Irvine Unified School District

NORTHWOOD HIGH SCHOOL FIELD LIGHTING IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

January 2026 | Final Environmental Impact Report

State Clearinghouse No. 2025051426



PLACEWORKS

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NORTHWOOD HIGH SCHOOL FIELD LIGHTING IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

For Irvine Unified School District

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1. INTRODUCTION

This Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as amended (Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.), and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations Sections 15000 et seq.).

According to the CEQA Guidelines Section 15132, the Final EIR shall consist of:

(a) The draft EIR or a revision of the draft.

(b) Comments and recommendations received on the draft EIR either verbatim or in summary.

(c) A list of persons, organizations, and public agencies comments on the draft EIR.

(d) The responses of the Lead Agency to significant environmental points raised in the review and consultation process.

(e) Any other information added by the lead agency.

This document contains responses to comments received on the Draft EIR for the Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project during the public review period, which began September 29, 2025, and closed November 12, 2025. This document has been prepared in accordance with CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines and represents the independent judgment of the Lead Agency. This document and the circulated Draft EIR make up the Final EIR, in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15132.

1.1 FINAL EIR ORGANIZATION

Chapter 1, Introduction. This chapter describes CEQA requirements and the content of this Final EIR.

Chapter 2, Response to Comments. This chapter provides a list of individuals commenting on the Draft EIR; comments received during the public review period; and responses to comments.

Chapter 3, Revisions to the Draft EIR. This chapter contains revisions to the Draft EIR as a result of the comments received by agencies and interested persons, as described in Chapter 2, and/or errors and omissions discovered subsequent to release of the Draft EIR for public review.

The responses to comments contain material and revisions that will be added to the text of the Final EIR. District staff has reviewed this material and determined that none of this material

constitutes the type of significant new information that requires recirculation of the Draft EIR for further public comment under CEQA Guidelines Section 15088.5. None of this new material indicates that the project will result in a significant new environmental impact not previously disclosed in the Draft EIR. Additionally, none of this material indicates that there would be a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified environmental impact that will not be mitigated, or that there would be any of the other circumstances requiring recirculation described in CEQA Guidelines Section 15088.5.

1.2 ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

1.2.1 Notice of Preparation

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15084, the Irvine Unified School District (IUSD or District) determined that an EIR would be appropriate for the project and circulated a Notice of Preparation (NOP). The public review period for the NOP was from May 28, 2025, to June 26, 2025, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15082. Additionally, a public scoping meeting was held at the Northwood High School Theater on June 3, 2025, to present the proposed project, describe the EIR process, and to receive public comments. Public notification of the Draft EIR was satisfied by sending the NOP to the following recipients:

- NOP sent to addresses within 500 feet of the Northwood HS campus.
- NOP sent to state and local agencies.

Additionally, copies of the NOP was made available for review at the following locations:

- Irvine Unified School District, Facilities Planning and Construction Services Department, 2015 Roosevelt, Irvine, CA 92620
- Irvine Unified School District website: https://iusd.org/business-services/facilities-planning-construction-services/bidder-information-public-notices

1.2.2 Draft Environmental Impact Report

Following the NOP, a Draft EIR was prepared in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15084 and the CCR, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Article 9. As the Lead Agency under CEQA Guidelines Section 21067, the District is required to evaluate and consider environmental consequences of a proposed project before approving projects within its discretionary authority. In compliance with CEQA Guidelines Sections 15126.2 and 15126.4, the Draft EIR identified potentially significant adverse impacts to cultural resources, geology and soils, and tribal cultural resources, and proposed mitigation measures to reduce those impacts to less-than-significant levels. No impacts were found to be significant and unavoidable, and all other

topics analyzed in the Draft EIR would result in impacts that are considered less than significant under CEQA, or would result in no environmental impact. Furthermore, consistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6(a), the District analyzed a range of reasonable project alternatives and locations that could feasibly achieve the project's basic objectives while avoiding or substantially lessening significant environmental effects, and evaluated the comparative merits of those alternatives.

1.2.3 Notice of Availability

Following the completion of the Draft EIR, the District issued a Notice of Availability (NOA) on September 29, 2025, in compliance with PRC Section 21165 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15087, to notify the public and federal, State, and local agencies that the Draft EIR is available for public comment for 45 days, between September 29, 2025 and November 12, 2025. Additionally, a community meeting was held at the Northwood High School on October 20, 2025 to present the findings of the Draft EIR and to provide an opportunity for the public to comment on the content of the Draft EIR. Public notification of the Draft EIR was satisfied by sending the NOA to the following recipients:

- NOA sent to addresses within 500 feet of the campus.
- NOA sent to state and local agencies.

The Draft EIR and NOA for the proposed project were available for public review at the following locations:

- 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-notices

1.3 CEQA REQUIREMENTS REGARDING COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

CEQA Guidelines section 15204(a) outlines parameters for submitting comments and reminds persons and public agencies that the focus of review and comment of Draft EIRs should be

> ... on the sufficiency of the document in identifying and analyzing possible impacts on the environment and ways in which significant effects of the project might be avoided or mitigated. Comments are most helpful when they suggest

> additional specific alternatives or mitigation measures that would provide better ways to avoid or mitigate the significant environmental effects. At the same time, reviewers should be aware that the adequacy of an EIR is determined in terms of what is reasonably feasible. CEQA does not require a lead agency to conduct every test or perform all research, study, and experimentation recommended or demanded by commenters. When responding to comments, lead agencies need only respond to significant environmental issues and do not need to provide all information requested by reviewers, as long as a good faith effort at full disclosure is made in the EIR.

CEQA Guidelines section 15204(c) further advises, "Reviewers should explain the basis for their comments, and should submit data or references offering facts, reasonable assumptions based on facts, or expert opinion supported by facts in support of the comments. Pursuant to section 15064, an effect shall not be considered significant in the absence of substantial evidence." Section 15204(d) also states, "Each responsible agency and trustee agency shall focus its comments on environmental information germane to that agency's statutory responsibility." Section 15204(e) states, "This section shall not be used to restrict the ability of reviewers to comment on the general adequacy of a document or of the lead agency to reject comments not focused as recommended by this section."

In accordance with CEQA, Public Resources Code section 21092.5, copies of the written responses to public agencies have been forwarded to those agencies at least 10 days prior to certifying the EIR. The responses have been forwarded with copies of this Final EIR, as permitted by CEQA, and will conform to the legal standards established for response to comments on Draft EIRs.

2. RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Section 15088 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines requires the lead agency to evaluate comments on environmental issues received from public agencies and interested parties who reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and to prepare written responses.

This chapter provides all comments received on the Draft EIR and the lead agency's responses to each comment. Comment letters and specific comments are given letters and numbers for reference purposes.

2.1 LIST OF COMMENTERS

Table 2-1, *List of Commenters*, lists the organizations and individuals that provided comments on the Draft EIR during the public review period.

Table 2-1 List of Commenters

Number Reference	Commenter	Date of Comment
Organizations		
O1	Orchard Hills Village II Community Association	10/20/2025
O2	Lanes End Community Association	10/10/2025
Individuals		
I1	Vivian Shih	10/17/2025
I2	Corinne Giesemann 1	10/18/2025
I3	Divya Gupta	10/18/2025
I4	Shirley Yang	10/18/2025
I5	Steven Chen	10/18/2025
I6	Martin Ko	10/19/2025
I7	Josh Guo	10/19/2025
I8	James Krenzke	10/19/2025
I9	Maria Hensley 1	10/20/2025
I10	Corinne Giesemann 2	10/20/2025
I11	Barry Hsieh	10/20/2025
I12	Grace Sibayan-Hsieh	10/20/2025
I13	James Hensley	10/28/2025

Table 2-1 List of Commenters

I14	Maria Hensley 2	10/30/2025
I15	Qiang Ruan	10/30/2025
I16	Hi Chan	10/30/2025
I17	Amy Jian	11/3/2025
I18	Claire Guan	11/3/2025
I19	Wenkai Qin	11/3/2025
I20	Hong Lin	11/3/2025
I21	Kate Lin	11/3/2025
I22	Lucy Yang	11/3/2025
I23	Michael	11/3/2025
I24	Peter Tan	11/3/2025
I25	Rebecca Dai	11/3/2025
I26	Sabrina Lin	11/3/2025
I27	Xiao Dai	11/3/2025
I28	Xiao Li	11/3/2025
I29	Yu Wang	11/3/2025
I30	Raymond	11/4/2025
I31	Suzanne Wong	11/4/2025
I32	Jun Cui	11/4/2025
I33	Elizabeth Mancuso	11/4/2025
I34	James Mancuso	11/4/2025
I35	Corinne Giesemann 3	10/19/2025
I36	Sarah Le	10/23/2025
I37	Feng Xie	10/29/2025
I38	Liping Shu	10/29/2025
I39	Cindy and Don Bai	10/30/2025
I40	Wenkai Qin 2	11/3/2025
I41	Katie Chen	11/6/2025
I42	Grace Ouyang	11/6/2025
I43	Gerald and Nancy Valuch	11/10/2025
I44	Jacquelyn Chiong	11/11/2025
I45	Brian Gerstein	11/11/2025
I46	Annie Liping Shu 2	11/11/2025
I47	Christina Shaw	11/12/2025
I48	Kisung Kim	11/12/2025
I49	Ivy Chang	11/12/2025
I50	Daphne Kent	11/12/2025

Table 2-1 List of Commenters

I51	Carlos Bravo	11/12/2025
I52	Mingyu Joo	11/12/2025
I53	Keumjoo Ahn	11/12/2025
I54	Matt Chow	11/12/2025
I55	James Calpin	11/12/2025
I56	Rack and Myung Hong	11/12/2025
I57	Batool Peykarestan	11/12/2025
I58	Jean Chow	11/12/2025
I59	Hossein Zarei	11/12/2025
I60	Dennis Lo	11/12/2025
I61	Xiangli Liu	11/12/2025
I62	Henry Cheng	11/12/2025
I63	Albert Liu	11/12/2025
I64	Daniel Yafei Guo	11/4/2025
I65	Shiqi Chen	11/4/2025
Community Meeting Comment Cards		
CC1	Maria Hensley	10/20/2025
CC2	Corinne Giesemann	10/20/2025
Verbal Comments		
V1	John Duong	10/20/2025
V2	Maria Hensley	10/20/2025
V3	Jerry Barnes	10/20/2025
V4	Corinne Giesemann	10/20/2025
V5	Dennis Loew	10/20/2025
V6	Dave Petka	10/20/2025
V7	Shawn Rombut	10/20/2025
V8	Josh Guo	11/10/2025

2.2 CEQA REQUIREMENTS REGARDING COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

CEQA Guidelines § 15204(a) outlines parameters for submitting comments and reminds persons and public agencies that the focus of review and comment on Draft EIRs should be

> . . . on the sufficiency of the document in identifying and analyzing possible impacts on the environment and ways in which significant effects of the project

> might be avoided or mitigated. Comments are most helpful when they suggest additional specific alternatives or mitigation measures that would provide better ways to avoid or mitigate the significant environmental effects. At the same time, reviewers should be aware that the adequacy of an EIR is determined in terms of what is reasonably feasible. . . . CEQA does not require a lead agency to conduct every test or perform all research, study, and experimentation recommended or demanded by commenters. When responding to comments, lead agencies need only respond to significant environmental issues and do not need to provide all information requested by reviewers, as long as a good faith effort at full disclosure is made in the EIR.

The CEQA Guidelines further advises,

> Reviewers should explain the basis for their comments, and should submit data or references offering facts, reasonable assumptions based on facts, or expert opinion supported by facts in support of the comments. Pursuant to Section 15064, an effect shall not be considered significant in the absence of substantial evidence. (sec. 15204[c])
>
> Each responsible agency and trustee agency shall focus its comments on environmental information germane to that agency's statutory responsibility. (sec. 15204[d])
>
> This section shall not be used to restrict the ability of reviewers to comment on the general adequacy of a document or of the lead agency to reject comments not focused as recommended by this section. (§ 15204[e])

In accordance with CEQA, Public Resources Code § 21092.5, copies of the written responses to public agencies will be provided to those agencies at least 10 days prior to certifying the EIR.

2.3 TOPICAL RESPONSES

This section provides responses to reoccurring themes raised during the public review period for the Draft EIR. To minimize duplication and provide a more comprehensive discussion, "topical responses" have been prepared. Each topical response begins with a summary of the relevant comments received. Responses to individual comments reference these topical responses as appropriate. Topical responses in this Final EIR address the following issues:

1. Light and Glare
2. Noise

3. Transportation
4. Community Outreach
5. Non-school Events
6. Non-CEQA Topics

2.3.1 Topical Response 1: Light and Glare

The District received multiple comment letters expressing concern regarding potential lighting and glare impacts from the installation of the proposed light poles at the Northwood High School football field. In response to public comments received during the Draft EIR circulation period, the District has selected Alternative 2 for implementation. This alternative modifies the project's operational profile by requiring all proposed lighting to be shut off by 9:00 p.m., rather than the originally proposed 10:00 p.m. As this change represents a reduction in the duration of light exposure compared to the project analyzed in the Draft EIR, the existing environmental analysis remains valid and sufficiently covers the reduced impact profile of Alternative 2. Additionally, the project description is revised to clarify that each proposed light pole would include nine fixtures, rather than twelve.

The potential for light spill was fully analyzed in Chapter 3.1, *Aesthetics*, of the Draft EIR. Lighting measurements were taken in the shape of an ellipse at 150 feet from the boundary of the track and field. Measurements were determined to be at or below 0.1 foot-candle (fc), which is significantly lower than both the 0.9 fc threshold of significance and the DarkSky International's 0.2 fc post-curfew measurement, described in Section 3.1.3, *Standards of Analysis*, of this Draft EIR. Figure 3.1-8, *Musco Lighting Analysis, of* this Draft EIR shows the lighting levels measured and their approximate location.

As shown in Figure 1, *Proposed Lighting Fixtures*, and Figure 2, *Proposed Lighting Examples*, the proposed lights utilize shielding and increased mounting heights, allowing lamps to be directed downward onto the playing surface rather than outward. The use of shielding on the selected (Musco) LED modern stadium light fixtures is a fixture housing design feature that effectively controls and harnesses the light beam, ensuring light is directed downward precisely onto the track and field and significantly minimizes and blocks light spill and glare onto neighboring properties. This control is achieved through Musco's extended full-cut-off visor and directional optics and internal reflectors and baffles within the housing to block light emitted above the horizontal plane, thereby eliminating sky glow and preventing light trespass. By concealing the light source from the horizontal line of sight, the shielding minimizes direct glare for residents, allowing lighting measurements at the property boundary to remain at or below regulatory thresholds, ensuring the project's lighting impact is less than significant.

Additionally, because the nearest residential property line is beyond the 150-foot field boundary, no residential properties near the Northwood High School campus will experience

light spill on their properties, as shown in Figure 3.1-8, *Musco Lighting Analysis*, of the Draft EIR. Therefore, impacts related to light spill were concluded to be less than significant; thus, no mitigation measures are required for reducing impacts related to light spill. CEQA does not require mitigation measures beyond what is necessary to reduce significant impacts to less-than-significant levels. In addition, the Draft EIR confirmed that the High School is not located within a biologically sensitive area or a migratory corridor (see Chapter 5, *Other CEQA Considerations* of the DEIR), ensuring the proposed lighting will not impact wildlife or sensitive species. The information provided meets all CEQA requirements, and no further analysis or changes to the Draft EIR are necessary.

2.3.2 Topical Response 2: Noise

The District received multiple comment letters expressing concern regarding potential noise impacts from the installation of a future public address (PA) system at the Northwood High School campus.

In response to community concerns, the District has removed the PA system from the proposed project, and the Draft EIR project description has been updated to reflect this change. With the elimination of the future PA system on the Northwood HS track and field, the primary source of operational noise would be limited to athlete and audience activity during on-campus events.

