

**Los Banos Unified School District**  
**Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the**  
**Early Learning Center Project**  
(SCH No. 2023020521)

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:**

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act, Los Banos Unified School District has prepared an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed Early Learning Center (“project”). Based on the Initial Study, the District has determined that although the project could have a significant effect on the environment, there would not be a significant effect because the District has incorporated into the project mitigation measures that would avoid any significant effects of the project or reduce the effects to an insignificant level.

The Governing Board of Los Banos Unified School District will consider adopting the Mitigated Negative Declaration and approving the project on Thursday, March 14, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible in the Los Banos City Council Chambers, 520 J Street, Los Banos, California. All interested persons are invited to attend this meeting and present testimony regarding the project.

**Project Location and Description:**

The Los Banos Unified School District (District) is proposing to construct and operate the Early Learning Center Project (project) on 4.58 acres located at the southwest corner of East B Street and Place Road in the City of Los Banos, Merced County, California. The project will primarily serve Transitional Kindergarten (TK) students in the District and is needed as a result of the implementation of universal TK in California. The project will also serve Pre-K students. Facilities proposed as part of the project include five classroom buildings, an office/multi-purpose building, playground areas with shade structures, grass-turfed play areas, and other related hardscape and landscape features. The total number of classrooms is 19, of which 15 will be used for TK students and four will be used for Pre-K students. The project will serve 300 students, with 150 attending in the morning and 150 attending in the afternoon. The project will employ 52 faculty and staff. Construction of the project will begin in spring 2024 and is anticipated to be completed and operational by August 2025.

**Public Review and Comment:**

Members of the public and interested agencies may review and submit written comments on the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study. The documents are available for review at the Los Banos Unified School District Office, 1717 S. 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Los Banos, California, and on the District’s website:

<https://www.losbanosusd.org/page/facilities-operations-transportation>.

The public review period will begin on Friday, January 26, 2024, and end on Monday, February 26, 2024. Please submit your written comments to Sherry Munday, Facilities & Special Projects Manager, 646 West Pacheco Boulevard, Los Banos, California, 93635, email: [smunday@losbanosusd.k12.ca.us](mailto:smunday@losbanosusd.k12.ca.us), (209) 826-1936.