



Yana Garcia
Secretary for
Environmental Protection



Department of Toxic Substances Control

Katherine M. Butler, MPH, Director
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Gavin Newsom
Governor

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

November 08, 2024

Julian Capata
Environmental Programs Director
Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District
2828 4th Street
Santa Monica, CA 90405
jcapata@smmusd.org

RE: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (DEIR) FOR THE ROOSEVELT
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAMPUS PLAN PROJECT DATED SEPTEMBER 16, 2024
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER [2023090499](#)

Dear Julian Capata,

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Roosevelt Elementary School Campus Plan Project (Project). The proposed Project would renovate and modernize the existing Roosevelt Elementary School campus to develop new and updated facilities that would support a project-based learning approach and provide learning opportunities that are flexible, adaptable, and with access to technology and resources. The proposed Project would be constructed in five phases, which would occur at the district's discretion when funding becomes available. Redevelopment and modernization of Roosevelt Elementary School consists of removing and demolishing six buildings and 12 portables, constructing five new buildings and one building addition, renovating four buildings and outdoor play areas, and creating new green spaces for outdoor learning and play in areas that are currently paved over or part of the building footprint on the existing school campus. Additionally, each school entry point would include a security gate to control access. The maximum height of the renovated existing and new

buildings would not exceed 32 feet. Implementation of the Proposed Project would not increase the capacity of the school and would not change the attendance boundaries.

DTSC recommends and requests consideration of the following comments:

1. A Phase I Environmental Assessment (Phase I) was prepared for an approximately 1.6-acre portion of Roosevelt Elementary School and was submitted to DTSC for review on December 4, 2023. On February 5, 2024, DTSC determined that the completion of Preliminary Environmental Assessment (PEA) is needed for the Site to address, but may not be limited to, the Recognized Environmental Conditions identified in the Phase I. On April 19, 2024, the Santa Monica- Malibu Unified School District (District) entered into an Environmental Oversight Agreement (EOA) with DTSC for oversight of preliminary environmental assessment (PEA). If elevated concentrations of hazardous constituents are detected on the school, investigation and cleanup should be conducted under DTSC oversight.

DTSC appreciates the opportunity to comment on the DEIR for the for the Roosevelt Elementary School Campus Plan Project. Thank you for your assistance in protecting California's people and environment from the harmful effects of toxic substances. If you have any questions or would like clarification on DTSC's comments, please respond to this letter or via [email](#) for additional guidance.

Sincerely,

Tamara Purvis

Tamara Purvis
Associate Environmental Planner
HWMP - Permitting Division – CEQA Unit
Department of Toxic Substances Control
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cc: (via email)

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