

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Miguel Cruz
Director III- Facilities, Maintenance, Operations and Transportation
Hayward Unified School District
24400 Amador Street
Hayward, CA 94544

County Clerk:
County Clerk - Assessor - Recorder - Elections
County of Alameda
1106 Madison Street
Oakland, CA 94607

Project Title: Hayward Unified School District High School Modernization Pre-Construction Program

Project Applicant: Hayward Unified School District

Project Location – Specific:

The project site includes three Hayward Unified School District high schools:

1. Mt. Eden High School, 2300 Panama Street, Hayward, CA, 94545 (APN# 455-72-94-1 and 463-1-1-2)
2. Tennyson High School, 27035 Whitman Street, Hayward, CA, 94544 (APN# 4520-0400-0201)
3. Hayward High School, 1633 East Avenue, Hayward, CA, 94541 (APN# 4260-1900-0100)

Project Location – City: Hayward

Project Location – County: Alameda

Description of Setting:

Mt. Eden High School is in the Glen Eden neighborhood of Hayward. The campus is one-mile west of Interstate 880 and two miles south of the San Mateo Bridge. The Glen Eden neighborhood is largely residential and the school is nearly fully surrounded by housing. Multiple blocks of single-family homes surround the school to the north. These homes wrap around the school to the east, across Calaroga Avenue. Leadership Public Schools, a charter high school, is located south of Mt. Eden High School. Single-family homes also line Catalpa Way along the southern boundary of the school; directly behind these homes is a large mobile home park.

Tennyson High School is in the Whitman-Wocine neighborhood of Hayward. It is nearly fully surrounded by single family homes. Residences on Sierrawood Avenue and beyond line the southern boundary of the school, while the eastern boundary is lined by homes just beyond Whitman Street. The Amtrak rail right-of-way forms the western boundary of the school. Hayward Area Recreation and Parks District's Sorensdale Park and Recreation Center, a small community facility, is located adjacent to the school to the north. A community church known as the Bridge of Faith is located just south of the student parking lot.

Hayward High School is in the Mission-Foothill neighborhood of Hayward. The campus is one mile east of Interstate 238 and 3.1 miles south of Interstate 580. The school abuts residential hillsides at eastern the city limits. Low-density single-family homes surround the school to the east, north and south. The topography flattens to the west of the school. This area that is mostly developed with multi-family housing.

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Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Nature of the Project

The proposed project would include similar sets of utilities-related and minor physical upgrades to classroom and non-classroom buildings at three high school sites. Portable classrooms would be installed on a temporary basis during the upgrade process.

The proposed project would not expand existing buildings, construct new permanent buildings or accommodate increased student or staff capacity at any of the schools.

Project Purpose

The purposes of the proposed project are to:

- Improve the indoor learning environments for all Mt. Eden, Tennyson and Hayward High School students and staff.
- Facilitate improved coordination and communication throughout different campus facilities at all three high schools.
- Improve safety and emergency response for students and staff at all three high schools.
- Increase the accessibility of all campus facilities for all students at all three high schools.

Proposed Improvements

The proposed project would include the following primary improvements at each high school:

- Replacement of and upgrades to finishes, including plaster and gypsum board, tiling, ceilings and acoustical ceilings.
- Furniture, casework and storage upgrades.
- New window treatments.
- New and upgraded fire suppression and fire-extinguishing systems.
- Electrical system upgrades.
- Communications systems, cabling and data systems upgrades.
- Replacement of HVAC equipment.
- Building access upgrades for ADA compliance.
- Water utilities, sanitary sewerage utilities and storm drainage utilities upgrades and improvements.

None of the proposed improvements are intended to increase student or staff capacity.

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Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Hayward Unified School District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Hayward Unified School District

Exempt Status: (check one):

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number:
 - Class 14, Minor Additions to Schools (Section 15314)
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:

Class 14, Minor Additions to Schools (Section 15314)

Class 14 consists of minor additions to existing schools within existing school grounds where the addition does not increase original student capacity by more than 25% or ten classrooms, whichever is less. The addition of portable classrooms is included in this exemption.

The proposed project would qualify for a Class 14 Categorical Exemption because it would not increase the number or size of classrooms or the existing student bodies of Mt. Eden High School, Tennyson High School or Hayward High School. The project would be limited to systems, utilities and surfaces-related upgrades and additions, all of which would target existing buildings and facilities. Portable classrooms would be installed temporarily to ensure the continuity of learning programs and student safety during the upgrades. No new classrooms would be built and no new students accommodated.

