

Marysville Joint Unified School District
Notice of Exemption

To: Clerk of the Board
County of Yuba
915 8th Street, Suite 109
Marysville, CA 95901

Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814
Submitted electronically via
CEQASubmit

From: Marysville Joint Unified School District
1919 B Street
Marysville, CA 95901

PROJECT TITLE

Lindhurst High School Track and Stadium Improvement Project

Project Address:

4446 Olive Ave, Olivehurst, CA 95961

Assessor's Parcel Number:

014-160-042-000

Project Location:

Olivehurst (unincorporated community)

County of:

Yuba County

Project Description:

The Marysville Joint Unified School District (MJUSD) is comprised of multiple schools that serve grades K-12. The school district consists of two high schools, Lindhurst High school and Marysville High School, and serves the communities of Marysville, Linda, Olivehurst, Challenge-Brownsville, Dobbins, Loma Rica, and Plumas Lake.

Lindhurst High School is located south of Marysville and serves the communities of Linda and Olivehurst. It was established in 1975 and served 1,175 students in the 2021/2022 academic year and was projected to serve 1,320 students in the 2022/2023 academic year (MJUSD 2022). The existing campus and surrounding properties are shown in Figure 1, Lindhurst High School Existing Conditions.

The project would improve the track and stadium facilities at the high school. The reconstructed facilities would serve the existing athletic program at Lindhurst High School and will require limited construction.

The project consists of the following elements and the final site condition is reflected in Figure 2, Proposed Site Plan:

- Demolition and/or removal of existing bleachers, drain inlets within the playing field, decomposed granite track surface, concrete and asphalt along with underlying base material throughout the site, portions of chain link fencing, and accessory facilities such as the shotput landing area.
- Reconditioning the natural turf within the stadium.
- Grading across the track area and perimeter of the project site, including creation of a detention basin and drainage swales.

- Installation of electrical conduit; water and utility lines; storm drain inlets and drainage lines and connection of the new drainage infrastructure to the storm drain system which includes a perimeter collector/infiltration subdrain to collect runoff from the track surface.
- Installation of new bleachers in approximately the same location as existing bleachers, with 746 seats for the home side bleachers and 265 seats for the guest side bleachers and including a press box.
- Installation of an all-weather surface for the track and field facilities consisting of asphalt pavement and rubberized track surfacing. The proposed track will be located in the same footprint as the existing with the exception of the new all-weather north D-zone for pole vault and high jump.
- Improvements to the existing public address system.
- Retention in-place of existing lighting and scoreboard and addition of emergency egress lighting.
- Planting of approximately 12 new trees, accent planting along the track’s north edge and laying sod in gathering areas.

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

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Marysville Joint Unified School District

Lead Agency Contact Person: Jennifer Passaglia, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Phone: 530.749.6115

Signature:  Date: 5-31-23

EXEMPT STATUS

	Ministerial Project (Section 21080(b)(1); 15268)
✓	Categorically Exempt Classes: 2 Replacement or Reconstruction; 14 Minor Additions to Schools
	Declared Emergency (Section 21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
	Emergency Project (Section 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))
	Statutory Exemption (Code/Section _____)
	The project clearly will not have a significant effect on the environment (15061(b)(3))

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

Reasons why project is exempt: CEQA provides several “categorical exemptions” which are applicable to categories of projects and activities that the Lead Agency has determined generally do not pose a risk of significant impacts on the environment. The project consists of new construction within an existing school campus within the developed area of the unincorporated community of Olivehurst. The project is exempt under CEQA Guidelines Section 15302 - Replacement or Reconstruction, and Section 15314 - Minor Additions to Schools. The project meets the conditions for these exemptions as explained below.

Replacement or Reconstruction (Class 2). Class 2 consists of replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced.

The proposed project would consist of replacement of existing bleachers and reconditions of existing sod at the Lindhurst High School stadium and reconstruction of the existing track and field facility to convert it to an all-weather surface. The stadium and track and field replacement and reconstruction would support the existing athletics program and would not support any changes in the purpose or capacity of the facility or changes in the athletics programming for the campus.

Minor Additions to Schools (Class 14). 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 replace and reconstruct elements of the existing stadium and track and field facility at Lindhurst High School. The stadium and track and field replacement and reconstruction would support the existing athletics program at the campus and would not add any new classrooms or support an increase in student capacity.

Exceptions to Use of a Categorical Exemption: The proposed project does not have the potential to trigger any of the exceptions identified in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 prohibiting the use of a categorical exemption.

- a. Location. Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, and 11 are qualified by consideration of where the project is to be located - a project that ordinarily would have insignificant environmental impacts may result in significant impacts if it is located in a particularly sensitive environment, such as a site that contains an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.