The Draft EIR details noise impacts attributable to the proposed project on pages 3.7-24 through 3.7-26. The analysis confirms that sports and other campus events are temporary, periodic (not daily), and occur only during athletic field use hours (Monday through Saturday, 2:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.). The noise modeling estimated levels at locations representing the nearest residential receptors. To ensure accuracy, the modeling inputs were based on observations of typical event activities and were determined to be representative of realistic conditions, including the following:

- Rowdy crowd cheering (Bleachers) was assumed for a cumulative 10 minutes per hour and each cheer interval was assumed to be approximately 10 seconds long.[1]
- On-field player activity was assumed to occur for a cumulative of 25 minutes per hour.
- On-field referee whistle activity was assumed to occur for a cumulative of 25 minutes per hour.

The nearest residential uses, located along Portola Parkway, are shielded by an existing 6-foot sound wall. To assess potential impacts, detailed 3D noise modeling (SoundPLAN) was

[1] To ensure a conservative analysis of high-level noise impacts, crowd noise was analyzed in the Draft EIR; however, bleachers are not proposed as part of the proposed project.

conducted using ambient noise levels measured at three key locations: two near the football field (the closest being approximately 350 feet from the endzone) and one in the Orchard Hills neighborhood (approximately 1,350 feet to the northeast). As detailed in Draft EIR Table 3.7-9, *SoundPLAN Modeled Noise Levels, dBA L_{eq}*, future sports events at the track and field—excluding the PA system—would generate noise levels more than 10 dBA below existing ambient conditions at these receptors. Consequently, the project would cause a negligible increase of less than 1 dBA over current background noise levels. Therefore, existing ambient noise will remain the dominant noise source at all locations, including Orchard Hills.

Under City of Irvine Municipal Code (Title 6, Division 8, Chapter 2), school activities such as bands, athletics, and entertainment events conducted on school property are exempt from City noise standards. Despite this exemption, the project was analyzed against the City's Exterior Noise Performance Standards to demonstrate compatibility. The relevant residential standards are 60 dBA Leq during the day and 55 dBA Leq at night (10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.). As shown in Table 3.7-9 of the Draft EIR, evening football games would remain well within these limits, generating between 26.7 and 40.5 dBA Leq at the nearest receptors. Specifically, noise levels at the nearest Orchard Hills residence were modeled at 26.7 dBA Leq—more than 30 dBA below the 60 dBA threshold. Model assumptions substantiating this analysis are provided in Appendix E.

As described in the previous paragraph, Section 6-8-205(E)(1) of the City of Irvine Municipal Code exempts school bands, athletic, and entertainment events conducted on school property from noise standards. Importantly, the noise associated with band practices and performances at Northwood High School will not change under the proposed project, as these are existing campus operations that will continue in their current form. Furthermore, this is not a stadium project and does not add any bleachers or increase student, staff, or visitor capacity. Sporting events and practices are anticipated to consist of Freshman and Junior Varsity (JV) tackle football, flag football, girls and boys soccer, girls and boys lacrosse, track and field, and band. The field will also be used for football practices; however, Varsity tackle football games will continue to be held at Irvine HS. The track and field may also be used for other school events, such as graduation and non-school events.

Events at the site will be limited to practices for flag and tackle football, soccer, lacrosse, track, and band; games for soccer, lacrosse, track, flag football, and Freshman and Junior Varsity (JV) tackle football; and community events. Varsity tackle football games will continue to be hosted at Irvine High School.

Based on the noise analysis of event activity and the removal of the PA system, operational noise impacts from the proposed project are determined to be less than significant; thus, no mitigation measures are required for reducing impacts related to noise. CEQA does not require mitigation measures beyond what is necessary to reduce significant impacts to less-than-significant levels. Consequently, the project will not result in a significant effect on nearby

residents, and no further revisions to the Draft EIR are required beyond documenting the exclusion of the PA system.

2.3.3 Topical Response 3: Transportation

The District received multiple comment letters expressing concern regarding traffic congestion and a lack of parking safety with implementation of the proposed project.

Impacts related to transportation were addressed in Chapter 3.8, *Transportation,* of the Draft EIR. The proposed project does not add bleachers or any increase in student, staff, or visitor capacity. Varsity tackle football games would continue to be hosted at Irvine High School. The Traffic/Transportation Impact Analysis (TIA) prepared for this project (Appendix F to the Draft EIR) determined that streets, intersections, and driveways near Northwood High School are designed to accommodate the anticipated levels of vehicular and pedestrian activity from the proposed project. The TIA compared existing conditions to the conditions with the proposed project at Portola Parkway/Yale Avenue, Portola Parkway/Orchard Hills Drive, and Orchard Hills Drive/Wolf Trail. The TIA determined that none of the study area intersections would be significantly impacted by the traffic that would be generated by the proposed project for a peak day event for the existing conditions baseline scenario. Additionally, § 15064.3(b)(1) of the CEQA Guidelines states that projects that decrease vehicle miles traveled (VMT) in the project area compared to existing conditions should be presumed to have a less-than-significant transportation impact. The proposed project would allow for student athletes to attend practices and games, including soccer, lacrosse, track, flag football, and Freshman and JV tackle football, at their school, which would eliminate the need to travel to another field, resulting in shorter travel distances and a reduction in VMT. Further, busing would be provided from the opposing schools during athletics events, resulting in fewer vehicles. Therefore, impacts related to transportation and traffic were determined to be less than significant; thus, no mitigation measures are required for reducing impacts related to transportation. CEQA does not require mitigation measures beyond what is necessary to reduce significant impacts to less-than-significant levels.

Additionally, as detailed in pages 3.7-26 through 3.7-28 and Table 3.7-10, *Summary of Traffic Noise Increases* of the Draft EIR, the increase in vehicle trips from the proposed project would result in a minimal increase in average daily traffic (ADT) volumes on most study roadway segments, thus resulting in a minimal increase in traffic noise levels that would not exceed the 1.5 dBA or 3 dBA in ambient noise environments of greater than 70 dBA CNEL and less than 60 dBA CNEL thresholds, respectively. Thus, traffic noise impacts would be less than significant. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

2.3.4 Topical Response 4: Community Outreach

The District received multiple comment letters expressing concern regarding a lack of community outreach and inadequacy in the noticing process of the Notice of Preparation (NOP) and Notice of Availability (NOA).

In accordance with CEQA Guidelines § 15082, an NOP was prepared for the proposed project to allow the public and federal, State, and local agencies the opportunity to provide input on the proposed project and the topics that would be analyzed in the Draft EIR. CEQA Guidelines § 15082 requires the lead agency to send an NOP stating that an EIR will be prepared, to the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation (formerly known as the Office of Planning and Research), responsible agencies, and trustee agencies; and file the NOP with the county clerk of each county in which the project will be located. Therefore, the notices were sent via certified mail to state and local agencies and Native American Tribes that are historically affiliated with the area.

The CEQA Guidelines do not require the NOP to be sent to residents or property owners near the project site. However, it is common practice to provide notice of a proposed project to property owners within a 300-foot radius of the project site. For this project, the District provided noticing to all property owners within a 500-foot radius of the entire Northwood HS campus, which exceeds common practice and the requirements of CEQA Guidelines § 15082.

The NOP was publicly available between May 28, 2025, and June 26, 2025, via the District's website, the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation CEQAnet Web Portal, and the Orange County Clerk-Recorder Department. The NOP advertised the date, time, and location of the scoping meeting for the proposed project, to be held by the District at 6:00 p.m., on June 3, 2025, in the Northwood High School Theater. Although a public scoping meeting is only required for projects of regional significance, the District opted to hold a public scoping meeting for transparency and to provide an additional opportunity for the public to comment on the proposed project. No members of the public or representatives from federal, State, or local agencies attended the meeting. Also, only two agencies and one Native American Tribe provided comments on the NOP, including the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTCS), the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), and the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians–Kizh Nation. No comments were received from the public during the NOP public review period.

Following the completion of the Draft EIR, the District issued an NOA on September 29, 2025, in compliance with PRC § 21165 and CEQA Guidelines § 15087, to notify the public and federal, State, and local agencies that the Draft EIR was available for public comment for 45 days, between September 29, 2025, and November 12, 2025. CEQA Guidelines § 15807(a) requires that the NOA be published in at least one of the following procedures: a local newspaper, posting on- and off-site in the area where the project is located, or direct mailing to the owners

and occupants of properties contiguous to the project site. Similar to the NOP, it is common practice to distribute the NOA to residents and/or property owners within a 300-foot radius of the project site. For this project, the District provided noticing to all residents and property owners within a 500-foot radius of the entire campus, which exceeds common practice and the requirements of CEQA Guidelines § 15087(a)(3). The NOAs were also sent via certified mail to state and local agencies and Native American Tribes that are historically affiliated with the area.

The Draft EIR and NOA were posted for public review on the District's website, the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation CEQAnet Web Portal, and the Orange County Clerk-Recorder Department. Additionally, two hard copies of the Draft EIR and the NOA were made available for public review at the District's Facilities Planning and Construction Services Department office at 2015 Roosevelt, and the Northwood High School main office.

The NOA also advertised a community meeting, which was held on October 20, 2025, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Northwood High School, to solicit comments from the public about the content of the Draft EIR. Similar to the NOP scoping meeting, CEQA Guidelines do not require a community meeting; however, the District elected to hold a public meeting during the public review period for transparency and to provide an additional opportunity for the public to comment on the proposed project.

CEQA does not require direct notification to individual homeowners associations (HOAs) unless they have specifically requested to be placed on the lead agency's notification list. Nonetheless, the NOA was sent to the Orchard Hills Village II Community Association during the NOA public review period. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. Therefore, the CEQA process for this project has been appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred.

2.3.5 Topical Response 5: Non-school Events

The District received multiple comment letters inquiring about the nature of non-school events that may take place on the Northwood HS campus as a result of the proposed project.

As described in Chapter 2, *Project Description,* of the Draft EIR, the facilities at Northwood High School would be available to outside user groups to utilize the athletic field lights, as required by the California Civic Center Act (Education Code sec. 38130), which mandates that school sites be made available to community groups for educational, recreational, or civic uses, subject to reasonable terms and conditions. The District's Board Policy 1330 encourages maximum community utilization of school facilities as authorized by the Civic Center Act. Administrative Regulation 1330 sets forth the procedure for outside groups to apply for the use of District facilities. The District permits use of high school athletic fields by youth and adult community groups for practices, games, meets, and tournaments for sports, including but not limited to

track, lacrosse, soccer, flag football, football, futsal, and cricket. Additionally, high school athletic fields may be utilized for large community events.

Community use is only permitted outside of normal school hours, after 4:00 p.m. on regular school days and on non-school days. Outside user groups may utilize the athletic field lights from dusk to 9:00 p.m., which aligns with the City of Irvine hours of operation. The hours of operation can be extended by a variance from the City of Irvine and approval by the District Use of Facilities Department. The proposed schedule offers flexibility and may be subject to change. Detailed event information is not available at this time, as the District has not received any community event requests for the Northwood HS campus.

All community-use requests are subject to the District's established application and approval process, and any future requests would undergo that review at the time they are submitted to ensure appropriate use of school property as defined in Education Code § 38131, which limits access to activities that are consistent with educational, civic, and recreational purposes and prohibits uses that may conflict with school operations or the safety of students and staff. User groups must adhere to the District's "Regulations and Policies Regarding Community Use of School Buildings and Grounds." The District would have the authority to use lights for practices and events based on specific needs, and the event schedule may be adjusted for different school and community events. In addition, compliance with the Civic Center Act is an existing condition; the Northwood HS campus is already subject to its requirements, although no community events have been requested to date.

The District's Use of Facilities Department monitors all outside events to ensure compliance with approved hours of operation, noise regulations, and safety requirements. This oversight reduces potential conflicts between school and community activities. Further, any requests for extended hours or atypical use would undergo a formal review process, including consideration of environmental and community impacts, ensuring that all activities remain consistent with applicable local regulations.

2.3.6 Topical Response 6: Non-CEQA Issues

TRESPASSING, SECURITY, AND PROPERTY DAMAGE

The District received multiple comment letters expressing concern regarding neighborhood safety, trespassing, and property damage from increased student activity at the Northwood High School campus as a result of the proposed project.

Concerns regarding trespassing and property damage are not environmental topics addressed under CEQA. However, it should be noted that the proposed project would primarily be implemented to allow existing students and sports teams to utilize their home field during evening hours for typical high school uses. Sporting events and practices are anticipated to

consist of Freshman and Junior Varsity (JV) tackle football, flag football, girls and boys soccer, girls and boys lacrosse, track and field, and band. The field will also be used for football practices; however, Varsity tackle football games will continue to be held at Irvine HS. The track and field may also be used for other school events, such as graduation and non-school events. The proposed project would not include new bleachers.

Issues such as student conduct, campus supervision, and property security are outside the scope of CEQA and are instead addressed through District policies and operational procedures. The Draft EIR is intended to disclose potential physical environmental impacts that could result from the project. Social or economic considerations are not evaluated unless they would indirectly lead to a physical change in the environment. As directed by § 15131(a) of the CEQA Guidelines, economic or social effects of a project shall not be treated as significant effects on the environment. Therefore, a response is not required pursuant to CEQA. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

PARKING

The District received multiple comment letters expressing concern regarding a lack of parking with implementation of the proposed project.

The proposed project does not include an increase in student enrollment or visitors on campus, and therefore would not generate new parking demand during school hours or at practices. The proposed project would not result in additional games at the campus and would primarily be used to accommodate evening practices and existing games, and community events, which are not anticipated to require additional parking on the campus. The campus currently provides adequate on-site parking to serve students, staff, and authorized outside user groups, consistent with City of Irvine standards. During sports games and other events held on campus, Northwood HS and the District's Use of Facilities Department would manage parking to ensure safe ingress and egress, including clearly marked parking areas, pedestrian pathways, and event monitoring. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

PRIOR DISCRETIONARY AND DESIGN DECISIONS

The District received multiple comment letters expressing discontent with the proposed project compared to the District's decision at Northwood High School's inception in 1999 to not include stadium lighting.

The District's 1999 decision to forego stadium lighting during the initial construction of Northwood High School is not a topic subject to analysis under CEQA. CEQA requires the evaluation of potential physical environmental impacts of the proposed project as it exists in the present day, not an assessment of past discretionary decisions or design choices. The Draft EIR is strictly intended to disclose potential physical environmental effects and does not address

social or economic issues unless they result in a physical change to the environment. The Draft EIR has already appropriately evaluated the potential environmental effects associated with the proposed installation of stadium lighting based on current environmental and regulatory conditions. Comments regarding the District's 1999 decision do not raise new or substantive environmental issues requiring additional analysis, and therefore a further response is not required pursuant to CEQA.

2.4 COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

This section includes a reproduction of and response to each comment received during the public review period for the Draft EIR. Comments are presented in their original form in Appendix A, *Public Review Comment Letters*, and annotated to identify each comment number.

Responses to individual comments are provided in this chapter following the text of each comment. Comments are arranged by category, date received, and name. Categories and their corresponding abbreviations are:

- Organizations (O)
- Individuals (I)
- Community Meeting Comment Cards (CC)
- Verbal comments (V)

2.4.1 Comments from Organizations

O1. Orchard Hills Village II Community Association, 10/20/2025

Comment O1-1

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board of Education,

On behalf of the Orchard Hills Village II Community Association (OHVII), representing 809 homes directly bordering Northwood High School on three sides, we respectfully submit this formal objection to the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Improvement Project.

This letter supplements and reinforces OHVII's prior correspondence dated November 22, 2024, which registered our initial objection and requested direct notification of any CEQA-related actions. Unfortunately, those issues remain unresolved, and the current DEIR fails to provide a meaningful or adequate evaluation of the project's true impacts on the community most directly affected by it—the immediate neighboring residents of Northwood High. Instead of focusing on real, site-specific conditions and foreseeable effects on adjacent homes, the DEIR relies on generalized assumptions that overlook the very factors CEQA is intended to address.

Response O1-1

This comment opposes the proposed project and states that the Draft EIR provides an inadequate evaluation of the proposed project. The comment does not provide a specific issue with the detailed technical analyses in the Draft EIR regarding a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment O1-2

I. Primary Community Concerns

Orchard Hills Village II is the only non-gated community within the greater Orchard Hills development, leaving our residents uniquely exposed to illegal parking, late-night traffic, and student trespassing, among other concerns. These risks are not hypothetical, they are ongoing, well-documented problems that the DEIR fails to acknowledge or address.