Exceptions to Categorical Exemption Analysis

15300.2 Exceptions

(a) Cumulative Impact. All exemptions for these classes are inapplicable when the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time is significant.

This exception does not apply to the proposed project. In addition to the proposed project the District is planning the Multi-Campus Classroom Upgrades Program, a separate suite of similar upgrades and ADA-accessibility improvements to classrooms at the following elementary schools:

1. Cesar Chavez Middle School, 27845 Whitman Street, Hayward, CA 94544 (APN# 452-0061-120-02)
2. Treeview Elementary School, 30565 Treeview Street, Hayward, CA 94544 (APN# 083-0221-028-08)
3. Southgate Elementary School, 26601 Calaroga Avenue, Hayward, CA 94545 (APN# 455-0012-027-00)
4. Longwood Elementary School, 850 Longwood Avenue Hayward, CA 9454 (APN# 432-0044-061-00)
5. Ruus Elementary School, 28027 Dickens Avenue, Hayward, CA 94544 (APN# 464-0045-014-00)

Like the proposed project, this project would not expand existing buildings, construct new buildings or increase student capacity.

Both projects would be limited to previously-developed school sites. Both are consistent with underlying land use and zoning. Neither project would expand the number of classrooms or the student body of the respective schools. Tennyson High School and Cesar Chavez Middle School are 0.5 miles apart. This is the nearest distance between any of the project sites. This distance, combined with the fact that neither project would introduce new uses to their respective sites or accommodate population growth, negates the potential for significant cumulative impacts. Both projects would have no or less-than-significant impacts related to aesthetics; air quality; biological, cultural, tribal cultural and historic resources; geology; hazards materials,

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hydrology; population and housing; transportation; utilities and wildfire. This would result in less-than-significant cumulative impacts. Accordingly, this exception does not apply to the proposed project.

(b) Significant Effect. A categorical exemption shall not be used for an activity where there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.

This exception does not apply to the proposed project. The proposed project would be consistent with the underlying land use and existing land uses of every proposed site. It would not require grading activities, trenching, piling or construction; changes to site aesthetics; or improvements to site circulation, parking or right-of-way. The proposed project would not increase the total impervious surface of the site; nor would it result in an increase in population or housing. As described in Sections (c) through (e), there are no unusual circumstances at any of the school sites that would increase the possibility that the project would have significant aesthetic, agricultural, air quality, biological, cultural resources, hydrological, land use, hazards-related, transportation or other environmental effects.

(c) Scenic Highways. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources, within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway. This does not apply to improvements which are required as mitigation by an adopted negative declaration or certified EIR.

This exception does not apply to the proposed project. The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) designates roadways that provide scenic views as official State Scenic Highways or Corridors.

No designated or eligible State Scenic Highways or routes are located in the vicinity of Mt. Eden High School. The closest State designated Scenic Highway to the site is a segment of Interstate 580 (I-580) approximately 4.5 miles north of the school campus.¹ Due to the distance between I-580 and the project site and the nature of the project, the project would not be visible from I-580. The project site does not contain any other scenic resources, rock outcroppings, or unique features. Given this distance, the low vertical profile of the proposed project and the location of the project site on an existing school campus, this exception does not apply to the proposed project.

No designated or eligible State Scenic Highways or routes are located in the vicinity of Tennyson High School. The closest State designated Scenic Highway to the site is a segment of Interstate 580 (I-580) approximately 3.4 miles north of the school campus.² Due to the distance between I-580 and the project site and the nature of the project, the project would not be visible from I-580. The project site does not contain any other scenic resources, rock outcroppings, or unique features. Given this distance, the low vertical profile of the proposed project and the location of the project site on an existing school campus, this exception does not apply to the proposed project.

No designated or eligible State Scenic Highways or routes are located in the vicinity of Hayward High School. The closest State designated Scenic Highway to the site is a segment of Interstate 580 (I-580) approximately 1.4 miles north of the school campus.³ Due to the distance between I-580 and the project site and the nature of the project, the project would not be visible from I-580. The project site does not contain any other scenic resources, rock outcroppings, or unique features. Given this distance, the low vertical profile of the proposed project and the location of the project site on an existing school campus, this exception does not apply to the proposed project.

¹ California Department of Transportation, State Scenic Highway Map web page, <https://caltrans.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=465dfd3d807c46cc8e8057116f1aacc>, accessed August 8, 2022.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

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(d) Hazardous Waste Sites. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

This exception does not apply to the proposed project. None of the three high school sites is on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5. In meeting the provisions in Government Code Section 65962.5, commonly referred to as the "Cortese List," a series of database resources provide information regarding identified facilities or sites. These include the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) EnviroStor database and the California State Water Resources Control Board (WRCB) GeoTracker database.