Although this exception is not required to be considered for Classes 2 and 14, it is evaluated here to ensure a conservative and comprehensive analysis.

Dudek biologists reviewed aerial photographs of the project site and mapping of critical habitat designations in the region. Dudek biologists determined that the project site does not support any biological environmental resources of critical concern. Dudek archaeologists conducted an archaeological inventory and survey for the project site and determined that the site does not support any archaeological environmental resources of critical concern (Dudek 2023a). Dudek CEQA practitioners reviewed databases of hazardous materials sites (Department of Toxic Substances Control 2023, State Water Resources Control Board 2023), geologic hazard maps (California Department of Conservation 2023), and fire hazard severity maps (California Natural Resources Agency 2023). The site does not contain environmental resources of hazardous concerns.

- b. Cumulative Impact. A categorical exemption cannot be used when a significant cumulative impact would result from successive projects of the same type in the same place.

The properties adjacent to Lindhurst High School are developed with residential, retail, and quasi-public land uses. The Sierra View Mortuary and Memorial Park is located north of Lindhurst High School while residential neighborhoods, Johnson Park Elementary School, and retail businesses are located to the south. On the western and eastern sides of the project site there are more residential communities and two major highways (State Routes 70 and 65). There are no proposed or approved development projects proximate to the campus (Yuba County 2023).

Future projects within the campus are expected to consist of ongoing facility maintenance and modernization, as described in the MJUSD Facility Master Plan (MJUSD 2022), which includes updates to wall, floor, and ceiling finishes in classroom buildings, the gymnasium, and kitchen; replacing portables with modular buildings; and repaving the parking lot and hardcourt areas. These projects would not expand the campus footprint, substantially change student enrollment capacity, introduce new noise sources, or create other adverse effects to surrounding land uses.

There are no known recent past projects or future projects proposed on the school site or in the project vicinity that, when combined with the proposed project, would result in a cumulatively considerable effect on the environment. Thus, there are no anticipated significant cumulative impacts in the project area to which this project could contribute, and this exception does not apply to the project.

- c. Significant Impact. A categorical exemption cannot be used when 'there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.'

The proposed project would occur within the existing Lindhurst High School campus in the community of Olivehurst. The project site has been previously disturbed with construction of the stadium and track facilities, which are subject to routine property maintenance, and all adjacent areas have been previously disturbed with construction, use, and maintenance of other campus structures and improvements.

As noted above, Dudek biologists, archaeologists, and CEQA practitioners determined that there are no environmental resources of critical concern or sensitive environmental resources at the project site that could indicate an unusual circumstance.

There are existing trees and non-turf vegetation within and surrounding the project site that could support nesting birds. Nesting birds are present throughout the state and thus this does not represent an unusual circumstance. MJUSD and its contractors would ensure that construction complies with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act by removing vegetation outside of the bird nesting season (February 1 to September 30) when feasible and/or by retaining a qualified biologist to conduct a preconstruction nesting survey no sooner than 7 days prior to construction and postponing construction activities proximate to any active nests, at the direction of the qualified biologist, until young have fledged.

Similarly, there are no known archeological resources within the project site and the site has a low potential to support subsurface resources (Dudek 2023a). Further, the project involves limited amounts of grading and trenching. There is a potential to encounter human remains during earth-moving activities, however this is common to most development projects throughout the state and does not represent an unusual circumstance. Should any human remains be encountered, MJUSD and its contractors would be required to comply with California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, which requires that all construction work occurring within 100 feet of the find shall immediately stop, the county coroner be notified within 2 days, and that the coroner comply with evaluation, notification, and consultation protocols as defined in the Health and Safety Code.

- d. Scenic Highways. A categorical exemption cannot be used for a project that could result scenic resources within view of an officially designated state scenic highway.

The project site is not visible from any officially designated scenic highway (Caltrans 2023). Therefore, this exception does not apply to the project.

- e. Hazardous Waste Sites. A categorical exemption cannot be used for a project site that is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

According to the Geotracker database (State Water Resources Control Board 2023) and the Envirostor database (Department of Toxic Substances Control 2023), there are no active hazardous materials sites within the project site or in the project vicinity. Thus this exception does not apply to the project because the project site is not included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

- d. Historical Resources. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

Dudek architectural historians prepared a Built Environment Inventory and Evaluation Report that documents the development history of Lindhurst High School and provides analysis that demonstrates the campus does not meet local, state, and/or federal criteria for the identification of historic resources. Thus, the project would not cause an adverse change in the significance of a historical resource and this exception does not apply to the project.

