

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
County Clerk
County of: Los Angeles
12400 Imperial Highway
Norwalk, CA

From: (Public Agency):
Long Beach Unified School District
2425 Webster Avenue, Long Beach CA 90810
(Address)

THIS NOTICE WAS POSTED

Project Title: - Solar Phase II - Shade Structures B: Garfield, Mann, McKinley
ON August 28 2024
UNTIL September 27 2024
Project Applicant: Long Beach Unified School District
REGISTRAR - RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK

Project Location - Specific: See Attachments A and B

Please see Attachment A for project location.

Project Location - City: Long Beach
Project Location - County: Los Angeles

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The installation of photovoltaic solar panel shade structures, a renewable energy technology, will be implemented districtwide among 16 educational facilities for a total system size of 2.9 MW. Combining energy efficiency measures such as solar photovoltaic panels and demand controls will allow for greater electrical demand savings.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Long Beach Unified School District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Long Beach Unified School District

Exempt Status: (check one):

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 1: 15301, Class 3:15303
Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt: See Attachment A and Attachment B

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Alan Reising
Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 562-997-7550

If filed by applicant:

- 1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: [Signature] Date: 8/27/24 Title: Business Services Administrator

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR:

2024 181719
FILED
Aug 28 2024
Dean C. Logan, Registrar - Recorder/County Clerk
Electronically signed by COURTNEY MAFFITT

**LBUSD Solar Installation Project  
Notice of Exemption (NOE)  
Garfield ES**

The Long Beach Unified School District (District), as the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), proposes to install Solar Structures into Garfield Elementary School, Mann Elementary School, and McKinley Elementary School.

**Project Location**

Garfield Elementary School is located at 2240 Baltic Ave, Long Beach, CA 90810. The school campus is in a neighborhood west of Interstate 710 and north of Route 91, at the northwest corner of the intersection of Delta Ave and W Hill St. The school site is bounded by W Hill St to the south, Delta Ave to the east, Baltic Ave to the west, and W 23rd St to the north.

McKinley ES is located at 6850 Paramount Blvd, Long Beach, CA 90805. The campus is in a neighborhood north of Rte 91 and east of Interstate 710. The site is bounded by a commercial nursery to the north, Paramount Blvd to the west, Obispo Ave to the east, and East 68th Ave to the south.

Mann Elementary School is located at 257 Coronado Ave, Long Beach, CA 90803. The school campus is located in the neighborhood East of 710 Freeway and South of 405 Freeway. The site is bounded by E 3rd St to the North, E Vista St to the South, Coronado Ave to the East and Obispo Ave to the West.

**Description of Project**

The installation of photovoltaic solar panel shade structures, a renewable energy technology, will be implemented districtwide among 16 (3 of which are included ) educational facilities for a total system size of 2.9 MW. Combining energy efficiency measures such as solar photovoltaic panels and demand controls will allow for greater electrical demand savings.

**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 §15303) and Class 3, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures (CEQA Guidelines §15303). Class 1 categorical exemption 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 or former use. Class 3 categorical exemption consists of construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and the conversion of existing small structures from one use to another where only minor modifications are made in the exterior of the structure.

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 3 categorical exemptions 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 improvements will occur entirely within the existing campuses, which are located in urbanized communities. The existing conditions on and around the schools are disturbed and paved ground and are not considered environmentally sensitive. Minor ground disturbance would occur during construction but will be limited to the existing school property on previously disturbed surfaces. The Proposed Project will not impact environmentally sensitive areas or an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern. This exception does not apply to the Proposed Project.
- (b) **Cumulative Impact.** Once Proposed Project has been approved by the District's Board of Education, project construction activities could begin spring of 2025. Details of any other future projects are not yet clearly defined and thereby cannot be further evaluated at this time. Further, the majority of impacts associated with the Proposed Project will be temporary (the construction timeframe) and are limited to the immediate vicinity of the schools. As such, no other cumulatively considerable projects have been identified that could incrementally contribute to the impacts associated with the Proposed Project. This exception does not apply to the Proposed Project.
- (c) **Significant Effect.** The installation of the solar panel shade structures is not considered an unusual circumstance as campus updates are not unusual for school sites. All installations associated with the Proposed Project would be installed on or within existing facilities. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not appear visually incompatible with existing equipment and accessories on the Project site. 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 campus vegetation is limited to ornamental landscaping, and it is anticipated that no candidate, sensitive, or special status species are anticipated to exist on or around the elementary school. Thus, the Proposed Project will not involve the removal of any vegetation or scenic trees, nor would it impact any scenic vistas within the immediate area.

