



NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

TO: Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties

FROM: Irvine Unified School District (Lead Agency)

SUBJECT: Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project.

Project Title: Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Irvine Unified School District (IUSD), as lead agency, has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the proposed Northwood High School (Northwood HS) Field Lighting Improvement Project (proposed project), pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21165 and the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines (CEQA Guidelines). The purpose of this notice is 1) to serve as a Notice of Availability (NOA) of a DEIR for a 45-day public comment period pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines Section 15087, and 2) to announce a community meeting to be held by IUSD during the 45-day comment period.

PROJECT LOCATION: The Northwood HS campus is located at 4515 Portola Parkway (Assessor's Parcel Numbers [APNs] 527-151-02 and 527-151-03) in the City of Irvine, California. The Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project would be developed within approximately 4.56 acres of the southern portion of the existing 43-acre high school campus (project site). The campus is bounded by Twisted Oak to the north, Yale Avenue to the east, Portola Parkway to the south, and agricultural land to the west. Regional access to the Northwood HS campus is provided by California State Route 261 (CA-261), approximately one mile northwest of the campus.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed project would consist of the installation of four new athletic field lights and infrastructure to support a future public address (PA) system. The proposed project may also consist of trenching for the installation of an electrical line to provide electricity for the four athletic field lights. Two light poles with athletic field lights would be on the northwest border of the track and field, and two light poles with athletic field lights would be on the southeast border of the track and field. Each light pole would be approximately 70 feet in height, include 12 light fixtures, and have a load capacity of 66.64 kilowatts (kW).

The proposed project is anticipated to include the installation of new infrastructure for a future PA system, which would consist of four speakers, with one speaker attached to each lighting pole. The speakers would be oriented toward the audience in the spectator areas.

The expansion of hardscaping would be limited to the installation of the athletic field light poles and installation of the power distribution equipment and lighting control equipment. No existing structures would be demolished, and no new buildings would be constructed. No changes to the student capacity or number of staff would occur as a result of the proposed project. The proposed project would disturb approximately 1,500 square feet.

The proposed improvements at Northwood HS may be used for sporting events and practices, other school events, and non-school events. Sporting events and practices are anticipated to consist of tackle football, flag football, girls and boys soccer, girls and boys lacrosse, track and field, and band. The track and field may also be used for other school events, such as graduation and non-school events.

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: September 29, 2025 to November 12, 2025

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RESPONSES AND COMMENTS: Responsible public agencies, trustee agencies, the Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation, organizations, and members of the public are invited to review and comment on the DEIR. Your complete and detailed response should be sent at the earliest possible date, but not later than 5:00 pm on Wednesday, November 12, 2025. Please include the name, phone number, and email address of a contact person in all responses submitted. There will be no consideration of, or responses to, untimely comments.

Please send your response in writing with the subject heading **Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project** to:

Mail: Kathleen Gil, Facilities Planner, Facilities Planning
Irvine Unified School District
Facilities Planning and Construction Services Department
2015 Roosevelt, Irvine, CA 92620

E-mail: kathleengil@iusd.org

COMMUNITY MEETING: The Irvine Unified School District will host an in-person community meeting to present the proposed project and the DEIR. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the findings of the DEIR and to provide an opportunity for the public to comment on environmental issues.

Time: 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Date: October 20, 2025

Location: Northwood High School - 1405 Pod, 4515 Portola Parkway, Irvine CA 92620

POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS: The proposed project would result in no impacts on Agriculture and Forestry Resources, Biological Resources, Energy, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Land Use and Planning, Mineral Resources, Population and Housing, Public Services, Recreation, and Wildfire. Impacts related to Aesthetics, Air Quality, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Noise, Transportation, and Utilities and Service Systems were determined to be less than significant. Impacts related to Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, and Tribal Cultural Resources were determined to be less than significant after the implementation of mitigation measures. Per CEQA Guidelines section 15087(c)(6), the project site is not on state and federal hazardous materials sites enumerated under Government Code section 65962.5.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY: The DEIR and Notice of Availability for the proposed project are available for public review at the following locations (physical locations during normal business hours):

- Irvine Unified School District, Facilities Planning and Construction Services Department, 2015 Roosevelt, Irvine, CA 92620
- Northwood High School, 4515 Portola Parkway, Irvine CA 92620
- IUSD website: <https://iusd.org/business-services/facilities-planning-construction-services/bidder-information-public-notice>

If you require additional information, please contact Kathleen Gil at (949) 936-8785.