

Los Banos Unified School District
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
Early Learning Center Project
(State Clearinghouse No. 2023020521)

Project Title: Early Learning Center Project

Lead Agency and Project Sponsor: Los Banos Unified School District


Contact Person:

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Project Description and Location: 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.

Mitigation Measures: The District has incorporated into the project mitigation measures for potentially significant project impacts related to aesthetics, air quality, cultural resources, greenhouse gases, noise, transportation, and tribal cultural resources. The mitigation measures are included in Table 1 of 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 incorporated into the project mitigation measures that would avoid any significant effects of the project or reduce the effects to an insignificant level. Therefore, it is the intent of Los Banos Unified School District to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project.

	1/24/2024
Signature	Date
Dr. Sypher Lee	Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services
Print Name	Title