Therefore, no reasonable possibility exists that the Proposed Project would have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances. Therefore, this exception does not apply to this Project.

- (d) **Scenic Highways.** The project is contained within the school sites and would not impact any scenic highway. The closest scenic highway is CA-1, however, the eligible section of CA-1 is located approximately 1.6 miles east of the nearest school (Mann ES). Other nearby highways include California State Highways 710, 405, 605, and 91, which are not classified as eligible for state scenic highway designation. Therefore, no impact to scenic highways would occur, and this exception does not apply to the Project.
- (e) **Hazardous Waste Sites.** Due to the time of original construction and campus expansion that has occurred since, it is likely that the campuses contain asbestos-containing materials (ACM)/asbestos-containing building materials (ACBM) and lead-based paint (LBP). However, the construction activities would be monitored and comply with federal and state law to prevent exposure to hazardous material and reduce potential impacts during construction and operation to a level below significant. The Proposed Project sites are not on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65862.5 (SWRCB 2022; DTSC 2022); therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in an impact associated with known hazardous materials sites. This exception does not apply to the project.
- (f) **Historical Resources.** As part of the District-Wide Cultural Resources Assessment, PCR services recommended that Garfield ES, Mann ES, and McKinley ES is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or the California Register of Historic Resources (CRHR) (LBUSD 2017). Although Garfield ES, Mann ES, and McKinley ES are eligible for the NRHP and CRHR, the Proposed Project would not have a significant impact on historical resources because of the shelters will be placed far away from the buildings deemed eligible (Garfield: 219 ft away, Mann: 148 ft away, McKinley: 671 ft away).

**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>

Kleinfelder. 2010. Long Beach Unified School District Security Cameras Phase 3 Project – Compliance Activity A for Franklin Classical Middle School, Long Beach, California.

Kleinfelder. 2010. Long Beach Unified School District Security Cameras Phase 3 Project – Compliance Activity A for Charles Evans Hughes Middle School, Long Beach, California.

Kleinfelder. 2010. Long Beach Unified School District Security Cameras Phase 3 Project – Compliance Activity A for Jefferson Leadership Academies, Long Beach, California.