FIGURES

Figure 1 Lindhurst High School Existing Conditions

Figure 2 Proposed Site Plan

REFERENCES

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). 2023. List of eligible and officially designated State Scenic Highways. Accessed May 3, 2023. Available: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/design/lap-landscape-architecture-and-community-livability/lap-liv-i-scenic-highways>

California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). 2023. Envirostor. Accessed March 21, 2023. Available: <https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/>

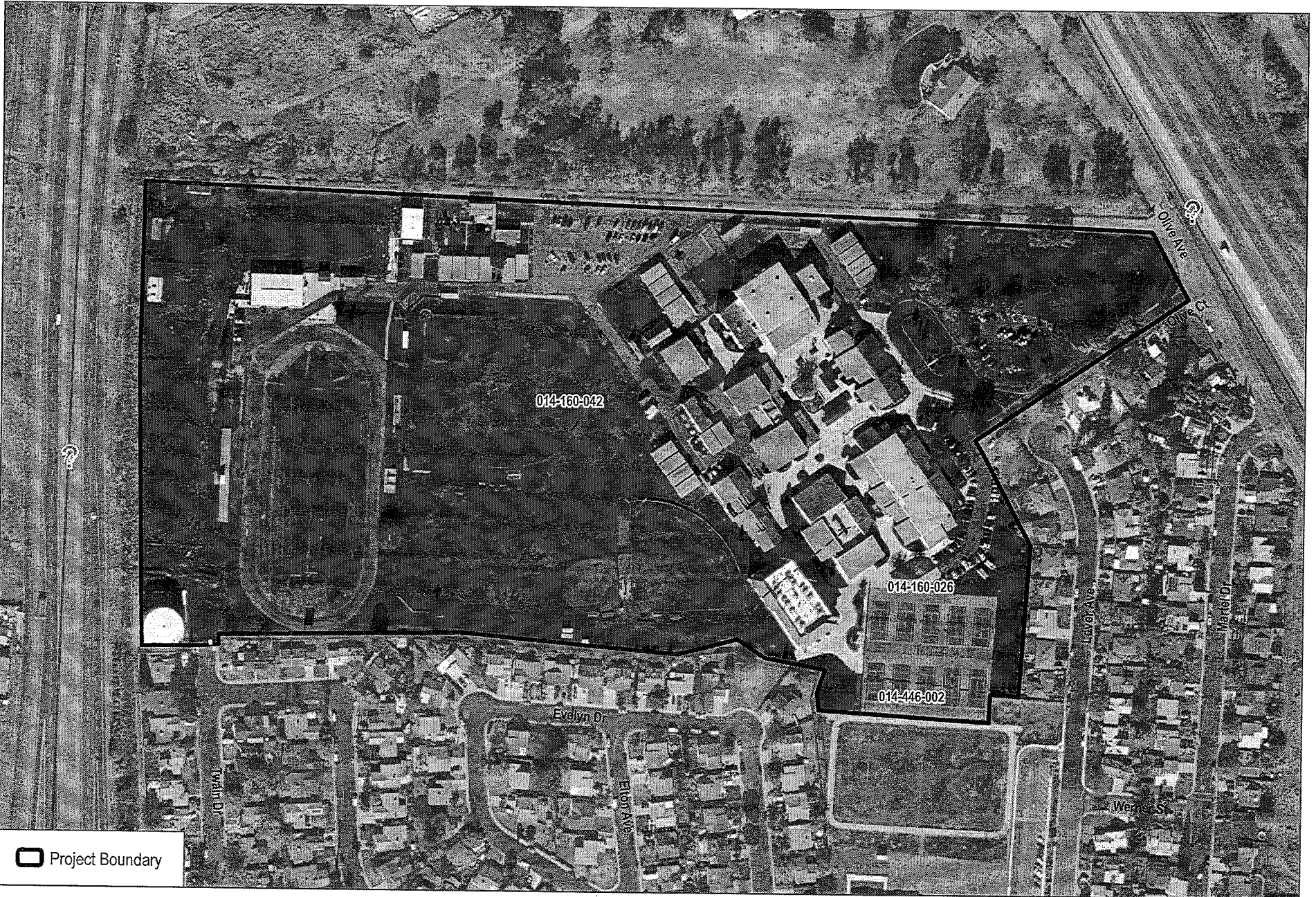
Dudek. 2023a. Cultural Resources Inventory Report Lindhurst High School Track and Stadium Improvements Project, Yuba County, California. May 2023.


Dudek. 2023b. Built Environment Inventory and Evaluation Report Lindhurst High School Track and Stadium Improvements. May 2023.