Response O1-2

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines, and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment O1-3

1. Noise Intrusion and Evening Disturbance – Residents already hear the school's marching band between 7:00 a.m. and 8:30 a.m., a daytime sound tolerated as part of normal school activity. If that is already clearly audible, the noise during evening football games, with an award-winning 300-member band, cheering crowds, and amplified PA systems, will be exponentially louder and far more disruptive. The DEIR's noise analysis is materially flawed. It relies on a single monitoring point along Portola Parkway rather than on-field measurements within our community and fails to model actual game-day peak events. By dismissing these impacts as "less than significant," the DEIR grossly understates the disturbance this project would cause.

Response O1-3

Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*. Noise impacts were evaluated in Chapter 3.7, *Noise*, of the Draft EIR. Table 3.7-9, *SoundPLAN Modeled Noise Levels*, dBA L_{eq}, on page 3.7-26 of the Draft EIR shows ambient noise measurements and modeled operational noise levels associated with the proposed project at noise receptor locations R-1 through R-3. R-1 is at 101 Stallion, R-2 is at 78 Winslow Lane, and R-3 is on the Portola Parkway side of the existing sound wall adjacent to 1020 Timberwood. Modeled SoundPLAN scenario inputs, results, and operational noise contours associated with project track and field and practice field noise on the project site and in the greater community for all scenarios and are shown in Appendix E. The Draft EIR adequately measured existing ambient noise levels and modeled conditions under the proposed project at nearby residential homes and concluded that impacts would be less than significant, as modeled increases in operational noise are less than 1 dBA L_{eq} over existing conditions.

The proposed project would not construct new bleachers on the track and field. Flag football and Freshman and JV tackle football games would continue to be held at Northwood HS and Varsity tackle football games would continue to be held at other high schools. The proposed project would allow student athletes to practice into the evening, and for non-football sports to be held on the Northwood HS campus, including soccer and lacrosse. Additionally, in response to the comments and concerns of the community, the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project.

Comment O1-4

2. Light Pollution and Visual Intrusion – Four 70-foot light poles with 12 fixtures each will cast glare directly into nearby homes, including second-story windows along our streets, particularly those abutting Twisted Oak, Bandana, and Stallion. Our community enjoys scenic hillside views, which the DEIR fails to acknowledge or protect.

Response O1-4

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare. Additionally, the project description is revised to clarify that each proposed light pole would include nine fixtures, rather than twelve. Section 3.1.4 (a) in Chapter 3.1, *Aesthetics*, of the Draft EIR addresses impacts to scenic vistas. The project site is not within the viewshed of any designated scenic resources, and implementation of the proposed project would not result in the obstruction or degradation of existing scenic views. Impacts would be less than significant. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment O1-5

As an example, Section 3.1.2 ("Existing Conditions") of the DEIR analyzes view sheds and vistas in the City of Placentia, a location entirely unrelated to this project. This is not a minor clerical error. It is a glaring example of a pro forma EIR that was never intended to assess actual on-site conditions or real-world impacts. The inclusion of irrelevant geography demonstrates that the report was prepared with a template-based, non-site-specific approach lacking any genuine evaluation of the physical environment or the surrounding residential community. It is therefore an extremely flawed study that fails to identify, quantify, or mitigate any of the visual and lighting impacts on the neighborhoods most directly affected by this project. Moreover, the DEIR conducts no analysis of candle-lumen intensity or ambient light spillage, another fundamental omission that disregards our residential conditions. These lights will create widespread ambient glow and degrade the nighttime environment.

Response O1-5

The reference to the "City of Placentia" in Section 3.1.2, *Existing Conditions*, of Chapter 3.1, *Aesthetics* is a typographical error. The descriptive text in this section correctly characterizes the visual setting in the City of Irvine, including the Santiago Hills, northern flatlands, central flatlands, and San Joaquin Hills, each of which reflects the actual environmental context surrounding the project site. The inadvertent use of "Placentia" does not alter the substantive analysis, which is based on the correct geographic setting. This clerical error has been corrected in the Final EIR and does not constitute new significant information requiring recirculation of the Draft EIR under CEQA.

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment O1-6

3. Traffic, Parking, and Safety Risks – Our community already experiences unauthorized student parking, cut-through traffic, and pedestrian hazards. Parents are also using our private streets to drop off their students, further compounding congestion and safety concerns. Nighttime events will significantly worsen these conditions. The DEIR incorrectly assumes that some attendees will use "mass transit," yet no OCTA bus route serves Portola Parkway, virtually all attendees will drive.

As a real-world example, the football game between Orange High School and Northwood High School on Friday, October 17, 2025 (Northwood's Homecoming), held at Irvine High, overflowed with cars filling the entire dirt lot along the I-5 freeway. The traffic control supervisor onsite confirmed that attendance far exceeded projections, with 500–700 vehicles instead of 300. The DEIR fails to consider these firsthand experiences, let alone evaluate peak impacts like this event.

Response O1-6

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines, and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking. The Draft EIR does not assume attendee reliance on public transportation in the analysis of transportation impacts. In Chapter 3.8, *Transportation* of the Draft EIR, information regarding public transportation was included in the discussion of the existing transit facilities in the vicinity of the project site. The Draft EIR does not include public transit as a mitigation measure, nor was it included in the analysis of impacts to circulation plans, VMT, design hazards, or emergency access. Additionally, as described in Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, the proposed project is not a stadium project because it does not include bleachers or any increase in student, staff, or visitor capacity. Events held at the project site would consist of athletic practices and activities such as soccer and lacrosse. Football practices will be held at Northwood HS, but Varsity tackle football games would continue to be hosted at Irvine High School. Additionally, homecoming games would not be held at Northwood HS. Therefore, no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment O1-7

4. Cumulative Growth and Neighborhood Change – When Northwood High opened in 1999, surrounding development was minimal. Today, some 3,500 of the 4,000 approved homes have

been built for Orchard Hills and adjoining communities. The DEIR fails to reflect this changed environment, relying instead on outdated baseline assumptions inconsistent with CEQA §15125(a). Moreover, the avocado orchards immediately abutting the school's sports fields are slated to be turned over to OHVII by the Irvine Company within the next several years under an existing agreement. Once transferred, these areas will become part of the residential community, eliminating the current open-space buffer and bringing our community even closer to the field, further amplifying light, noise, and traffic impacts that the DEIR fails to evaluate.

Response O1-7

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how the District's decision to not install stadium lighting at Northwood High School's construction in 1999 is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA. Further, CEQA requires that an EIR evaluate a project's impacts based on existing environmental conditions at the time the Notice of Preparation was published (CEQA Guidelines § 15125[a]). The potential future transfer or development of the adjacent avocado orchards is not part of the existing physical setting, nor is it a reasonably foreseeable cumulative project. Accordingly, CEQA does not require analysis of speculative or hypothetical land use changes that may occur independent of the project. The Draft EIR properly evaluates environmental impacts based on current conditions and approved land uses in the vicinity of the project site. No revisions to the Draft EIR are warranted based on potential future changes to surrounding land uses.

Comment O1-8

5. Unresolved Trespassing, Drop-Offs, and Property Damage – For years, OHVII has dealt with illegal parking, student trespassing, and property damage to association-maintained areas. We have spent nearly $100,000 on fencing, replanting, and security, while also contending with parents dropping off students inside our private streets. Despite our repeated communications with Northwood administrators over the past several years, these issues remain unresolved. We expect IUSD to address these problems as a good neighbor would, not expand activities that exacerbate them. This project will only add insult to injury, deepening an already untenable situation for nearby residents.

Response O1-8

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment O1-9

6. No Demonstrated Need for the Project – Northwood administrators have confirmed they did not request this project. Most athletic practices and games occur immediately after school, not at night. For over 25 years, the school has successfully operated using existing daylight facilities and shared facilities with other schools. Installing permanent lighting and a new PA system introduces unnecessary costs and negative community impacts, a solution seeking to solve a non-existing problem.

Response O1-9

The passage of SB 328, School Start Time, which became effective in 2022, pushed high school start times to no earlier than 8:30 am. This, in turn, pushed high school end times later in the day. Currently, Northwood High School's last period ends at 4:00 p.m., and in the winter months the sun sets as early as 4:45 p.m. The proposed lighting is not meant to replicate a stadium, but to provide students with equal practice time as their peers at other schools. Additionally, the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project.

This comment does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. CEQA requires analysis of the potential physical environmental impacts of a proposed project as it exists today, not an evaluation of past discretionary decisions or design choices. The Draft EIR is intended to disclose potential physical environmental effects, not to address economic considerations unless they would result in a physical change to the environment. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment O1-10

7. Quality of Life and Property Value Impacts – This project will undoubtedly reduce our community's overall quality of life, introducing continuous traffic congestion, illegal parking, noise, and trespassing that will necessitate higher HOA fees to manage. These recurring disturbances will have a direct and adverse impact on property values.

Response O1-10

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. The Draft EIR is intended to disclose potential physical environmental effects, not to address social or economic considerations unless they would result in a physical change to the environment. This comment

has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment O1-11

Before pursuing new capital projects, IUSD must first address the current problems, including minimum adequate staffing to cite fence climbers, increased fence height, deterrent vegetation along Northwood's property line, and other preventative measures to reduce hazards and liability exposure. These are known, documented issues that the Draft EIR completely ignores. We expect any satisfactory mitigation to include measures that actively involve and engage our community in their design and enforcement. If this Draft EIR is not substantially corrected, OHVII is prepared to pursue every recourse available to safeguard the welfare and property interests of our community.

Response O1-11

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how trespassing and property damage are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. The Draft EIR is intended to disclose potential physical environmental effects, not to address social or economic considerations unless they would result in a physical change to the environment. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment O1-12

II. Legal Deficiencies Under CEQA

The DEIR is inadequate and noncompliant with CEQA for the following reasons:

- Improper Baseline – Fails to represent existing residential conditions (§15125(a)).

Response O1-12

CEQA Guidelines § 15125(a) requires that an EIR describe the existing physical conditions in the project area at the time the NOP is published. The Draft EIR establishes the baseline consistent with this requirement, evaluating the proposed project's environmental impacts based on current land uses, development, and environmental conditions in the surrounding residential areas. The Draft EIR accurately reflects existing neighborhood conditions, including residential development, and uses this baseline to assess potential impacts accurately. Therefore, the Draft EIR's baseline is appropriate under CEQA, and no revisions are required. Additionally, please see Response O1-3 above regarding baseline noise monitoring at nearby residences.

Comment O1-13

- Segmentation of Related and Future Impacts – Violates CEQA §15165 by omitting foreseeable future components such as potential PA system expansion, constituting unlawful segmentation of related activities.

Response O1-13

CEQA Guidelines § 15165 defines a "project" as the whole of an action that has a potential for resulting in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. The Draft EIR evaluates the project as proposed and includes all reasonably foreseeable environmental effects directly caused by the project, including increases in lighting, noise, and traffic (see Topical Responses 1, 2, and 3). Although the PA system has been removed from the proposed project due to public comments and concern, its potential impacts were analyzed in the Draft EIR. CEQA does not require analysis of speculative or hypothetical future actions that are not part of the project or that do not have a causal connection to the proposed project. Accordingly, the Draft EIR does not constitute unlawful segmentation, and no revisions are necessary.

Comment O1-14

- Failure to Analyze Cumulative Impacts – Ignores combined effects of lighting, PA operations, and traffic (§15130).

Response O1-14

CEQA Guidelines § 15130 requires an EIR to evaluate cumulative impacts where the project's incremental effects, combined with other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects, may be significant. The Draft EIR includes a thorough cumulative impact analysis for all environmental topics relevant to the project, including traffic, noise, and lighting in their respective chapters, based on existing conditions and reasonably foreseeable development in the vicinity. The analysis appropriately considers the combined effects of the project with surrounding development and other planned improvements, in accordance with § 15130. Therefore, the Draft EIR adequately addresses cumulative impacts, and no additional analysis is required.

Comment O1-15

- Insufficient Mitigation and Monitoring – Lacks enforceable standards for decibel limits, light spillage, parking control, and community oversight.

Response O1-15

The Draft EIR identifies feasible mitigation measures to reduce the project's potential environmental impacts to less-than-significant levels, consistent with CEQA Guidelines § 15126.4. Impacts related to light spillage, noise, and transportation were determined to be less than significant (see Topical Response 1, 2, and 3); thus, no mitigation measures are required for these topics. CEQA does not require mitigation measures beyond what is necessary to reduce significant impacts to less-than-significant levels. Therefore, the Draft EIR's mitigation and monitoring measures are adequate, enforceable, and consistent with CEQA requirements.

Comment O1-16

- Deficient Public Notice and Outreach – Despite OHVII's written request, the Association and other directly adjacent homeowners were not properly notified or engaged regarding the DEIR (§15087(a)).

Response O1-16

Please see Topical Response 4, *Community Outreach,* which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA. The NOA was sent to multiple residences within a 500-foot radius of the campus. On September 29, 2025, it was also sent to the HOA leadership, including Paul Anderson, Senior Community Association Manager, as requested, for review and distribution to residents. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. Therefore, the CEQA process for this project has been appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred.

Comment O1-17

III. Constructive Alternatives and Requested Actions

IUSD should maintain the existing, proven operating model in place since 1999. Portola High School and Irvine High School already possess fully lighted athletic fields, originally designed and intended to accommodate Northwood High's nighttime athletic use. Northwood football played at Portola High for approximately two years before returning to Irvine High. Continuing to use these shared facilities, as has been successfully practiced for over two decades and remains the most logical, cost-efficient, and least disruptive solution for both students and surrounding residents.

Response O1-17

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how the District's decision to not install stadium lighting at Northwood High School's construction in 1999 is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA. The Draft EIR evaluates a reasonable range of project alternatives that would reduce or avoid significant environmental impacts, consistent with CEQA Guidelines § 15126.6. The commenter's proposed alternative relies on off-site facilities at other high schools and does not meet the project objectives identified in Chapter 2, *Project Description*, of the Draft EIR, which include supporting on-campus athletic programs. As such, this off-site use scenario was not selected as a CEQA alternative because it would not feasibly achieve the project objectives as required under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. This comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment O1-18

Should IUSD wish to explore new athletic field opportunities in the future, the District should engage with the City of Irvine regarding the planned Gateway Preserve Park (former All American Asphalt site). That location could potentially support expanded athletic programming while avoiding residential conflicts entirely.

Response O1-18

The Draft EIR evaluates a reasonable range of project alternatives that would reduce or avoid significant environmental impacts, consistent with CEQA Guidelines § 15126.6. The commenter's proposed alternative relies on off-site facilities at Gateway Reserve Park and does not meet the project objectives identified in Chapter 2, *Project Description*, of the Draft EIR, which include supporting on-campus athletic programs. As such, this off-site use scenario was not selected as a CEQA alternative because it would not feasibly achieve the project objectives as required under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. This comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment O1-19

If the District continues to pursue this project at Northwood High, it must begin with, but not be limited to:

- Recirculating the DEIR to correct baseline, analytical, and notification deficiencies.

- Conducting supplemental studies on noise, lighting (including candle-lumen levels), and traffic conditions based on actual game-night data.

- Adopting enforceable and satisfactory mitigation measures—including curfews, shielding, fulltime security/towing service guarding our communities and private streets during all night activities, community participation, and ongoing monitoring.

- Establishing a Community Impact Mitigation Agreement with OHVII and, if appropriate, the City of Irvine before any project approval.

Response O1-19

The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. Please see Topical Responses 1, 2, and 3. The Draft EIR did not identify any significant unavoidable impacts, and impacts would be less than significant with the mitigation measures identified.

The establishment of a Community Impact Mitigation Agreement with OHVII or the City of Irvine is a discretionary, post-approval planning consideration and is not a requirement under CEQA. CEQA requires that the Draft EIR analyze the project's potential environmental impacts and identify feasible mitigation measures to reduce significant impacts to less-than-significant levels. Voluntary agreements or community benefit programs may be pursued by the District or other parties, but CEQA does not mandate the execution of such agreements prior to project approval. Any such agreements would be implemented separately from the CEQA review process and do not affect the adequacy of the Draft EIR.