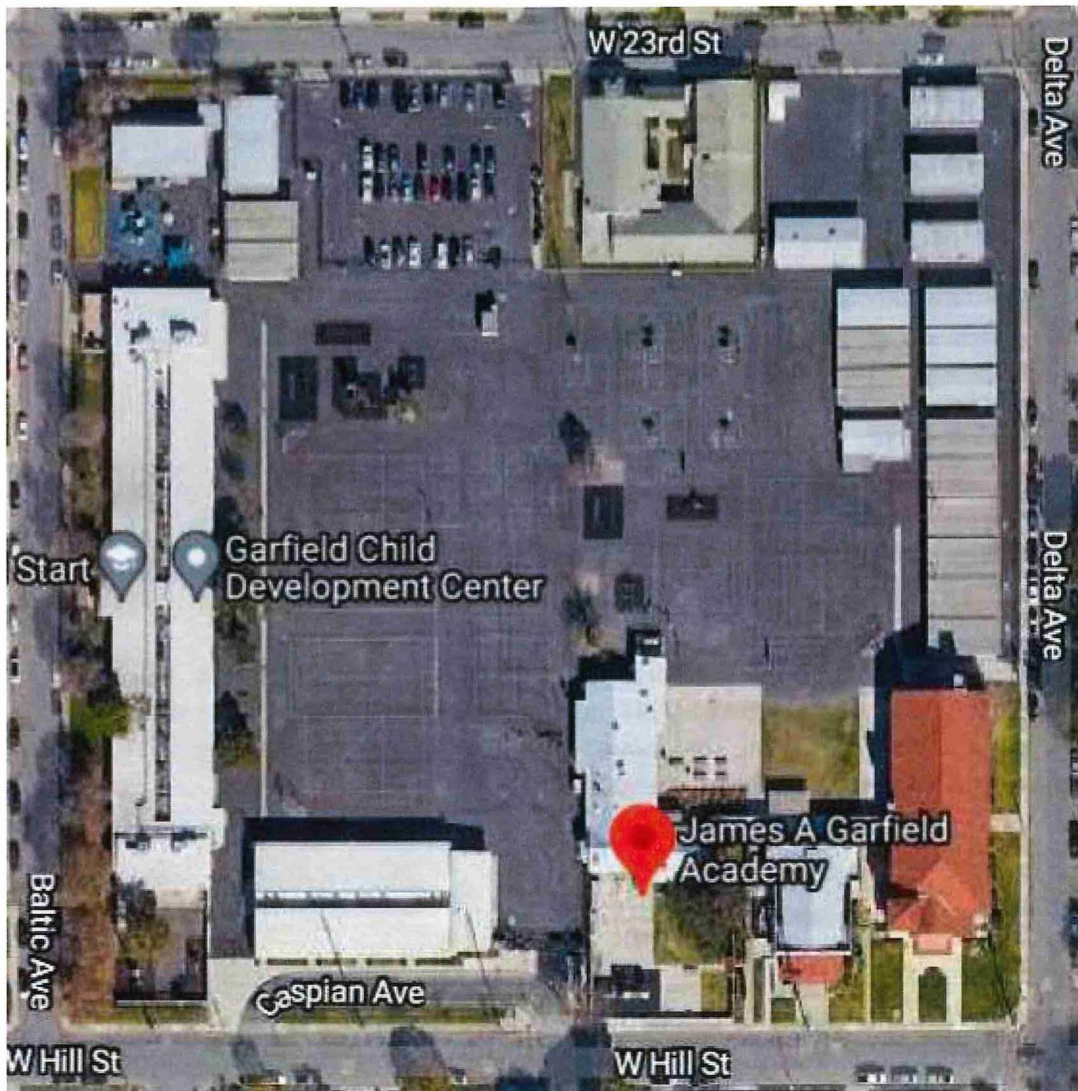
Kleinfelder. 2010. Long Beach Unified School District Security Cameras Phase 3 Project – Compliance Activity A for Charles A. Lindbergh Middle School, Long Beach, California.

Kleinfelder. 2010. Long Beach Unified School District Security Cameras Phase 3 Project – Compliance Activity A for Will Rogers Middle School, Long Beach, California.

Kleinfelder. 2010. Long Beach Unified School District Security Cameras Phase 3 Project – Compliance Activity A for George Washington Middle School, Long Beach, California.

