

**LBUSD HVAC Modernization Project
Notice of Exemption (NOE)
Marshall MS**

The Long Beach Unified School District (District), as the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), proposes to continue the bond measure improvements at John Marshall Middle School through the proposed all-campus HVAC and modernization project.

Project Location

Marshall MS is located at 5870 E Wardlow Rd, Long Beach, CA 90808. The school campus is located within the neighborhood that is north of Interstate 405. The school site is bounded by E Wardlow Road to the north, Ocean Avenue to the west, E Killdee St to the south, and Woodruff Avenue to the east.

Description of Project

HVAC installation in all classrooms, offices and support spaces (including Auditorium, Cafeteria, Kitchen, Gym and Locker rooms) located in permanent buildings on site, Accessibility upgrades to path of travel, parking, restrooms and drinking fountain per current building code, Utility systems upgrades (e.g. electrical, low voltage, water, sewer, etc.) as required to support HVAC installation, Hardware upgrades (e.g. LED lighting, Extron audio-visual system, new overhead projectors, projector screens, marker boards, etc), Upgrades to building finishes (e.g. new ceilings, flooring, exterior and interior painting, etc.), New tactile signage required throughout the campus for rooms and exits building/room re-numbering per current District standards, Campus-wide Fire Alarm upgrades, Replace of windows, doors, glued up wall tiles, ceiling tiles, etc. as required, Seismic upgrades, if required, per DSA IR EB-4, Vision for Measure-Q upgrades, based on LBUSD's 2022 Facility Master Plan.

Reasons why project is exempt

The proposed activity is a project subject to CEQA. However, it is exempt from further environmental analysis under Class 1, Existing Facilities (CEQA Guidelines §15301) and Class 14 Minor Additions to Schools (CEQA Guidelines §15314. Class 1 consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. 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 Proposed Project will result in campus improvements, which will not involve an increase in student capacity, and will include minor additions to existing school campuses. The Proposed Project will not result in significant environmental impacts and is exempt from further review under the conditions in Article 19. Therefore, the application of Class 1 and Class 14 categorical exemption is appropriate for the Proposed Project. The Proposed Project does not have the potential to trigger any of the exceptions identified in CEQA Guidelines §15300.2. Consequently, as documented below, the Proposed Project is exempt from further CEQA review.

- (a) **Location.** The Project site has not been designated as a biologically sensitive site or a location and does not contain sensitive resources or habitat that will be impacted by the Project. The Project will occur on an existing campus that is located within an urban setting
- (b) **Cumulative Impact.** The Project will not be expected to result in significant cumulative environmental impacts. There are no known successive projects of the same type or scale planned for the site.
- (c) **Significant Effect.** All aspects of this project are considered routine and will occur within school grounds. Also, normal operations will be similar and consistent with current uses within the project boundary. The proposed project is located within a disturbed, urbanized environment in Long Beach. The proposed project will not involve the removal of any vegetation or scenic trees, nor would it impact any scenic vistas in the immediate area. No reasonable possibility exists that the Proposed Project would have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances. This exception does not apply to this Project.
- (d) **Scenic Highways.** California State Route 1 is below Marshall MS. While it is designated a historic highway, the section close to Marshall is not (Caltrans 2022).
- (e) **Hazardous Waste Sites.** The Project will occur on an existing school campus, which is not on any list of hazardous waste sites. Therefore, the Project will not have an impact related to being located on a hazardous waste site.
- (f) **Historical Resources.** As part of the District-Wide Cultural Resources Assessment, PCR services recommended that Marshall MS is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or the California Register of Historic Resources (CRHR) (LBUSD 2017). Therefore, this exception does not apply to the Notice of Exemption.

NOE Attachment A

References:

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). 2022. California Scenic Highway Mapping System. Online URL: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/design/lap-landscape-architecture-and-community-livability/lap-liv-i-scenic-highways>

State Water Resources Control Board. 2022. GeoTracker Database. Online URL: <https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov>

Department of Toxic Substances Control. 2022. EnviroStor Database. Online URL: <http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/>

Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD). 2017. Cultural Resource Assessment for Long Beach Unified School District. Online URL: <http://lbschoolbonds.net/pdfs/lbusd-part1-historic-resources-report-20170206-web.pdf>

NOE Attachment B

Attachment B

Project Area

5870 E Wardlow Road, Long Beach, CA 90808

Marshall Middle School Overview