Comment O1-20

While we value collaboration and recognize IUSD's role in serving students, we are equally committed to protecting the well-being and property interests of our residents. Should the District proceed without addressing these deficiencies, OHVII is prepared to pursue all legal remedies under CEQA.

Respectfully submitted,

Orchard Hills Village II Community Association

Response O1-20

This comment serves as a conclusionary sentence. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

O2. LanesEnd Community Association, 11/10/2025

Comment O2-1

Dear President McEwen and Members of the Board,

I am writing on behalf of the LanesEnd community in Northwood Pointe. We recently became aware of IUSD's intention to install stadium lights and loud amplified speakers at Northwood High School. Our Board of Directors met on November 4 and voted unanimously to oppose the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR), given its many flaws and the significant impacts this project would have on nearby residents.

Response O2-1

The comment opposes the proposed project but provides no specific issue regarding the detailed technical analyses in the Draft EIR or a specific environmental issue. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. This comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment O2-2

Our community is located directly across Portola Parkway from the Northwood High School football field. The Northwood Pointe neighborhood was developed just before the high school opened in 1999. At that time, IUSD made a conscious decision not to include stadium lights, amplified speakers, or bleacher seating because of the school's close proximity to surrounding homes. During my twenty-two years serving on the LanesEnd Board (as well as the 1,930-home Northwood Pointe Master Association), I have witnessed the growth of our community, which today consists of families with young children, multi-generational households with elderly parents, and retirees like myself, many of whom have invested their life savings into their homes and this neighborhood. Installing these lights and loudspeakers would directly expose our residents to intrusive lighting, noise, and traffic. The Draft EIR fails to properly evaluate these effects on adjacent neighborhoods, particularly those south of Portola Parkway.

Response O2-2

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how the District's decision to not install stadium lighting at Northwood High School's construction in 1999 is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA. Additionally, please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District

has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents; and Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines.

The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. The Draft EIR did not identify any significant unavoidable impacts, and impacts would be less than significant with the mitigation measures identified. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment O2-3

We also question the absence of critical analyses in the Draft EIR, which make the document procedurally and substantively deficient. For example, why is a public address system needed if, at face value, the main purpose is limited to practices? Even so, what athletic practices extend past 7:30 p.m.?

Response O2-3

The proposed project is not a stadium project, as it does not include bleachers or any increase in student, staff, or visitor capacity. Events held at the project site would consist of athletic practices and activities, such as soccer and lacrosse. Football practices will be held at Northwood HS, but Varsity tackle football games would continue to be hosted at Irvine High School. The passage of SB 328, School Start Time, became effective in 2022 and pushed high school start times to no earlier than 8:30 a.m. This, in turn, pushed high school end times later in the day. Currently, Northwood High School's last period ends at 4:00 p.m., and in the winter months the sun sets as early as 4:45 p.m. The proposed lighting is not meant to replicate a stadium, but to provide students with equal practice time as their peers at other schools. Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise,* which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents.

Comment O2-4

Regarding parking, Section 2.4.4 of the Draft EIR falls short of basic parking and circulation standards and omits any count of available visitor parking. Table 2-2 is misleading, estimating a maximum of only 250 attendees for football events while ignoring the 300-member Northwood Marching Band, visiting teams, coaches, and fans. This example, among many other non-logical

assumptions, illustrates the Draft EIR's failure to properly assess the project's true environmental impacts and demonstrates that it would not meet the standards required under CEQA.

Response O2-4

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines. Additionally, please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking. As previously stated, the proposed project is not a stadium project, and Varsity tackle football games would continue to be held at Irvine High School. Events held at the project site would consist of athletic practices and activities, such as soccer and lacrosse. Football practices will be held at Northwood HS. Additionally, noise related to the marching band is part of existing conditions and would not change with implementation of the proposed project.

Comment O2-5

Equally concerning is the omission of any evaluation of residential neighborhoods that would be directly impacted. The Draft EIR fails to acknowledge or measure the effects of lighting and noise on nearby communities such as LanesEnd, Collage, and Georgetown, all of which front along Portola Parkway and are in direct line of sight to the proposed field improvements. The absence of data or measurements from these areas undermines the credibility and purpose of an environmental review that is meant to protect surrounding residents. Such oversight further demonstrates how procedurally and substantively deficient this Draft EIR is and contradicts the very intent of the EIR process, which is to ensure transparency and accountability in evaluating real environmental impacts. In this case, the report is completely absent of any analysis reflecting real-world effects on residential neighborhoods, as if our communities do not exist.

Response O2-5

Impacts related to light and glare were evaluated in Chapter 3.1, *Aesthetics*, of the Draft EIR. Existing lighting conditions at the project site were measured and are described on page 3.1-11 of the Draft EIR. Locations of existing and proposed daytime and nighttime views are shown on:

- Figure 3.1-2, *Location 1: Existing and Proposed Daytime Views*
- Figure 3.1-3, *Location 1: Existing and Proposed Nighttime Views*
- Figure 3.1-4, *Location 2: Existing and Proposed Daytime Views*
- Figure 3.1-5, *Location 2: Existing and Proposed Nighttime Views*
- Figure 3.1-6, *Location 3: Existing and Proposed Daytime Views*
- Figure 3.1-7, *Location 3: Existing and Proposed Nighttime Views*

Location 1 is at the intersection of Yale Lane and Portola Parkway facing northwest; Location 2 is along Portola Parkway facing northeast toward the football field; and Location 3 is in the residential neighborhood north of the project site near the intersection of Stallion and Twisted Oak, facing southwest toward the campus. The Draft EIR adequately measured the existing lighting levels and modeled conditions under the proposed project at nearby residential homes and concluded that impacts would be less than significant.

Similarly, noise impacts were evaluated in Chapter 3.7, *Noise*, of the Draft EIR. Table 3.7-9, *SoundPLAN Modeled Noise Levels, dBA L_{eq}*, on page 3.7-26 of the Draft EIR shows ambient noise measurements and modeled operational noise levels associated with the proposed project at noise receptor locations R-1 through R-3. R-1 is at 101 Stallion; R-2 is at 78 Winslow Lane; and R-3 is on the Portola Parkway side of the existing sound wall adjacent to 1020 Timberwood. Modeled SoundPLAN scenario inputs, results, and operational noise contours associated with track-and-field and practice-field noise on the project site and in the greater community are shown in Appendix E for all scenarios. The Draft EIR adequately measured existing ambient noise levels and modeled conditions under the proposed project at nearby residential homes and concluded that impacts would be less than significant.

The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. The Draft EIR did not identify any significant unavoidable impacts, and impacts would be less than significant with the mitigation measures identified. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment O2-6

The lack of sincere community outreach and engagement only compounds these deficiencies and raises mistrust. Nearby neighborhoods were never meaningfully consulted or notified early in the process, despite being the most directly affected.

Response O2-6

Please see Topical Response 4, *Community Outreach,* which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. Therefore, the CEQA process for this project has been appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred.

Comment O2-7

The EIR's analysis is also built on incomplete and misleading assumptions. It provides no baseline data from actual residential vantage points and no comparative analysis between current ambient conditions and projected peak-use events. By avoiding any analysis of lighting, noise, traffic, and cumulative disturbance where the impacts would be most significant, the Draft EIR reaches its predetermined conclusion of "no significant impact." That conclusion is invalid precisely because the report fails to analyze the very conditions that would demonstrate significant and lasting harm to the surrounding communities.

Response O2-7

Please see Response O2-3, above, which describes the comparative analysis between current ambient noise levels and lighting to modeled conditions under the proposed project. In addition, please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines.

The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. The Draft EIR did not identify any significant unavoidable impacts, and impacts would be less than significant with the mitigation measures identified. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment O2-8

We are deeply concerned that the analysis understates the true impacts on our community and does not reflect the reality of what large-scale evening events would mean for local residents. The introduction of nighttime sports and amplified sound will fundamentally alter the quiet residential character of our neighborhood and diminish the quality of life for hundreds of families. During my twenty-six years in the Northwood Pointe community (and over forty-two years owning homes in Irvine), I have never encountered a proposal with this magnitude of potential negative impact and threat to the Northwood Pointe neighborhoods.

Response O2-8

The proposed project is not a stadium project, as it does not include bleachers or any increase in student, staff, or visitor capacity. Events held at the project site would consist of athletic practices and activities, such as soccer and lacrosse. Football practices will be held at Northwood HS, but Varsity tackle football games would continue to be hosted at Irvine High

School. Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise,* which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents.

Comment O2-9

Perhaps most concerning of all is the inclusion of non-school-related activities in the project scope, as described in the Draft EIR's Notice of Completion filed with the State on September 23, 2025. The Draft EIR provides no clear definitions or analysis of such uses, leaving open the possibility of unrelated events that could greatly expand the frequency and intensity of field use. The absence of this clarity is deeply troubling. It raises legitimate questions about the District's long-term intentions and undermines the community's trust in the stated purpose of the project. We strongly urge IUSD to remove this element entirely from the project to eliminate any doubt or future misuse of the facilities beyond school purposes.

Response O2-9

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No changes to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment O2-10

We respectfully request that the District withdraw the current Draft EIR and conduct a thorough reevaluation that fully accounts for the proximity of the LanesEnd community and surrounding neighborhoods. We also ask that IUSD engage directly with affected residents before taking any further action to permanently alter the use and intensity of the Northwood High School athletic facilities. We have always supported the work of Northwood High School and IUSD in the academic arena; however, on this matter of planning and community impact, the District must engage with the residents who are also its constituents.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your service to our students and community. We trust the Board will carefully consider the serious and lasting consequences this project poses to nearby homeowners.

Response O2-10

Please see Topical Response 4, *Community Outreach,* which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. Therefore, the

CEQA process for this project has been appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred.

2.4.2 Comments from Individuals

I1. Vivian Shih, 10/17/2025

Comment I1-1

Dear Katie, Jeff, and other board members,

I'm a resident of the Orchard Hills 2 community in Irvine, directly adjacent to NHS.

While I am also a parent of an NHS student, I'm concerned about your upcoming stadium lights and speaker project that may have the following impact on my community:

Response I1-1

This comment introduces the commenter and expresses concerns about the proposed project. This comment does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. The commenter's statements has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of its decision-making for this project. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I1-2

1. Traffic: Night games will bring heavy evening traffic through our streets.

2. Parking: As the only non-gated community in Orchard Hills, OHVII will absorb event overflow parking—adding to the illegal student parking already occurring daily.

Response I1-2

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines, and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking. The commenter's statements has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of its decision-making for this project.

Comment I1-3

3. Trespassing and Property Damage: Students frequently cross through our landscaped areas, causing nearly $100,000 in repairs and security costs. Night events will invite more property damage and costs, which could increase HOA assessment dues.

Response I1-3

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how trespassing and property damage are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. The commenter's statements has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of its decision-making for this project.

Comment I1-4

4. Light Pollution: Stadium lights will be visible across OHVII and as far as Corte Bella.

Response I1-4

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I1-5

5. Noise: Night events will bring amplified announcements, cheering, and two marching bands (home and away teams) disrupting evening quiet.

Response I1-5

Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I1-6

6. Lack of Transparency: When Northwood was built in 1999, IUSD chose not to install lights to protect nearby homes. Now, with over 4,000 homes in Orchard Hills—including 809 in OHVII—IUSD has failed to extend that same consideration to our community.

Response I1-6

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how the District's decision to not install stadium lighting at Northwood High School's construction in 1999 is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA.

Comment I1-7

I urge you to reconsider the breadth of the project and put in mitigating measures to address the concerns noted above which are shared by my fellow community residents.

I am unable to attend the meeting on the 20th, but please take into account my concerns above."

Best Regards,

Vivian Shih

Response I5-7

This comment requests that the District reassess the proposed project and implement additional mitigation measures. The Draft EIR did not identify any significant unavoidable impacts, and impacts would be less than significant with the mitigation measures already identified in the Draft EIR. The inability to attend the community meeting does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. Therefore, a response is not required pursuant to CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No changes to the Draft EIR are necessary.

I2. Corinne Giesemann, 10/18/2025

Comment I2-1

Greetings to our city leaders! I am a resident of the Orchard Hills 2 community in Irvine, directly adjacent to NHS. We are concerned about your upcoming stadium lights and speaker project that may have the following impact on my community.

Response I2-1

This comment introduces the commenter and opposes the proposed project but does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I2-2

We have had all our kids in athletics on the wonderful track and field at Northwood, but feel Irvine has enough stadiums at Irvine High, Portola and Crean Lutheran for evening and large events. Irvine, our quiet hills and wildlife don't need more noise and light pollution.

Response I2-2

The proposed project is not a stadium project, as it does not include bleachers or any increase in student, staff, or visitor capacity. Events held at the project site would consist of athletic practices and activities, such as soccer and lacrosse. Football practices will be held at Northwood HS, but Varsity tackle football games would continue to be hosted at Irvine High School. The passage of SB 328, School Start Time, which became effective in 2022, pushed high school start times to no earlier than 8:30 a.m. This, in turn, pushed high school end times later in the day. Currently, Northwood High School's last period ends at 4:00 p.m., and in the winter months, the sun sets as early as 4:45 p.m. The proposed lighting is not meant to replicate a stadium, but to provide students with equal practice time as their peers at other schools.

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare,* which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare, and Topical Response 2, *Noise,* which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. Additionally, the Draft EIR determined that Northwood High School is not located within a biologically sensitive area or a migratory corridor; therefore, the proposed lighting would not impact wildlife or sensitive species (see Chapter 5).

Comment I2-3

We may also experience significantly increased traffic potentially racing through our residential streets. We already have problems with speeding and issues with safety for walkers, joggers, bikers, strollers, skating. This may add to the issue. Students and parents already use our private, residential streets as a thoroughfare.

1. Traffic: Night games will bring heavy evening traffic through our streets.

2. Parking: As the only non-gated community in Orchard Hills, OHVII will absorb event overflow parking—adding to the illegal student parking already occurring daily.

Response I2-3

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines, and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I2-4

3. Trespassing and Property Damage: Students frequently cross through our landscaped areas, causing nearly $100,000 in repairs and security costs. Night events will invite more property damage and costs, which could increase HOA assessment dues.

Response I2-4

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes why trespassing and property damage are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA.

Comment I2-5

4. Light Pollution: Stadium lights will be visible across OHVII and as far as Corte Bella.

Response I2-5

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I2-6

5. Noise: Night events will bring amplified announcements, cheering, and two marching bands (home and away teams) disrupting evening quiet.

Response I2-6

Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I2-7

6. Lack of Transparency: When Northwood was built in 1999, IUSD chose not to install lights to protect nearby homes. Now, with over 4,000 homes in Orchard Hills—including 809 in OHVII—IUSD has failed to extend that same consideration to our community.

Response I2-7

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how the District's decision to not install stadium lighting at Northwood High School's construction in 1999 is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA.

Comment I2-8

I urge you to reconsider the breadth of the project and put in mitigating measures to address the concerns noted above which are shared by my fellow community residents.

Thank you for representing us on the City Council. Irvine is a master planned community priding itself on peaceful green spaces for relaxation, health and well-being. Let's preserve that in as many of our neighborhoods as possible.

Response I2-8

This comment requests to reassess the proposed project and implement additional mitigation measures. The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. The Draft EIR did not identify any significant unavoidable impacts, and impacts would be less than significant with the mitigation measures identified. This comment

has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

I3. Divya Gupta, 10/18/2025

Comment I3-1

Dear Katie, Jeff, and other board members,

I'm a resident of the Orchard Hills 2 community in Irvine, directly adjacent to NHS.

While I am also a parent of an NHS student, I'm concerned about your upcoming stadium lights and speaker project that may have the following impact on my community:

Response I3-1

This comment introduces the commenter and expresses concerns about the proposed project. However, this comment does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I3-2

1. Traffic: Night games will bring heavy evening traffic through our streets.

2. Parking: As the only non-gated community in Orchard Hills, OHVII will absorb event overflow parking—adding to the illegal student parking already occurring daily.

Response I3-2

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines, and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I3-3

3. Trespassing and Property Damage: Students frequently cross through our landscaped areas, causing nearly $100,000 in repairs and security costs. Night events will invite more property damage and costs, which could increase HOA assessment dues.

Response I3-3

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes why trespassing and property damage are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA.

