



TORRANCE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION *West High School Auditorium Project*

Public Notice: Pursuant to the State of California Public Resources Code and the Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as amended, Torrance Unified School District (District), as lead agency, intends to adopt an Initial Study/Mitigation Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the West High School Auditorium Project.

Project Title: West High School Auditorium Project

Project Location: The project site is on the West High School campus at 20401 Victor Street in the City of Torrance. The project site is in the northeast quadrant of the campus, adjacent to Del Amo Boulevard and Victor Street.

Project Description: The proposed project is construction and operation of a new auditorium on the West High School campus that would be developed near the northeast corner of the school on an approximately one-acre site and would replace a grass lawn and small garden overseen by the school. The auditorium would be 13,900 square feet, with seating for up to 550 spectators, including 494 fixed seats.

Development of the proposed auditorium would not significantly change the operations of the school, which already offers a performing arts program and holds day- and nighttime performances and events in another school facility. Because this facility accommodates seating for about 500, the proposed auditorium, with 550 spectator seats, could increase event attendance by up to 50 spectators. However, the project does not include new classrooms and consequently does not change the school's enrollment capacity or other operations. Although no joint-use programs are proposed for the auditorium, the facility would be available for community use through the Civic Center Act.

Environmental Documentation: The District has prepared an Initial Study in accordance with CEQA to determine whether the project may have a significant effect on the environment. On the basis of this Initial Study, the District has concluded that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment and therefore prepared a MND. The Initial Study reflects the independent judgment of the District.

The project site is not on a list of hazardous waste sites compiled pursuant to Government Code section 65962.5. The proposed project is not considered a project of statewide, regional, or area-wide significance. A scoping meeting will not be held by the lead agency.

Public Review: Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15082, responsible and trustee agencies and other interested parties, including members of the public, may submit comments in response to this notice no

later than 30 days after receipt. The Notice of Intent (NOI) and accompanying Initial Study are available for a 30-day public review period beginning June 30, 2015, and ending July 29, 2015.

A copy of the Initial Study and supporting documents are available for review at:

- § Torrance Unified School District Administration, 2335 Plaza Del Amo, Torrance, CA 90501
- § Isabel Henderson Library, 4805 Emerald Street, Torrance, CA 90503
- § The District's website at <http://www.tusd.org/>

Public Comments: Written comments on the proposed project must be received no later than July 29, 2015, and should be directed to the attention of Donald Stabler, Deputy Superintendent, at the address below:

Donald Stabler
Deputy Superintendent
Torrance Unified School District
2335 Plaza Del Amo
Torrance, CA 90501
dstabler@tusd.org

Public Meeting: Submitted comments will be considered by the Torrance Unified School District Board of Education prior to their decision regarding the adoption of the IS/MND and approval of the proposed project, slated for the regular board meeting to be held on September 15, 2015, at 7:30 PM or soon thereafter at the District Board Room in the Educational Materials Building (EMB) at 2336 Plaza del Amo, Torrance. Please contact TUSD at 310.972.6500 to confirm the date and time.