Mitigation Measures: The District has incorporated mitigation measures into the project for potentially significant impacts related to biological resources, cultural resources, geology/soils, hydrology/water quality, noise, and transportation. The mitigation measures are included in the Initial Study.

Finding: As required by the California Environmental Quality Act, the District prepared an Initial Study for the project. Based on the Initial Study, the District determined that although the project could have a significant effect on the environment, there would not be a significant effect in this case because the District has incorporated mitigation measures into the project that would avoid any significant effects of the project or reduce the effects to a less than significant level. Therefore, it is the intent of Merced Union High School District to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project.


Signature

September 21, 2023
Date

Melissa Miller
Print Name

Facilities Planning Manager
Title