Marysville Joint Unified School District (MJUSD). 2022. Facilities Master Plan. Prepared by PBK Architects, Inc on behalf of MJUSD. August 2022. Available:
<https://www.mjUSD.com/documents/District/Departments/Business%20Services%20Division/Buildings%20and%20Grounds/2022-23/Facilities%20Master%20Plan/Facilities-Master-Plan-Complete-9.15.22-new.pdf>

State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). GeoTracker. Accessed March 21, 2023.
Available: <https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/>

Yuba County. 2023. South Yuba County Development Map. Maps undated; accessed May 3, 2023. Available:
https://www.yuba.org/departments/community_development/planning_department/maps.php

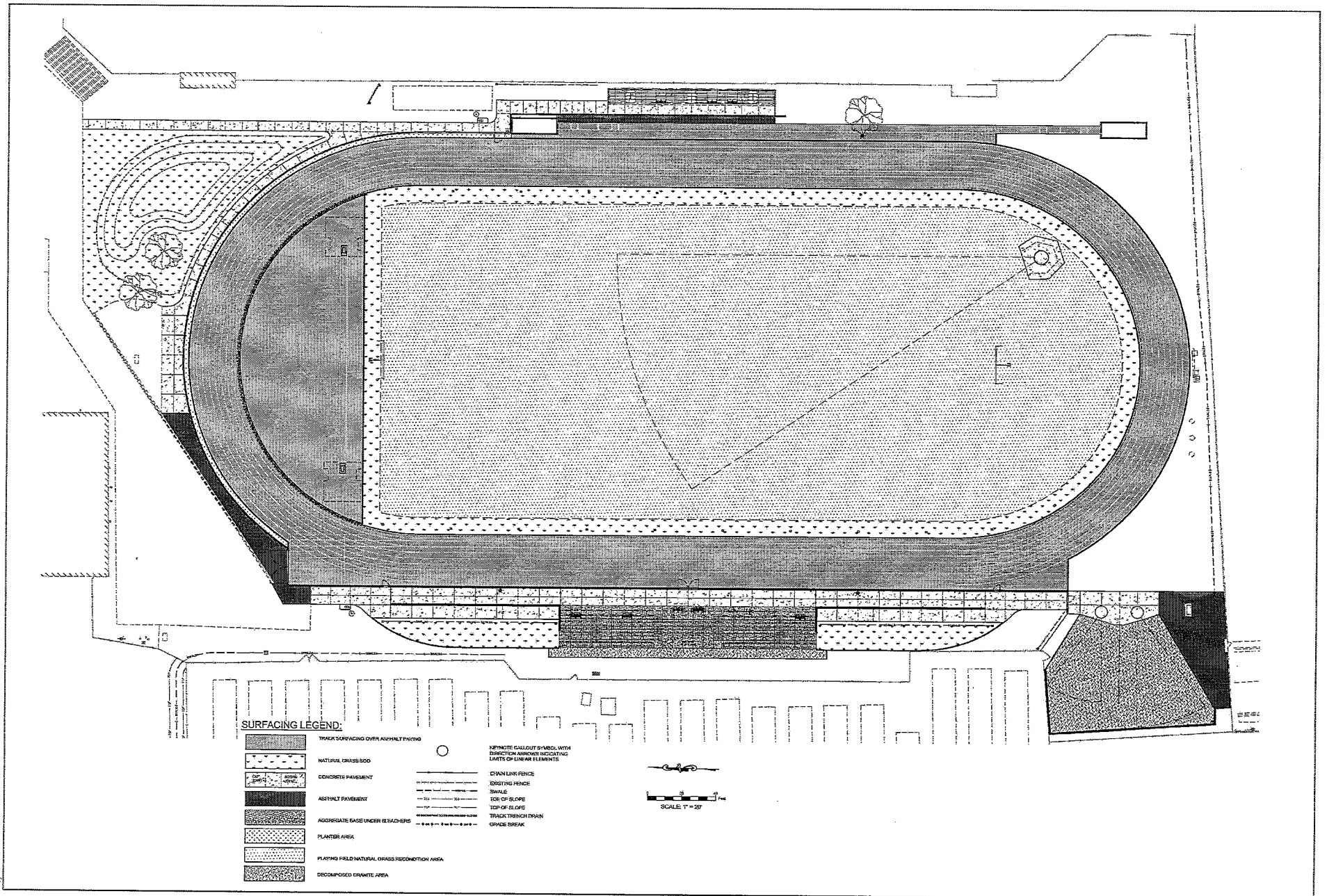


 Project Boundary

SOURCE: Bing Maps 2023; Yuba County 2023



FIGURE 1
Lindhurst High School Existing Conditions
Lindhurst High School Track and Stadium Improvements Project



SOURCE: Lloyd Sports + Engineering 2023



FIGURE 2

Proposed Site Plan

Lindhurst High School Track and Stadium Improvements Project