Comment I3-4

4. Light Pollution: Stadium lights will be visible across OHVII and as far as Corte Bella.

Response I3-4

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I3-5

5. Noise: Night events will bring amplified announcements, cheering, and two marching bands (home and away teams) disrupting evening quiet.

Response I3-5

Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I3-6

6. Lack of Transparency: When Northwood was built in 1999, IUSD chose not to install lights to protect nearby homes. Now, with over 4,000 homes in Orchard Hills—including 809 in OHVII—IUSD has failed to extend that same consideration to our community.

Response I3-6

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how the District's decision to not install stadium lighting at Northwood High School's construction in 1999 is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA.

Comment I3-7

I urge you to reconsider the breadth of the project and put in mitigating measures to address the concerns noted above which are shared by my fellow community residents.

I am unable to attend the meeting on the 20th, but please take into account my concerns above."

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Divya Gupta

(137 Stallion)

Response I3-7

This comment requests to reassess the proposed project and implement additional mitigation measures. The Draft EIR did not identify any significant unavoidable impacts, and impacts would be less than significant with the current mitigation measures identified in the Draft EIR. The inability to attend the community meeting does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. Therefore, a response is not required pursuant to CEQA. However, This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No changes to the Draft EIR are necessary.

I4. Shirley Yang, 10/18/2025

Comment I4-1

Dear Katie, Jeff, and other board members,

I'm a resident of the Orchard Hills 2 community in Irvine, directly adjacent to NHS.

I'm concerned about your upcoming stadium lights and speaker project that may have the following impact on my community:

Response I4-1

This comment introduces the commenter and expresses concerns about the proposed project. However, this comment does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I4-2

1. Traffic: Night games will bring heavy evening traffic through our streets.

2. Parking: As the only non-gated community in Orchard Hills, OHVII will absorb event overflow parking—adding to the illegal student parking already occurring daily.

Response I4-2

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines, and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I4-3

3. Trespassing and Property Damage: Students frequently cross through our landscaped areas, causing nearly $100,000 in repairs and security costs. Night events will invite more property damage and costs, which could increase HOA assessment dues.

Response I4-3

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes why trespassing and property damage are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA.

Comment I4-4

4. Light Pollution: Stadium lights will be visible across OHVII and as far as Corte Bella.

Response I4-4

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I4-5

5. Noise: Night events will bring amplified announcements, cheering, and two marching bands (home and away teams) disrupting evening quiet.

Response I4-5

Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I4-6

6. Lack of Transparency: When Northwood was built in 1999, IUSD chose not to install lights to protect nearby homes. Now, with over 4,000 homes in Orchard Hills—including 809 in OHVII—IUSD has failed to extend that same consideration to our community.

Response I4-6

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how the District's decision to not install stadium lighting at Northwood High School's construction in 1999 is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA.

Comment I4-7

I urge you to reconsider the breadth of the project and put in mitigating measures to address the concerns noted above which are shared by my fellow community residents.

I am unable to attend the meeting on the 20th, but please take into account my concerns above."

Thank you

Shirley Yang

Response I4-7

This comment requests to reassess the proposed project and implement additional mitigation measures. The Draft EIR did not identify any significant unavoidable impacts, and impacts would be less than significant with the current mitigation measures identified in the Draft EIR. The inability to attend the community meeting does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. Therefore, a response is not required pursuant to CEQA. However, This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No changes to the Draft EIR are necessary.

I5. Steven Chen, 10/18/2025

Comment I5-1

Dear Katie, Jeff, and Esteemed Board Members,

I am a resident of Orchard Hills 2 in Irvine, located next to Northwood High School (NHS), and I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed stadium lights and speaker project and its potential impacts on our community:

Response I5-1

This comment introduces the commenter and expresses concerns about the proposed project. However, this comment does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I5-2

1. Noise Disturbance: Evening events will bring amplified announcements, crowd noise, and two marching bands, disrupting the quiet of our evenings.

Response I5-2

Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I5-3

2. Increased Traffic: Night games will likely cause significant evening traffic congestion on our neighborhood streets.

3. Parking Issues: As the only non-gated community in Orchard Hills, Orchard Hills VII

Response I5-3

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines, and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking. This

comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I5-4

4. Light Pollution: The proposed stadium lights will likely be visible throughout Orchard Hills VII and as far as Corte Bella, affecting the nighttime ambiance.

Response I5-4

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I5-5

5. Trespassing and Property Damage: Students frequently cut through our landscaped areas, resulting in nearly $100,000 in repair and security costs. Night events may increase trespassing and damage, potentially raising HOA dues.

Response I5-5

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes why trespassing and property damage are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA.

Comment I5-6

6. Lack of Community Consideration: When Northwood was built in 1999, IUSD opted against installing stadium lights to protect nearby residences. With over 4,000 homes now in Orchard Hills, including 809 in Orchard Hills VII, we are disappointed that similar consideration has not been extended to our community.

Response I5-6

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes why the District's decision to not install stadium lighting at Northwood High School's construction in 1999 is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA.

Comment I5-7

I respectfully urge you to reassess the scope of this project and implement measures to mitigate these concerns, which are shared by many in our community.

Sincerely, Steven Chen

Response I5-7

This comment requests to reassess the scope of the proposed project and its impact. The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. The Draft EIR did not identify any significant unavoidable impacts, and impacts would be less than significant with the mitigation measures identified. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

I6. Martin Ko, 10/19/2025

Comment I6-1

Dear Kathleen Gil,

I'm a homeowner in Orchard Hills Village II (OHVII), one of the neighborhoods most directly and severely impacted by the proposed stadium lighting and amplified PA system at Northwood High School.

This proposal is not just disruptive—it appears procedurally flawed and potentially unlawful.

Response I6-1

This comment introduces the commenter and states that the Orchard Hills Village II is directly and severely impacted by the proposed project. The proposed project is not a stadium project. Additionally, please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project. This comment opposes the proposed project but does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. This comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I6-2

Our HOA, which represents over 800 homes bordering Northwood on three sides, was never formally notified about this project, despite clear requirements under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for meaningful public disclosure and opportunity to participate. This failure to engage directly with the most affected residents is not just disappointing—it could constitute a violation of CEQA procedural obligations.

Response I6-2

Please see Topical Response 4, *Community Outreach,* which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. Therefore, the CEQA process for this project has been appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred.

Comment I6-3

We are not opposing this project out of emotion. We are responding to a pattern:

- Illegal student parking already clogs our streets daily.

Response I6-3

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines, and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I6-4

- Trespassing through HOA-maintained property has caused nearly $100,000 in damage and security costs

Response I6-4

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes why the District's decision to not install stadium lighting at Northwood High School's construction in 1999 is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA.

Comment I6-6

- Now, IUSD is attempting to introduce permanent, high-impact changes—70-foot light poles, amplified announcements, and nighttime events—with little to no direct engagement with those most affected.

Response I6-6

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents; and Topical Response 4, *Community Outreach*, which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. Therefore, the CEQA process for this project has been appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred.

Comment I6-7

The EIR grossly understates the impact on our neighborhood. This is not a theoretical concern—this is where we live and raise our families. We are not interested in being collateral damage to a plan that prioritizes convenience over community well-being.

Response I6-7

The comment expresses general opposition to the proposed project and concerns regarding community well-being. The comment provides no specific issue regarding the detailed technical analyses contained within the Draft EIR regarding a specific environmental issue. The Draft EIR is intended to disclose potential physical environmental effects, not to address social or economic considerations unless they would result in a physical change to the environment. The Draft EIR appropriately assesses the proposed project's potential impacts consistent with CEQA requirements. The District acknowledges the commenter's concerns regarding neighborhood quality of life and, this comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. This comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I6-8

If this project moves forward without correction of these CEQA violations and without serious mitigation measures, legal action will be considered by affected residents and associations. We are prepared to escalate this matter if IUSD does not act in good faith to rectify this process.

Response I6-8

The comment does not identify specific environmental issues or deficiencies in the environmental analysis presented in the Draft EIR. The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. The Draft EIR did not identify any significant unavoidable impacts, and impacts would be less than significant with the mitigation measures identified. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I6-9

We urge you to:

- Pause the EIR timeline immediately.
- Provide formal notification and engagement with all affected HOAs, especially OHVII.
- Reassess the project with full and honest disclosure of community impact.
- Commit to an in-person hearing for Orchard Hills residents before any approvals move forward.

Sincerely,

Martin

Response I6-9

The comment does not identify specific environmental issues or deficiencies in the environmental analysis presented in the Draft EIR. The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. Regarding community engagement, please see Topical Response 6, *Community Outreach*. CEQA does not require that the EIR process be paused or that additional hearings be held beyond those specified by statute and the District's adopted procedures. The District will continue to consider public input throughout the decision-making process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

I7. Josh Guo, 10/19/2025

Comment I7-1

Kathleen & Jazzelle,

I am a homeowner in Orchard Hills VII (OHVII), the community that directly borders Northwood High School on three sides. I strongly oppose the proposed installation of 70-foot stadium lights and a loud public-address (PA) speaker system as described in the Draft EIR.

Response I7-1

The comment opposes the proposed project but provides no specific issue regarding the detailed technical analyses contained within the Draft EIR regarding a specific environmental issue. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. This comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I7-2

Despite being the most directly affected under CEQA, our HOA and residents were not properly notified or consulted. The proposed project would bring significant noise, light pollution, traffic, and parking overflow into our quiet residential neighborhood. OHVII has already spent nearly $100,000 repairing landscape damage and increasing security due to student activity—night events with lights and amplified announcements would only increase costs, safety risks, and disruptions to residents' peace.

Response I7-2

Please see Topical Response 4, *Community Outreach,* which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. Therefore, the CEQA process for this project has been appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred. Additionally, please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines; Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; and Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents.

Further, please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how trespassing and property damage are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I7-3

When Northwood High was built in 1999, IUSD intentionally excluded stadium lighting to protect nearby homes in Northwood Pointe. With over 4,000 homes now in Orchard Hills, our community deserves the same consideration.

Response I7-3

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how the District's decision to not install stadium lighting at Northwood High School's construction in 1999 is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA.

Comment I7-4

We respectfully urge IUSD to reject this proposal and engage directly with the OHVII HOA before proceeding.

Best

Josh Guo

Homeowner, Orchard Hills VII

Response I7-4

The comment does not identify specific environmental issues or deficiencies in the environmental analysis presented in the Draft EIR. The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. Regarding engagement with the OHVII HOA, please see Topical Response 6, *Community Outreach*. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

I8. James Krenzke, 10/19/2025

Comment I8-1

Dear Katie, Jeff, and other board members,

I'm a resident of the Orchard Hills 2 community in Irvine, directly adjacent to NHS.

I'm concerned about your upcoming stadium lights and speaker project that may have the following impact on my community:

Response I8-1

This comment introduces the commenter and expresses concerns about the proposed project. However, this comment does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. This comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I8-2

1. Traffic: Night games will bring heavy evening traffic through our streets.

2. Parking: As the only non-gated community in Orchard Hills, OHVII will absorb event overflow parking—adding to the illegal student parking already occurring daily.

Response I8-2

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines, and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I8-3

3. Trespassing and Property Damage: Students frequently cross through our landscaped areas, causing nearly $100,000 in repairs and security costs. Night events will invite more property damage and costs, which could increase HOA assessment dues.

Response I8-3

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how trespassing and property damage are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA.

Comment I8-4

4. Light Pollution: Stadium lights will be visible across OHVII and as far as Corte Bella.

Response I8-4

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I8-5

5. Noise: Night events will bring amplified announcements, cheering, and two marching bands (home and away teams) disrupting evening quiet.

Response I8-5

Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I8-6

6. Lack of Transparency: When Northwood was built in 1999, IUSD chose not to install lights to protect nearby homes. Now, with over 4,000 homes in Orchard Hills—including 809 in OHVII—IUSD has failed to extend that same consideration to our community.

Response I8-6

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how the District's decision to not install stadium lighting at Northwood High School's construction in 1999 is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA.

Comment I8-7

Have any studies been conducted addressing any of the concerns listed above? If so, please share them with OHVII residents to allay our concerns. If not, I urge you to hold off on moving

forward until proper studies can be conducted on how this new project will affect the lives of nearby residents.

Thank you!
James Krenzke,
Orchard Hills Village II Resident

Response I8-7

A traffic and transportation impact analysis study was conducted by Garland Associates for the proposed project. The transportation study is included as Appendix F of the Draft EIR. Noise monitoring and modeling for existing conditions, construction, and operation of the proposed project were conducted by PlaceWorks and are included as Appendix E of the Draft EIR. Lighting measurements for the proposed light poles were provided by Musco and are included as Appendix B of the Draft EIR. No further response is required, and no changes to Draft EIR are necessary.

I9. Maria Hensley, 10/20/2025

Comment I9-1

Dear Ms Katie McEwen and Dr. Jeff Kim and members of the IUSD Board, Principal of NHS, Irvine City Planning Team, District 1 City Council Member, Ms Liu

It has come to my attention that there is a proposal to install 70-foot stadium lights and a PA system, etc. on the Northwood High School athletic fields.

Response I9-1

This comment summarizes the proposed project. After careful consideration of community comments and concerns, the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project; no PA system will be installed. Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, for additional details. This comment does not provide a specific issue regarding the detailed technical analyses contained within the Draft EIR regarding a specific environmental issue. This comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I9-2

As Landscape Committee Chair for OHVII I am presenting my concerns as to parking, and potential trespassing and property damage specifically for OHVII as the community is directly behind the Northwood High school grounds.

Over the years, since the community was built in 2015, the community has encountered many students parking on private property and trespassing on private property. I have worked closely with IPD Officer Lindsey Campbell and the HOA to address these issues and as such have implemented recommendations to fix the situation. The OHVII has incurred close to, if not over, $100K in landscape renovation, fencing, and security to bring down (hoping to eliminate) the number of students utilizing the property to get to school.

Response I9-2

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines. Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I9-3

I object to this project as noted in the email from our OHVII Property Manager sent today noting our formal objection to the project.

Response I9-3

This comment objects the proposed project. However, this comment does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. This comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I9-4

If this project does move forward, I would suggest on behalf of our HOA and other HOA's of the Northwood area surrounding and next to the NHS campus the following:

1 - Police presence at each event being held at NHS:

A: IPD Police monitoring / providing support to ensure that guests and students do not park in the residential areas - especially all private communities

B: IPD Police presence on Portola and surrounding street arteries including Orchard Hills Road that is already being used as a racetrack, and consider lowering the speed limit permanently on Portola around the high school (between Jamboree and Jeffrey) to 40- 45 MPH

C- IPD Police presence at each of the neighboring communities. Northwood Point, Orchard Hills II, Eastwood etc. , to ensure there are no cars speeding and that they do not park in private communities. These cars will be towed immediately.

D- IPD Police presence at the NHS fences surrounding the school to apprehend students taking that path

Response I9-4

The commenter's suggestions are at the discretion of the Irvine Police Department and do not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. The Irvine Police Department received a copy of the NOP and NOA and was invited to provide comments; the Irvine Police Department did not provide any comments. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I9-5

2- The cost of landscaping / property damaged due to such NHS events will be reimbursed and paid for by the school district accordingly.

Response I9-5

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how trespassing and property damage are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I9-6

3- The stadium sound system may be at a level that is not acceptable and heard by all residents. Keeping in mind the times when children are put to bed - 8:00p.m. and an earlier time for infants.

Response I9-6

Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I9-7

Considering the issues and challenges around our landscaping and trespassing over the years, I do not recommend this project around the stadium lights and what it will bring to the surrounding community of Northwood.

Response I9-7

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how trespassing and property damage are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I9-8

On another point, the light and sound pollution will impact the wildlife around the surrounding area. Please note that all parks CLOSE at dusk for this reason.

Response I9-8

The Draft EIR determined that Northwood High School is not located within a biologically sensitive area or a migratory corridor; therefore, the proposed lighting would not impact wildlife or sensitive species. Please refer to Chapter 5.

Comment I9-9

Let's keep Irvine the best we can be and be mindful of all the issues this project will bring to our treasured community.

