

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE WITH MITIGATION MEASURES FOR THE TICE VALLEY PARK SPORT FIELD LIGHTING PROJECT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: As the project Applicant and Lead Agency, the City of Walnut Creek has completed an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed Tice Valley Park Sport Field Lighting Project in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15369.5 and 15071, and Public Resources Code Section 21092.

PROJECT: Tice Valley Park Sport Field Lighting Project

LOCATION/ADDRESS: The project site is located within the approximately 8.4-acre Tice Valley Park in the City of Walnut Creek, Contra Costa County. Tice Valley Park is located at the intersection of Tice Valley Boulevard and Rossmoor Parkway. Direct vehicular access to Tice Valley Park and the project site is provided by Tice Valley Boulevard.

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: The proposed project would result in the installation of a lighting system to allow nighttime use of the existing soccer field. New lighting would include the placement of a total of four new light poles located in the southwestern (S1), northwestern (S2), northeastern (S3), and southeastern (S4) corners of the soccer field. Three of the poles (S1, S3, and S4) would be 80 feet in height and one (S2) would be 70 feet in height. With the installation of the proposed lighting system, soccer practices and uses that currently end at 8:00 p.m. would end at 10:00 p.m. It is anticipated that there would be occasional weekend evening use past 8:00 p.m.; however, there would not be any regularly scheduled events. One additional practice slot would be available from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., and adult fitness programs may occur from 8:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. year-round. Due to increased field use, the City would close the field annually for a four-to-eight-week period to allow regeneration of the grass seed.

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING: Tice Valley Park is bounded by Tice Valley Boulevard to the north, Tice Valley Community Gym and multi-family residential uses to the east, undeveloped open space to the south, and public and institutional uses as well as Rossmoor Parkway to the west. The park currently includes the following recreational facilities: soccer field, softball field, playgrounds, gymnasium, and picnic areas. Existing lighting on the project site and throughout Tice Valley Park consists of low-level safety lighting.

HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE LISTS: The project area is not included in the lists enumerated under Government Code section 65962.5, including, but not limited to, lists of hazardous waste facilities, land designated as hazardous waste property, and hazardous waste disposal sites.

DECLARATION

Based on the Initial Study, dated February 2024, the City of Walnut Creek has determined that, with project incorporation of the mitigations identified in the Initial Study:

- X This project does not have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory.
- X The project will not achieve short-term environmental goals to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals.
- X This project will not have impacts which are individually limited but cumulatively considerable.
- X This project will not have environmental impacts which will cause substantial adverse effects upon human beings, either directly or indirectly.

The aforementioned findings are contingent upon incorporation into this project of the mitigation measures identified in the Initial Study (Conditions for Mitigated Negative Declaration).

Environmental documents supporting the Initial Study are available for public review at the City of Walnut Creek Public Services Department, 1666 North Main Street, Walnut Creek, California, during regular business hours and can be found on the City Website. From March 1 through April 1, 2024 (the 30-day public review period), the public is invited to submit written comments to the contact persons and addresses indicated below regarding the Initial Study environmental findings and Mitigated Negative Declaration determination.

NEGATIVE DECLARATION PREPARED BY:

Contact Person:	Lead Agency:
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Signature	