# Attachment B

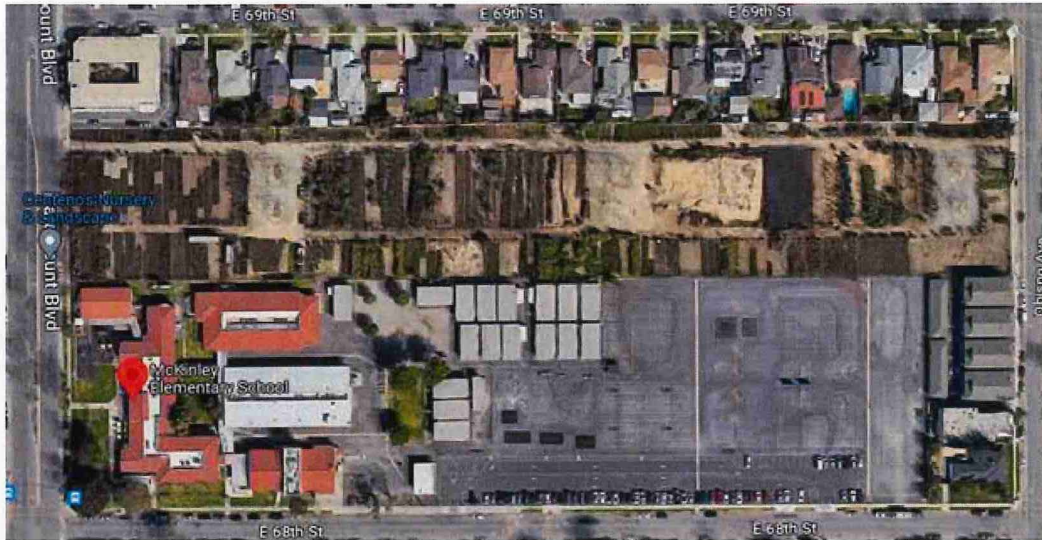
## Garfield ES



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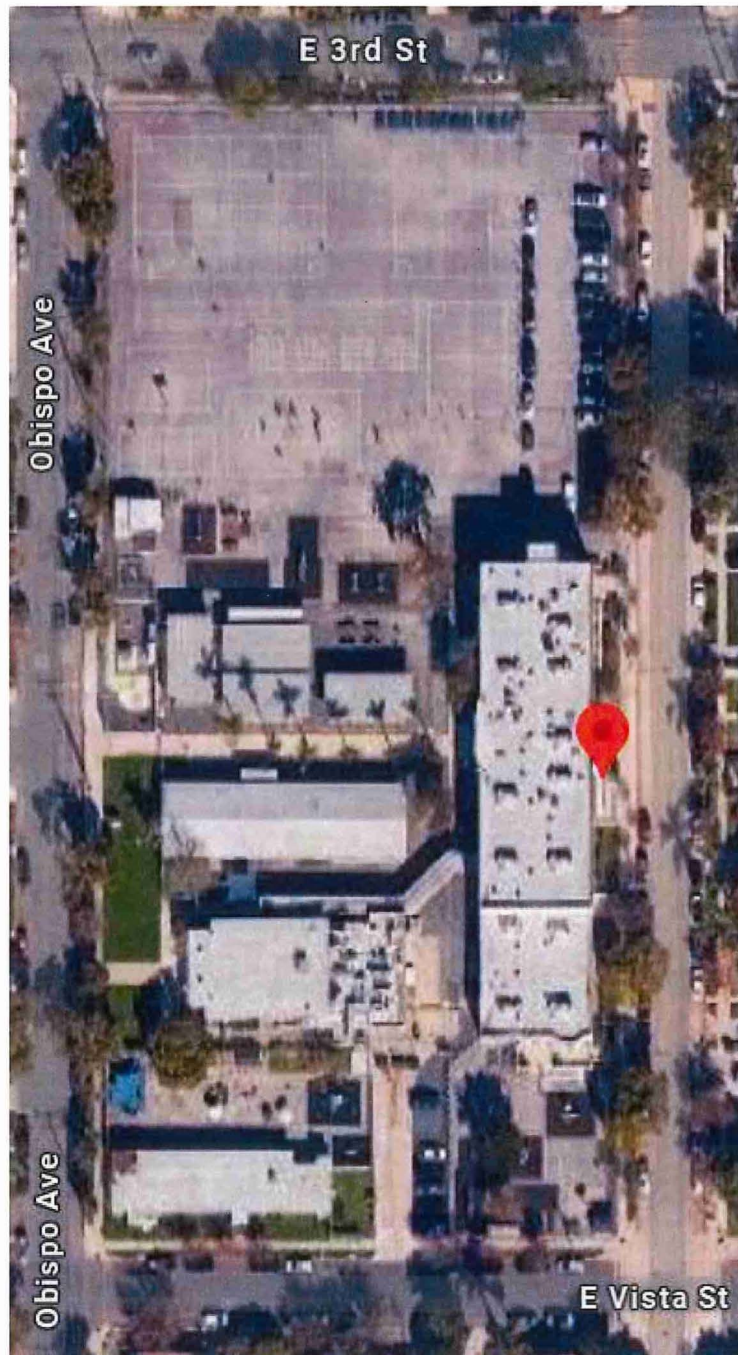
## McKinley ES



McKinley ES is located at 6850 Paramount Blvd, Long Beach, CA 90805. The campus is in a neighborhood north of Rte 91 and east of Interstate 710. The site is bounded by a commercial nursery to the north, Paramount Blvd to the west, Obispo Ave to the east, and East 68th Ave to the south.

# Attachment B

## Mann ES



Mann Elementary School is located at 257 Coronado Ave, Long Beach, CA 90803. The school campus is located in the neighborhood East of 710 Freeway and South of 405 Freeway. The site is bounded by E 3rd St to the North, E Vista St to the South, Coronado Ave to the East and Obispo Ave to the West.