Thank you for reading my email

Maria

--

Maria Hensley
OHVII Landscaping Committee Chair
[redacted]

Response I9-9

This comment does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I10. Corinne Giesemann 2, 10/20/2025

Comment I10-1

Thank you, Kathleen, for the meeting this evening.

Melinda, Jeff, Katie and IUSD Board members, I'd like to point out some additional concerns:

1) Fiscal responsible allocation of tax payer dollars. There is not a pressing need for extended time on the athletic fields at this time. The 4 lighted fields (IHS, PHS, UHS, Crean Lutheran + Beckman HS) provide adequate facilities.

Response I10-1

The proposed project is not a stadium project, as it does not include bleachers or any increase in student, staff, or visitor capacity. Events held at the project site would consist of athletic practices and activities, such as soccer and lacrosse. Football practices will be held at Northwood HS, but Varsity tackle football games would continue to be hosted at Irvine High School. Additionally, the PA system has been removed from the proposed project. The passage of SB 328, School Start Time, which became effective in 2022, pushed high school start times to no earlier than 8:30 a.m. This, in turn, pushed high school end times later in the day. Currently, Northwood High School's last period ends at 4:00 p.m., and in the winter months, the sun sets as early as 4:45 p.m. The proposed lighting is not meant to replicate a stadium, but to provide students with equal practice time as their peers at other schools.

This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue. As directed by § 15131(a) of the CEQA Guidelines, economic or social effects of a project shall not be treated as significant effects on the environment. Therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I10-2

2) Parking concerns: Back-to-School night already produces significant overflow traffic into the surrounding community requiring shuttles. This will be reproduced many times over with large events. The HOA has spent a great deal of money with trash all over our community from students trespassing into our community. We will continue to foot the cost for the littering and damage to landscaping.

Response I10-2

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines. Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how trespassing and property damage are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I10-3

3) We hear normal noises (band in the AM, bells) already, which is nice in the daytime. We hear fireworks from Anaheim. They echo through our hills. The wildlife in the preserved hills will No Doubtedly be affected. Animals and residents NEED a quiet place to retreat to at night.

All biological beings NEED a dark, quiet place at night. We know that to keep our circadian rhythm on track and cortisol levels healthy. This is important for the well-being of our students.

Response I10-3

Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. Additionally, the Draft EIR determined that Northwood High School is not located within a biologically sensitive area or a migratory corridor; therefore, the proposed lighting would not impact wildlife or sensitive species (see Chapter 5).

Comment I10-4

4) The current EIR study takes into consideration only “athletic” noise. It DOES NOT take into account BAND, MUSIC, PA system noise. It also does not take into account traffic and speeding which already occurs on Orchard Hills Drive. When other high school students “discover” this street to speed on, it will be detrimental. It curves and is poorly lighted. Irvine Traffic and Irvine Conservancy should be involved and comment as well. There will certainly be more traffic accidents and violations.

Response I10-4

Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. Noise related to the marching band is an existing condition and would not change with implementation of the proposed project. Additionally, transportation noise was taken into account in the noise modeling and

analysis. Further, please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines.

Comment I10-5

5) What is the background of the person making conclusions on the environmental impact of this project? Common sense knows it will create a significant amount of disruptive noise.

Response I10-5

Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I10-6

6) The other Irvine stadiums are located in more urban areas. NHS is nestled in the hills. It WILL affect the ecosystem and disturb the wildlife. My request is to have the Irvine Conservancy weigh in on this project.

Response I10-6

The Draft EIR determined that Northwood High School is not located within a biologically sensitive area or a migratory corridor; therefore, the proposed lighting would not impact wildlife or sensitive species (see Chapter 5).

Additionally, the California Department of Fish and Game Region 5 and the California Department of Conservation received copies of the NOP and NOA and were invited to provide comments. Neither agency elected to provide any comments.

Comment I10-7

7) Risk management of the increased traffic and potential accidents, traffic and parking violations, etc. Orchard Hills Drive is a curved, lowly lit road with a dangerous blind spot on the corner of Big Sycamore and Orchard Hills Drive. We urge that the City of Irvine Traffic conduct their own study.

Response I10-7

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines, and see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking.

Additionally, the Department of Transportation District 12 and Orange County Transportation Authority received copies of the NOP and NOA and were invited to provide comments. Neither agency elected to provide any comments.

Comment I10-8

8) EIR does not take into account projection of impact in years and just impact within the first few months.

Response I10-8

Consistent with the CEQA Guidelines, the Draft EIR evaluates both short-term (construction) and long-term (operational) impacts of the proposed project. Operational impacts, including traffic, air quality, noise, utilities, are assessed over the long-term life of the project and are based on full buildout conditions rather than a limited initial time frame. For operational impacts, the Draft EIR assesses ongoing conditions for the duration of the project's lifespan and relies on long-range planning forecasts, where applicable, to ensure the analysis reflects future-year conditions. Therefore, the EIR fully complies with CEQA by evaluating both near-term and long-term impacts. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I10-9

We strongly urge you to take each of these concerns very seriously and respect the thousands of residents to be affected.

Response I10-9

This comment does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I10-10

Lastly, we did not receive notice on this, so we are disadvantaged in lead time to respond adequately.

Thank you,

Corinne

Sent from my iPhone

Response I10-10

Please see Topical Response 4, *Community Outreach,* which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. Therefore, the CEQA process for this project has been appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred.

I11. Barry Hsieh, 10/20/2025

Comment I11-1

As longtime beautiful Irvine and Orchard Hills residents, we strongly oppose the ISSD proposal to install stadium lights and loud PS speakers at Northwood High School.

Response I11-1

This comment opposes the proposed project but does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the DEIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the DEIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I12. Grace Sibayan-Hsieh, 10/20/2025

Comment I12-1

IUSD Officials and Board Members,

I am writing to you to voice my objection to the IUSD proposal to install stadium lights and loud PA speakers at Northwood High School. As a 30-plus year resident of Irvine, 10 of which are currently in the Orchard Hills Village II Community, this project would negatively impact our community. We already deal with illegal student parking and frequent damage to our landscaping due to trespassing students resulting in high costs for repairs and security causing increased HOA dues. With the installation of the PA speakers and Stadium lights we would have to contend not only with noise and light pollution, but increased parking issues, and trespassing and damage during evening events at Northwood High. Having lived in the Northwood Pointe community previously, the IUSD chose not to install lights when Northwood High was being built to protect that community. I hope that IUSD would extend that same consideration to the Orchard Hills Village II community.

Thank you.

Regards,

Grace Sibayan-Hsieh

Response I12-1

This comment introduces the commenter and opposes the proposed project. Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents; Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes that DEIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines; and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA, and how the District's decision to not install stadium lighting at Northwood High School's construction in 1999 is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

I13. James Hensley, 10/28/2025

Comment I13-1

Dear Ms. McEwen and Dr. Jeff Kim and members of the IUSD Board, Principle of NHS, Irvine City Planning Team, District 1 City Council Member Ms. Liu

The purpose of this message is to express my opposition to the proposed stadium style lighting and PA system at Northwood High. We purchased our home in the Strada Neighborhood of the Orchard Hills II development in 2016. This is our third residence since we moved to Irvine in 1996. We were attracted to the peaceful rural feel of this neighborhood, and this is the main reason we decided to buy here. The name "Orchard Hills" itself suggests the quiet rural setting that we have enjoyed since moving here. Adding the proposed lights and PA system will surely degrade the quiet enjoyment of our neighborhood. The lights and PA system will be seen and/or heard from many areas of our neighborhood, and will negatively affect our quiet enjoyment.

Response I13-1

This comment introduces the commenter and opposes the project. Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare, and Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I13-2

Another issue of concern is the increased student trespassing and traffic that will in the area during these evening events. Our community has already been dealing with student vandalism, speeding, parking issues, and trespassing in our community as it is. We have spent almost $100K on fencing, landscaping repairs, security patrol already in an effort to mitigate these issues. NHS Students regularly either park or get dropped off by their parents on our streets so they can climb through our landscaping and climb the school fence. The parking problem at Northwood has become our problem. As an HOA Board Member, I can attest that the student issues are on our Board Meeting agenda every month.

Response I13-2

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes that DEIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines, and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how trespassing, property damage, and parking are not

environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I13-3

I am disappointed that money was spent on a poorly executed Environmental Impact Report that is filled with inaccurate statements and assumptions. Furthermore, there does not seem to be a strong desire to go forward with this according to several school staff members or other stakeholders who were informally queried about this.

Response I13-3

The comment does not provide a specific issue regarding the detailed technical analyses in the DEIR or regarding a specific environmental issue. The District has prepared the DEIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The DEIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. The District acknowledges the commenter's concerns regarding the proposed project and This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. This comment does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required. No revisions to the DEIR are necessary.

Comment I13-4

I am sure most of the Orchard Hills II and surrounding Northwood communities would agree with my position. Please consider the negative impact to the entire surrounding community as well as our home values if the proposal is carried forward.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

James Hensley

Orchard Hills II HOA

[redacted]

Response I13-4

The comment does not provide a specific issue regarding the detailed technical analyses contained within the DEIR regarding a specific environmental issue. The DEIR appropriately assesses the proposed project's potential impacts consistent with CEQA requirements. The District acknowledges the commenter's concerns regarding the proposed project, and This

comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. This comment does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required. No revisions to the DEIR are necessary.

I14. Maria Hensley 2, 10/31/2025

Comment I14-1

Dear USID Board and all members who are part of the decision process for the Northwood High School Stadium Lighting Project

I am sending this email as a response to the meeting held on October 20th at Northwood High School to present the outcome of the Draft Environmental Impact Report. Present at that meeting were HOA Board members from Northwood Point, the Orchard Hills Reserve and Orchard Hills Village 2 communities. Also present were various residents from these communities and the Principal of Northwood High School. I believe there would be more in attendance if there was proper communication about this meeting as well as transparent communication about the project itself. I personally did not know about the project or meeting on Oct. 20th, which I shared in my previous email.

Response I14-1

Please see Topical Response 4, *Community Outreach,* which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. Therefore, the CEQA process for this project has been appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred.

Comment I14-2

Upon hearing the complete presentation, below are my personal conclusions regarding the Lighting and PA project at Northwood High School.

Overview:

1) Residents present, including the Principal of NHS, did not request these lights on campus.

2) Report focuses on building and not the various residential /public nuances that are significant

3) Costs spent by OHVII to mediate student trespassing on private property

4) Lighting and PA noise will have a significant impact on the community.

5) Why are Great Park fields not being considered? We also have the other high schools in Irvine. Do not need to speed student monies for lighting when there are other uses of the funds.

6) Used for non-sporting activities not mentioned in the meeting, however, in the report.

7) Use of the IUSD funds on “Life Skills” Program instead for our young adults.

Response I14-2

Please see Responses I14-3, I14-4, I14-5, I14-8, I14-9, I14-10, and I14-11, below.

Comment I14-3

Details:

1 - Most people who attended the meeting have students who attended NHS currently or in past years. They were part of sports, and we all do not recall the need for these lights in the past. The games played there were for freshman or sophomore football, soccer etc. The varsity games were played at other high schools and worked well with the schedule. Now we have the Great Park with 24 soccer fields. Additionally there are many baseball and tennis courts.

The addition of lights to the field will not add to school spirit. The report listed this as one of the objectives of the project. NHS has always had wonderful school spirit and lights will not make a difference. Students, parents and the school faculty build spirit!

Response I14-3

The passage of SB 328, School Start Time, which became effective in 2022, pushed high school start times to no earlier than 8:30 a.m. This, in turn, pushed high school end times later in the day. Currently, Northwood High School’s last period ends at 4:00 p.m., and in the winter months, the sun sets as early as 4:45 p.m. The proposed lighting is not meant to replicate a stadium, but to provide students with equal practice time as their peers at other schools.

This comment does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the DEIR. CEQA requires analysis of the potential physical environmental impacts of a proposed project as it exists today, not an evaluation of past discretionary decisions or design choices. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the DEIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I14-4

2 – The study focuses primarily on the building / installation of the lighting, and not the impact or result of having lighting in this location. All items that are considered public nuances like noise, aesthetics, safety, traffic etc., are considered NOT a significant impact and therefore not

discussed. I totally disagree with this. They do matter and due to the lack of discussion of these areas, it does not seem to be of concern to IUSD. It is for the residents.

Response I14-4

Operational impacts of the proposed lighting poles and impacts to nearby sensitive receptors were adequately analyzed in Chapter 3.1, *Aesthetics*, of the DEIR. Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare. Also see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents, and Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes that DEIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines.

Comment I14-5

3 - As the Orchard Hills Village 2 HOA Landscape Chair, I can share that the HOA has been working on eliminating the traffic / racing on Portola and Orchard Hills Road, the trespassing of students on the HOA landscaping, the climbing of the fence during school hours to get to school, parking on private property for years. These activities have to date resulted in close to $100K incurred by OHVII community to remediate issues. This project report does not address any of these issues that will impact all the surrounding communities (Reserve, OHVII, Northwood Point and potentially, Eastwood and the Groves)

Response I14-5

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. As directed by § 15131(a) of the CEQA Guidelines, economic or social effects of a project shall not be treated as significant effects on the environment. Therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I14-6

b: Please note that the Northwood area is supported by approximately 5 IPD traffic officers. They have to cover the entire Northwood area (the square perimeter from Jamboree to 133 Toll Rd and from Northwood to 5 Fwy). Home games in the evening will not only bring additional traffic to the area, but there will not be enough IPD staff or parking. NHS has limited parking. The surrounding communities are private property, and no public parking is allowed. The parking was not discussed or considered significant in the report. It refers to public transportation that is not present to the extent discussed.

Response I14-6

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes that DEIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines, and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking. The DEIR does not assume attendee reliance on public transportation in the analysis of transportation impacts. As shown in Chapter 3.8, *Transportation*, of the DEIR, information regarding public transportation was included in the discussion of the existing transit facilities in the vicinity of the project site. The DEIR does not include public transit as a mitigation measure, nor was it included in the analysis of impacts to circulation plans, VMT, design hazards, or emergency access. Therefore, no revisions to the DEIR are necessary.

Comment I14-7

c: With the current racing of vehicles occurring on Portola and on Orchard Hills Road, additional introductions to the area will increase this unnecessary racing as they discover the racetrack around NHS - a two-lane street. PLEASE DO NOT SHARE THIS.

Response I14-7

The commenter requested that this comment not be shared publicly. CEQA requires that all comments received on a Draft EIR be included in the public record and responded to in the Final EIR. The District reviewed the comment and determined that it does not contain information subject to redaction under applicable confidentiality or privacy laws. Accordingly, the comment is reproduced here in full and a response is provided below.

Unsafe driving behavior on public roadways is an existing enforcement issue under the jurisdiction of local law enforcement and is not a physical environmental impact caused or exacerbated by the project. As directed by § 15131(a) of the CEQA Guidelines, social effects of a project shall not be treated as significant effects on the environment. Therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I14-8

4) Lighting impact. During the presentation, pictures of the lighting and impact to the community were severely misrepresented. The lights were photoshopped in and did not truly reflect true stadium lights. These lights will illuminate into the Reserves, Northwood Pointe and OHVII residential homes.

4a: Lighting and Glare noted on section 3.1-4

I really do not understand the evaluation comments around Light and Glare. The community around the NHS is completely dark after the sun goes down. This lighting will illuminate the

entire area and will be noted by all homes in the area. This will seriously degrade the calm and peacefulness that residents have looked for and found living in Orchard Hills Northwood. This peace and quiet will be degraded by the loud sounds of the PA and traffic brought into the area.

Response I14-8

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare, and Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. Transportation noise was taken into account in the noise modeling and analysis (see Topical Response 3, *Transportation*).

Comment I14-9

5) I reviewed the home games schedule per the report. Where are the games being played now? There are 24 soccer fields located at the Great Park. There is more space, parking, and lighting at the Great Park. Why are these locations not considered? We also have other high schools we can utilize, this I believe is happening now.