Mt. Eden High School

Per the California State Water Resources Control Board GeoTracker database, there are no hazardous waste sites on the Mt. Eden High School campus. The only site within 1,000 feet of the school is a Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Cleanup Site at 27814 Hesperian Boulevard, whose status is "Completed-Case Closed."⁴

According to the Department of Toxic Substances Control EnviroStor tracking system, there are no federal Superfund, State response, voluntary cleanup, tiered permit, corrective action, hazardous waste permit, or monitoring wells within 1,000 feet of the Mt. Eden High School site.⁵

The project site is not on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code.

Tennyson High School

Per the California State Water Resources Control Board GeoTracker database, there are no hazardous waste sites on the Tennyson High School campus or within 1,000 feet of the school.⁶

According to the Department of Toxic Substances Control EnviroStor tracking system, there are no federal Superfund, State response, voluntary cleanup, tiered permit, corrective action, hazardous waste permit, or monitoring wells within 1,000 feet of the Tennyson High School site.⁷

The project site is not on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code.

Hayward High School

Per the California State Water Resources Control Board GeoTracker database, there are no hazardous waste sites on the Hayward High School campus or within 1,000 feet of the school.⁸

According to the Department of Toxic Substances Control EnviroStor tracking system, there are no federal Superfund, State response, voluntary cleanup, tiered permit, corrective action, hazardous waste permit, or monitoring wells within 1,000 feet of the Hayward High School site.⁹

The project site is not on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code.

⁴ California State Water Resources Control Board, GeoTracker webpage, <https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/map/?CMD=runreport&myaddress=Mt.+Eden+High+School>, accessed August 9, 2022.

⁵ California Department of Toxic Substances Control, EnviroStor webpage, <https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/map/?myaddress=Mt.+Eden+High+School>, accessed August 9, 2022.

⁶ California State Water Resources Control Board, GeoTracker webpage, <https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/map/?CMD=runreport&myaddress=Tennyson+High+School>, accessed August 9, 2022.

⁷ California Department of Toxic Substances Control, EnviroStor webpage, <https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/map/?myaddress=Mt.+Eden+High+School>, accessed August 9, 2022.

⁸ California State Water Resources Control Board, GeoTracker webpage, <https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/map/?CMD=runreport&myaddress=Hayward+High+School>, accessed August 9, 2022.

⁹ California Department of Toxic Substances Control, EnviroStor webpage, <https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/map/?myaddress=Mt.+Eden+High+School>, accessed August 9, 2022.

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Accordingly, this exception does not apply to the proposed project.

(e) Historical Resources. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

Mt. Eden High School is not listed on any national or state historic registers.¹⁰ The City of Hayward property database lists "Historic Resources" as "None" for the parcel.¹¹

Tennyson High School is not listed on any national or state historic registers.¹² The City of Hayward property database lists "Historic Resources" as "None" for the parcel.¹³

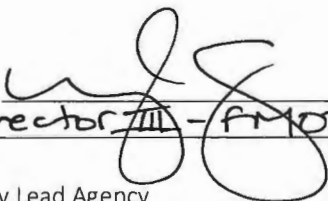
Hayward High School is not listed on any national or state historic registers.¹⁴ The City of Hayward property database lists "Historic Resources" as "None" for the parcel.¹⁵

The proposed project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historic resource. This exception does not apply to the project.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Miguel Cruz, Director III- Facilities, Maintenance, Operations and Transportation
Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (510) 784-2600 Ext. 72800

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature:  Date: 11/7/22
Title: Director III - FMOT

- Signed by Lead Agency
 Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Date Received for filing at OPR: _____
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

¹⁰ California Office of Historic Preservation, California Historical Landmarks by County web page, https://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21388, accessed August 9, 2022.
¹¹ City of Hayward, GIS Web Map page, <http://webmap.hayward-ca.gov/>, accessed August 9, 2022.
¹² California Office of Historic Preservation, California Historical Landmarks by County web page, https://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21388, accessed August 9, 2022
¹³ City of Hayward, GIS Web Map page, <http://webmap.hayward-ca.gov/>, accessed August 9, 2022.
¹⁴ California Office of Historic Preservation, California Historical Landmarks by County web page, https://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21388, accessed August 9, 2022.
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