Response I14-9

The proposed project is not a stadium project, as it does not include bleachers or any increase in student, staff, or visitor capacity. Events held at the project site would consist of athletic practices and activities, such as soccer and lacrosse. Football practices will be held at Northwood HS, but Varsity tackle football games would continue to be hosted at Irvine High School. The passage of SB 328, School Start Time, which became effective in 2022, pushed high school start times to no earlier than 8:30 a.m. This, in turn, pushed high school end times later in the day. Currently, Northwood High School's last period ends at 4:00 p.m., and in the winter months, the sun sets as early as 4:45 p.m. The proposed lighting is not meant to replicate a stadium, but to provide students with equal practice time as their peers at other schools. This comment does not provide a specific issue regarding the detailed technical analyses within the DEIR regarding a specific environmental issue. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. This comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the DEIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required. No revisions to the DEIR are necessary.

Comment I14-10

6) The report also states that the school will be used for non-school events, which is a significant issue to our community. This will open a ton of **unknown** issues we do not want to entertain. What are these non-school related activities?

Response I14-10

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events.

Comment I14-11

7) Can the IUSD Board please consider utilizing the funds to create a "Life Skills" program for the students. This would include learning the basics around nutrition, health, finances / banking, household repairs, automotive basics, sewing, wood shop etc.

Response I14-11

This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the DEIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue. As directed by § 15131(a) of the CEQA Guidelines, economic or social effects of a project shall not be treated as significant effects on the environment. Therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I14-12

Thank you for reading my email. I appreciate all you all do around our IUSD and hope these comments will help you understand what is not being looked at in this report. Also to emphasize that this project was not very well communicated.

Response I14-12

The District has prepared the DEIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The DEIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. The DEIR did not identify any significant unavoidable impacts, and impacts would be less than significant with the mitigation measures identified. Additionally, please see Topical Response 4, *Community Outreach,* which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. Therefore, the CEQA process for this project has been

appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

I15. Qiang Ruan, 10/30/2025

Comment I15-1

Dear Ms. Gil,

I am a resident of Orchard Hills Village 2, and I am writing to express my strong opposition to the installation of stadium lights and a PA system at Northwood High School.

Response I15-1

This comment introduces the commenter and opposes the proposed project but does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I15-2

This project is unnecessary and will significantly diminish the quality of life for nearby residents. The proposed lighting and loudspeaker system will generate excessive noise and light pollution, disrupt our evenings, and destroy the peaceful character of our neighborhood. In addition, the increased traffic and lack of parking will lead to congestion and trespassing on private property. Many of us chose this community for its tranquility and safety—qualities that will be lost if this project proceeds.

Response I5-2

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents; Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines; and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I15-3

Please do not move forward with this plan. Thank you for listening to the concerns of nearby residents.

Sincerely,

Qiang Ruan

Orchard Hills Village 2

Response I5-3

This comment does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I16. Hi Chan, 10/30/2025

Comment I16-1

Hello,

My name is Hi Chan. I'm a resident and owner of a property in Orchard Hills Village II, right behind Norwood High. I've been living in the community for 8 years.

I strongly oppose to the IUSD proposal to install stadium lights and loud PA!!

Sincerely,

Hi

Response I7-1

After careful consideration of community comments and concerns, the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project; no PA system will be installed. Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, for additional details. The comment opposes the proposed project but does not provide a specific issue regarding the detailed technical analyses in the Draft EIR or regarding a specific environmental issue. The Draft EIR appropriately assesses the proposed project's potential impacts consistent with CEQA requirements. The District acknowledges the commenter's concerns regarding the proposed project and This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. This comment does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

I17. Amy Jian, 11/03/2025

Comment I17-1

Dear IUSD board members,

I'm a resident at Northwood Pointe community, specifically Lanes End. When I first read the project half-year ago, I was neutral. I thought the lights are beneficial for NHS students to do night time athlete practice, and it's also safe for the neighbor residents to walk around the area in the night.

Response I17-1

This comment does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I17-2

Recently I learned that the project will include amplified PA system, and the field events will open to non-school activities.

Response I17-2

After careful consideration of community comments and concerns, the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project; no PA system will be installed. Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, for additional details. Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events.

Comment I17-3

My house is on the other side of Portola Parkway. My bedroom windows face the school and athlete field. In fall season NHS marching band practice wakes me up every morning. It is OK as those are workday mornings.

But I cannot imagine loud speakers noise in the night, disrupting my quiet time.

Response I17-3

After careful consideration of community comments and concerns, the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project; no PA system will be installed. Additionally,

noise related to the marching band is an existing condition and would not change with implementation of the proposed project. Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, for additional details.

Comment I17-4

Traffic will be a problem. There's only 1 winding road driving up to the NHS campus, I will foresee vehicles lining up on the slow driveway, or waiting long line at the traffic light intersection to turn in. Parking is definitely an issue. Whenever I attend a choir or an orchestra concert, at the school theatre, it's hard to find parking. NHS doesn't have enough parking space to accommodate any large event.

Response I17-4

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines, and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking.

Comment I17-5

So, if the project, is ONLY to install the lights, and limit to the use of NHS students and doesn't impact neighbor residents, then it shall be fine.

Response I17-5

After careful consideration of community comments and concerns, the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project; no PA system will be installed. Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, for additional details. Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events.

Comment I17-6

Please kindly consider the above noise & traffic concerns, and review and revise this proposal.

Sincerely regards,

Amy Jian

Lanes End Community resident

Response I17-6

This comment does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I18. Claire Guan, 11/03/2025

Comment I18-1

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

As a resident of Orchard Hills, I recently learned that the Irvine Unified School District (IUSD) has initiated a project to install stadium lights and speakers at Northwood High School. The approval process moved forward swiftly and quietly, with little to no input sought from neighboring communities.

Response I18-1

Please see Topical Response 4, *Community Outreach,* which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. Therefore, the CEQA process for this project has been appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred.

Comment I18-2

This is unfair to taxpayers like us, who fund our local schools through property taxes and expect transparency in return. IUSD owes us the due diligence of a thorough, public evaluation of the project's impacts—including light pollution, noise, traffic, and environmental effects—before proceeding.

Response I18-2

This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. As directed by § 15131(a) of the CEQA Guidelines, economic or social effects of a project shall not be treated as significant effects on the environment. The comment does not identify specific environmental issues or deficiencies in the environmental analysis presented in the Draft EIR. The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Please see additional information in Topical Responses 1, 2, and 3 regarding the Draft EIR's evaluation of light, noise, and transportation.

Comment I18-3

With this in mind, I urge IUSD to cancel the project and redirect the budget toward more pressing needs, such as expanding challenging curricula and hiring additional qualified science teachers.

Sincerely,

Claire Guan

Response I18-3

This comment does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I19. Wenkai Kin, 11/03/2025

Comment I19-1

Dear Kathleen,

We are residents and registered voters of the Lanes End community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School's football field on the south side of Portola Parkway.

Response I19-1

This comment introduces the commenter but does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I19-2

Setting aside existing problems with student parking in our neighborhood, this project would create even greater challenges for our community, including overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light spillage, all of which the Draft EIR fails to evaluate from our side of the street. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built?

Response I19-2

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents; Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines; and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I19-3

The IUSD Board made a wise and considered decision in 1999, when Northwood High School was constructed, not to include lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating. Why change course now, when over 4,000 additional homes have since been built in the surrounding neighborhoods? This proposal appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's long-standing master planning principles, which emphasize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the distinct character of each village. Introducing additional noise, lighting, and traffic impacts would inevitably disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, diminish property values, and increase HOA costs over time.

Response I19-3

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how the District's decision to not install stadium lighting at Northwood High School's construction in 1999 is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA.

Comment I19-4

Even more concerning, the project scope explicitly allows for non-school related activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no description of what these events are, how often they would occur, or what restrictions or controls would apply. The lack of definition and analysis in the Draft EIR raises serious questions about whether the full scope and impacts of the project have been properly evaluated.

Response I19-4

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I19-5

We find this proposal troubling, as it conflicts with the principles of good neighborliness and responsible community planning. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw this project entirely and uphold the sound precedent set by your predecessors in 1999. They made the right decision then, and we urge the Board to show the same careful consideration in deciding this matter now.

Response I19-5

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how the District's decision to not install stadium lighting at Northwood High School's construction in 1999 is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I19-6

We look forward to seeing these concerns registered in the draft EIR comments.

Response I19-6

All public comments received during the review period are part of the administrative record and has been considered by the District's decision-makers prior to taking action on the project. No further response is required, and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

I20. Hong Lin, 11/03/2025

Comment I20-1

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

I am writing to express my concerns of the proposed Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project. As a long-time resident of the Northwood neighborhood, I am deeply concerned that this project will irreversibly damage the quiet and semi-rural character of our community

Response I20-1

This comment introduces the commenter and opposes the proposed project but does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I20-2

Our neighborhood is a peaceful residential area surrounded by orchard groves and open space, where residents value quite environment, dark night skies, minimal noise, and light evening traffic. The introduction of four 70-foot light poles, an amplified public-address system, and expanded nighttime athletic events beyond Northwood High school uses will bring new and ongoing light, noise, and vehicle impacts into an area not designed for this level of activity

Response I20-2

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents; and Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines.

Comment I20-3

Although the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) concludes that these impacts are “less than significant,” that finding does not reflect the reality our community will experience. The DEIR identifies no mitigation measures to address increased lighting, noise, or traffic. Instead, it relies on technical assumptions that underestimate the actual day-to-day disruption these

facilities will cause. Without enforceable restrictions on event frequency, hours of operation, or sound levels, there are no real protections for nearby residents.

Response I20-3

The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. The Draft EIR did not identify any significant unavoidable impacts, and impacts would be less than significant with the mitigation measures identified.

Comment I20-4

Furthermore, the public outreach for this project was inadequate. Many affected homeowners were unaware of the proposed project. One scoping notice and limited online postings do not constitute meaningful engagement for a project with citywide implications.

Response I20-4

Please see Topical Response 4, *Community Outreach,* which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. Therefore, the CEQA process for this project has been appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred.

Comment I20-5

With the installation of permanent lighting and a PA system, Northwood High School would effectively become a regional event facility serving the entire City of Irvine, rather than a neighborhood school. The DEIR even acknowledges that the fields would be available for outside user groups under the Civic Center Act. This means our quiet residential area would host large-scale community or city events at night — bringing in additional traffic, parking congestion, and noise far beyond what is appropriate for a neighborhood setting.

Response I20-5

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I20-6

Once these changes are made, the peaceful character of our community cannot be restored. For these reasons, I urge the Irvine Unified School District and the board to reject this project and instead select the No Project Alternative outlined in the DEIR. Northwood High can continue to provide outstanding educational opportunities without imposing citywide event impacts on its surrounding neighborhoods.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Hong Lin

Resident, Northwood Neighborhood

Response I20-6

This comment does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I21. Kate Lin, 11/03/2025

Comment I21-1

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

I am a resident of Orchard Hills and recently became aware of the proposed Northwood High School field lighting and PA speakers project.

Response I21-1

This comment introduces the commenter but does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I21-2

I am deeply concerned as to why the immediately adjacent neighborhoods were not informed or consulted during the preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The Draft EIR fails to address critical residential neighborhood impacts in several key areas. For example, it overlooks traffic and overflow parking into our communities, which is already a daily problem, and does not analyze peak game-day conditions for noise, traffic, or lighting spillage. The Draft EIR also incorrectly assumes that attendees would use public transportation, even though there is no OCTA bus route along Portola Parkway. It further lacks any plan for security or coordination with the Irvine Police Department to manage illegal parking, trespassing, and loitering in our private neighborhoods, which directly affects residents' quiet enjoyment.

Response I21-2

Please see Topical Response 4, *Community Outreach,* which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure, consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. Therefore, the CEQA process for this project has been appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred. Additionally, please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents; Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines; and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. The Draft EIR is intended to disclose

potential physical environmental effects, not to address social or economic considerations unless they would result in a physical change to the environment. No further response is warranted and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

The Draft EIR does not assume attendee reliance on public transportation in the analysis of transportation impacts. As shown in Chapter 3.8, *Transportation*, of the Draft EIR, information regarding public transportation was included in the discussion of the existing transit facilities in the vicinity of the project site. The Draft EIR does not include public transit as a mitigation measure, nor was it included in the analysis of impacts to circulation plans, VMT, design hazards, or emergency access. Therefore, no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I21-3

While the project scope and disclosure filings with the State clearly and repeatedly state that the purpose of the proposed lights and PA speakers includes hosting non-school related events, the Draft EIR provides no explanation of what these "non-school events" are, how often they would occur, or what limits or other restrictions would apply, including traffic control, parking management, and community security. This complete lack of analysis leaves significant uncertainty about the scale and nature of potential uses.

Response I21-3

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. No further response is warranted, and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I21-4

Even giving the District the benefit of the doubt, and taking the project scope at face value, the cost-benefit analysis does not appear to justify the installation of permanent stadium lights and loudspeakers for only five or six home football games a year. The resulting permanent disruptions, neighborhood impacts, and unnecessary costs to taxpayers cannot be justified by the limited and short-term benefits this project would provide.

Response I21-4

This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue. As directed by § 15131(a) of the CEQA Guidelines, economic or social effects of a project shall not be treated as significant effects on the environment. Therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I21-5

I strongly urge the Board to drop this project or, at minimum, reject the current flawed Draft EIR and require a full redo of the EIR process to correct its fundamental deficiencies, including meaningful consultation with nearby residential communities and a genuine analysis of the true impacts on surrounding neighborhoods.

Thank you for your reconsideration.

Kate Lin

Response I21-5

The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. The Draft EIR did not identify any significant unavoidable impacts, and impacts would be less than significant with the mitigation measures identified. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

I22. Lucy Yang, 11/03/2025

Comment I22-1

Dear Ms Gil and Members of the Board

I am a resident of Orchard Hills and am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Northwood High School Field Lighting and Loud PA Speakers Project. I believe this project would create significant and long-lasting negative impacts on our community that outweigh its potential benefits

Response I22-1

This comment introduces the commenter and opposes the proposed project but does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I22-2

The proposed installation of 70-foot light poles and loudspeaker systems would permanently change the character of our neighborhood. The Draft EIR fails to adequately assess critical issues such as:

- The true extent of nighttime light pollution and glare affecting nearby homes.

Response I22-2

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare.

Comment I22-3

- The cumulative noise impact from amplified sound, crowd activity, and marching band practices.

Response I22-3

Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents.

Comment I22-4

- Increased traffic, illegal parking, and trespassing during evening events.

Response I22-4

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines, and also addresses comments received regarding parking. Additionally, please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. The Draft EIR is intended to disclose potential physical environmental effects, not to address social or economic considerations unless they would result in a physical change to the environment.

Comment I22-5

- Safety risks, reduced quality of life, and potential decline in property values for residents living near the school

Response I22-5

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how neighborhood security and property damage are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. The Draft EIR is intended to disclose potential physical environmental effects, not to address social or economic considerations unless they would result in a physical change to the environment. No further response is warranted and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I22-6

Furthermore, the Draft EIR does not address ongoing problems our community already faces, including student parking on private property, damage to HOA-maintained landscaping, and congestion at The Reserve's entrance. Allowing expanded nighttime and non-school use of the facility would only intensify these problems.

Response I22-6

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. The Draft EIR is intended to disclose potential physical environmental effects, not to address social or economic considerations unless they would result in a physical change to the environment. Additionally, please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines.

Comment I22-7

I respectfully urge IUSD to reconsider this proposal and either significantly revise the plan or deny approval until a more thorough and accurate Environmental Impact Report is completed. A balanced approach that respects both students' needs and residents' rights is essential for maintaining trust and harmony between the District and the community.

Thank you for your attention and for considering the serious concerns of the Orchard Hills residents.

Yours Sincerely

Lucy Yang

Response I22-7

The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. The Draft EIR did not identify any significant unavoidable impacts, and impacts would be less than significant with the mitigation measures identified. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

I23. Michael, 11/03/2025

Comment I23-1

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents and registered voters of the Lanesend community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School's football field on the south side of Portola Parkway. My house is located off of Winslow Ln, which is within close proximity across the street from the football field of NHS.

Response I23-1

This comment introduces the commenter but does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I23-2

My family has been disturbed/woken up by early morning marching band music over the years. The proposed project will cause even more severe problems for us in (late) evenings as well. We cannot imagine what life will become when IUSD and NON-IUSD events take place until 10PM! We have seniors living in the house who already have sleeping issues and rely on sleeping pills. Speakers and loud noises will severely damage life quality and health for our residents, including senior residents. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built?

Response I23-2

Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. Noise related to the marching band is an existing condition and would not change with implementation of the proposed project.

Comment I23-3

The IUSD Board made a wise and considered decision in 1999, when Northwood High School was constructed, not to include lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating. Why change course now, when over 4,000 additional homes have since been built in the surrounding

neighborhoods? This proposal appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's long-standing master planning principles, which emphasize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the distinct character of each village. Introducing additional noise, lighting, and traffic impacts would inevitably disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, diminish property values, and increase HOA costs over time.

Response I23-3

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how the District's decision to not install stadium lighting at Northwood High School's construction in 1999 and trespassing and property damage are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. The Draft EIR is intended to disclose potential physical environmental effects, not to address social or economic considerations unless they would result in a physical change to the environment. No further response is warranted and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I23-4

Even more concerning, the project scope explicitly allows for non-school related activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no description of what these events are, how often they would occur, or what restrictions or controls would apply. The lack of definition and analysis in the Draft EIR raises serious questions about whether the full scope and impacts of the project have been properly evaluated.

Response I23-4

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. No further response is , and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I23-5

We find this proposal deeply disturbing in many ways, as it conflicts with the principles of good neighborliness and responsible community planning. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw this project entirely and uphold the sound precedent set by your predecessors in 1999. They made the right decision then, and we urge the Board to show the same careful consideration in deciding this matter now.

Response I23-5

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how the District's decision to not install stadium lighting at Northwood High School's construction in 1999 is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA. The Draft EIR is intended to disclose potential physical environmental effects, not to address social or economic considerations unless they

would result in a physical change to the environment. No further response is warranted and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I23-6

We look forward to seeing these concerns registered in the draft EIR comments.

Sincerely,

Michael

Response I23-6

All public comments received during the review period are part of the administrative record and has been considered by the District's decision-makers prior to taking action on the project. No further response is required, and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

I24. Peter Tan, 11/03/2025

Comment I24-1

Dear President McEwen, Members of the IUSD Board of Education, Mayor Agran, and District 1 Council Member Liu,

As a resident of Orchard Hills, I am writing to express significant concerns regarding the recently proposed Northwood High School field lighting and Public Address (PA) speaker project, specifically in relation to the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

Response I24-1

This comment introduces the commenter and raises concerns about the Draft EIR, but does not raise a specific environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I24-2

It is profoundly troubling that the immediate adjacent residential neighborhoods were neither directly informed nor consulted during the preparation of the Draft EIR.

Response I24-2

Please see Topical Response 4, *Community Outreach,* which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. Therefore, the CEQA process for this project has been appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred.

Comment I24-3

This document exhibits fundamental deficiencies by failing to adequately address critical impacts on the surrounding residential communities in several key areas:

- Traffic and Parking: The report overlooks existing daily issues and does not analyze the substantial increase in traffic congestion or overflow parking into private communities, particularly during peak, high-attendance game-day conditions.

Response I24-3

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines, and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking.

Comment I24-4

Noise and Light Spill: A thorough analysis of peak-event noise levels and light spillage onto residential properties is absent.

Response I24-4

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare,* which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare, and Topical Response 2, *Noise,* which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents.

Comment I24-5

- Public Transportation: The Draft EIR incorrectly assumes attendee reliance on public transportation, despite the absence of an OCTA bus route along Portola Parkway, undermining the viability of this mitigation measure.

Response I24-5

The Draft EIR does not assume attendees' reliance on public transportation in the analysis of transportation impacts. As shown in Chapter 3.8, *Transportation*, of the Draft EIR, information regarding public transportation was included in the discussion of the existing transit facilities in the vicinity of the project site. The Draft EIR does not include public transit as a mitigation measure, nor was it included in the analysis of impacts to circulation plans, VMT, design hazards, or emergency access. Therefore, no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I24-6

- Security and Public Safety: The document lacks any cohesive plan for security protocols or coordination with the Irvine Police Department to manage potential increases in illegal parking, trespassing, and loitering, which directly compromise residents' quiet enjoyment of their properties.

Response I24-6

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. The Draft EIR is intended to disclose potential physical environmental effects, not to address social or economic considerations unless they would result in a physical change to the environment. No further response is warranted, and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I24-7

Furthermore, the project scope and disclosure filings repeatedly affirm that the purpose of the proposed lights and PA speakers includes hosting non-school related events. However, the Draft EIR provides no explanation detailing the nature or frequency of these "non-school events," nor does it outline any limits, restrictions, or required mitigation measures concerning traffic control, parking management, or community security. This complete omission of analysis creates significant ambiguity regarding the true scale and potential impact of future uses.

Response I24-7

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. No further response is warranted, and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I24-8

Even accepting the project's stated educational purpose at face value, the current cost-benefit analysis appears to be disproportionate. The installation of permanent stadium infrastructure, resulting in enduring community disruptions and neighborhood impacts, cannot be justified by the limited and short-term benefits derived from hosting an estimated five to six home football games per year. The resulting unnecessary costs to taxpayers and the scale of permanent disruption are difficult to reconcile with the project's limited utility.

Response I24-8

This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue. As directed by § 15131(a) of the CEQA Guidelines, economic or social effects of a project shall not be treated as significant effects on the environment. Therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I24-9

I strongly urge the Board to discontinue this project entirely. At minimum, I request the rejection of the current flawed Draft EIR and the mandated initiation of a complete re-do of the EIR process. This revised process must fundamentally correct all deficiencies, include meaningful consultation with nearby residential communities, and incorporate a genuine, comprehensive analysis of the true impacts on surrounding neighborhoods.

Thank you for your careful consideration of these serious matters.

Peter Tan

Response I24-9

The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. The Draft EIR did not identify any significant unavoidable impacts, and impacts would be less than significant with the mitigation measures identified. Additionally, please see Topical Response 4, *Community Outreach,* which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. Therefore, the CEQA process for this project has been appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

I25. Rebecca Dai, 11/03/2025

Comment I25-1

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents of the Lanes End community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School. We have serious concerns regarding the proposed stadium project and the insufficient Draft EIR.

Response I25-1

This comment introduces the commenter and states that the Draft EIR is insufficient, but does not raise a specific environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I25-2

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate the project's most significant impacts on our community: increased overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light spillage. As a community that existed before the high school, we question why these critical quality-of-life issues were overlooked.

Response I25-2

The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. The Draft EIR did not identify any significant unavoidable impacts, and impacts would be less than significant with the mitigation measures identified. Please refer to Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare;* Topical Response 2, *Noise*; and Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, for additional details.

This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I25-3

The Board's 1999 decision to build Northwood High without lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating was a prudent one. Reversing this decision now, after the addition of thousands of new homes, contradicts Irvine's commitment to quality of life and neighborhood integrity. The resulting disruption, potential devaluation of our properties, and increased HOA costs are unacceptable.

Response I25-3

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how the District's decision to not install stadium lighting at Northwood High School's construction in 1999 and trespassing and property damage are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. The Draft EIR is intended to disclose potential physical environmental effects, not to address social or economic considerations unless they would result in a physical change to the environment. No further response is warranted and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I25-4

Additionally, the allowance for undefined "non-school related activities" in the project scope, without any analysis in the EIR, is a major oversight. It suggests the project's true impacts have not been properly considered.

Response I25-4

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. No further response is warranted and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I25-5

We believe this project is ill-advised and urge you to withdraw it entirely, upholding the wise precedent set by your predecessors. We request that these concerns be fully documented in the EIR comments.

Sincerely,

Rebecca, Residents of the Lanes End Community

Response I25-5

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how the District's decision to not install stadium lighting at Northwood High School's construction in 1999 is not an

environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA. The Draft EIR is intended to disclose potential physical environmental effects, not to address social or economic considerations unless they would result in a physical change to the environment. All public comments received during the review period are part of the administrative record and has been considered by the District's decision-makers prior to taking action on the project. No further response is required, and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

I26. Sabina Lin, 11/03/2025

Comment I26-1

Dear President McEwen, Members of the IUSD Board of Education, Mayor Agran, and District 1 Council Member Liu,

I am a resident of Orchard Hills and recently became aware of the proposed Northwood High School field lighting and PA speakers project.

Response I26-1

This comment introduces the commenter but does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I26-2

It is extremely concerning that the immediate adjacent neighborhoods were not informed or consulted during the preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The Draft EIR fails to address critical residential neighborhood impacts in several key areas. For example, it overlooks traffic and overflow parking into our communities, which is already a daily problem, and does not analyze peak game-day conditions for noise, traffic, or lighting spillage. The Draft EIR also incorrectly assumes that attendees would use public transportation, even though there is no OCTA bus route along Portola Parkway. It further lacks any plan for security or coordination with the Irvine Police Department to manage illegal parking, trespassing, and loitering in our private neighborhoods, which directly affects residents' quiet enjoyment.

Response I26-2

Please see Topical Response 4, *Community Outreach,* which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. Therefore, the CEQA process for this project has been appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred. Additionally, please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents, and Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines.

The Draft EIR does not assume attendee reliance on public transportation in the analysis of transportation impacts. As shown in Chapter 3.8, *Transportation* of the Draft EIR, information regarding public transportation was included in the discussion of the existing transit facilities in the vicinity of the project site. The Draft EIR does not include public transit as a mitigation measure, nor was it included in the analysis of impacts to circulation plans, VMT, design hazards, or emergency access. Therefore, no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. The Draft EIR is intended to disclose potential physical environmental effects, not to address social or economic considerations unless they would result in a physical change to the environment. No further response is warranted, and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I26-3

While the project scope and disclosure filings with the State clearly and repeatedly state that the purpose of the proposed lights and PA speakers includes hosting non-school related events, the Draft EIR provides no explanation of what these "non-school events" are, how often they would occur, or what limits or other restrictions would apply, including traffic control, parking management, and community security. This complete lack of analysis leaves significant uncertainty about the scale and nature of potential uses.

Response I26-3

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. No further response is warranted and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I26-4

Even giving the District the benefit of the doubt, and taking the project scope at face value, the cost-benefit analysis does not appear to justify the installation of permanent stadium lights and loudspeakers for only five or six home football games a year. The resulting permanent disruptions, neighborhood impacts, and unnecessary costs to taxpayers cannot be justified by the limited and short-term benefits this project would provide.

Response I26-4

This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue. As directed by

§ 15131(a) of the CEQA Guidelines, economic or social effects of a project shall not be treated as significant effects on the environment. Therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I26-5

I strongly urge the Board to drop this project or, at minimum, reject the current flawed Draft EIR and require a full redo of the EIR process to correct its fundamental deficiencies, including meaningful consultation with nearby residential communities and a genuine analysis of the true impacts on surrounding neighborhoods.

Thank you for your reconsideration.

Sabina Lin

Response I26-5

The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. The Draft EIR did not identify any significant unavoidable impacts, and impacts would be less than significant with the mitigation measures identified. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

I27. Xiao Dai, 11/03/2025

Comment I27-1

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents of the Lanes End community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School. We have serious concerns regarding the proposed stadium project and the insufficient Draft EIR.

Response I27-1

This comment introduces the commenter and states that the Draft EIR is insufficient, but does not raise a specific environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I27-2

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate the project's most significant impacts on our community: increased overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light spillage. As a community that existed before the high school, we question why these critical quality-of-life issues were overlooked.

Response I27-2

The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. The Draft EIR did not identify any significant unavoidable impacts, and impacts would be less than significant with the mitigation measures identified. Please refer to Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*; Topical Response 2, *Noise*; and Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, for additional details.

This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I27-3

The Board's 1999 decision to build Northwood High without lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating was a prudent one. Reversing this decision now, after the addition of thousands of new homes, contradicts Irvine's commitment to quality of life and neighborhood integrity. The resulting disruption, potential devaluation of our properties, and increased HOA costs are unacceptable.

Response I27-3

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how the District's decision to not install stadium lighting at Northwood High School's construction in 1999 and trespassing and property damage are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. The Draft EIR is intended to disclose potential physical environmental effects, not to address social or economic considerations unless they would result in a physical change to the environment. No further response is warranted, and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I27-4

Additionally, the allowance for undefined "non-school related activities" in the project scope, without any analysis in the EIR, is a major oversight. It suggests the project's true impacts have not been properly considered.

Response I27-4

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. No further response is warranted and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I27-5

We believe this project is ill-advised and urge you to withdraw it entirely, upholding the wise precedent set by your predecessors. We request that these concerns be fully documented in the EIR comments.

Sincerely,

Xiao Dai, Residents of the Lanes End Community

Response I27-5

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how the District's decision to not install stadium lighting at Northwood High School's construction in 1999 is not an

environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA. The Draft EIR is intended to disclose potential physical environmental effects, not to address social or economic considerations unless they would result in a physical change to the environment. All public comments received during the review period are part of the administrative record and has been considered by the District's decision-makers prior to taking action on the project. No further response is required, and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

I28. Xiao Li, 11/03/2025

Comment I28-1

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are writing as residents of the Lanes End community in Northwood Pointe, located directly across from Northwood High School's football field.

Response I28-1

This comment introduces the commenter but does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I28-2

While our neighborhood already contends with student parking issues, this proposed project would significantly exacerbate these challenges. The Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) fails to adequately assess the impacts of overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light pollution on our community. It is troubling that these critical quality-of-life factors were not evaluated for a neighborhood that predates the high school itself.

Response I28-2

The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. The Draft EIR did not identify any significant unavoidable impacts, and impacts would be less than significant with the mitigation measures identified. Please refer to Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*; Topical Response 2, *Noise*; and Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, for additional details.

This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I28-3

We note that in 1999, during the construction of Northwood High School, the IUSD Board wisely and deliberately chose to forgo stadium lights, loudspeakers, and expanded seating. This considered decision has served our community well. Reversing this precedent now is particularly concerning given the substantial growth—over 4,000 additional homes—in the surrounding area. The proposed project appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's core planning principles, which prioritize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the unique character of each village. The introduction of increased noise, light, and traffic would disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, potentially diminish property values, and raise long-term HOA costs.

Response I28-3

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how the District's decision to not install stadium lighting at Northwood High School's construction in 1999 and trespassing and property damage are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. The Draft EIR is intended to disclose potential physical environmental effects, not to address social or economic considerations unless they would result in a physical change to the environment. No further response is warranted and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I28-4

Furthermore, we are deeply concerned that the project scope explicitly allows for non-school activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no details on the nature, frequency, or operational controls for such events. This lack of definition and analysis raises serious doubts about whether the project's full impacts have been properly evaluated.

Response I28-4

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. No further response is warranted, and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I28-5

This proposal conflicts with the principles of responsible planning and being a good neighbor. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw it and uphold the sound precedent established in 1999. That decision reflected careful consideration for the community, and we ask you to demonstrate the same foresight today.

Response I28-5

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how the District's decision to not install stadium lighting at Northwood High School's construction in 1999 is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA. The Draft EIR is intended to disclose potential physical environmental effects, not to address social or economic considerations unless they would result in a physical change to the environment. No further response is warranted, and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I28-6

We trust that our significant concerns will be formally entered into the public record for the Draft EIR.

Sincerely,

Xiao, Resident of the Lanes End Community

Response I28-6

All public comments received during the review period are part of the administrative record and has been considered by the District's decision-makers prior to taking action on the project. No further response is required, and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

I29. Yu Wang, 11/03/2025

Comment I29-1

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents and registered voters of the Lanesend community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School's football field on the south side of Portola Parkway. My house is located off of Winslow Ln, which is within close proximity across the street from the football field of NHS.

Response I29-1

This comment introduces the commenter but does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I29-2

My family has been disturbed/woken up by early morning marching band music over the years. The proposed project will cause even more severe problems for us in (late) evenings as well. We cannot imagine what life will become when IUSD and NON-IUSD events take place until 10PM! We have seniors living in the house who already have sleeping issues and rely on sleeping pills. Speakers and loud noises will severely damage life quality and health for our residents, including senior residents. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built?

Response I29-2

Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. Noise related to the marching band is an existing condition and would not change with implementation of the proposed project.

Comment I29-3

The IUSD Board made a wise and considered decision in 1999, when Northwood High School was constructed, not to include lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating. Why change course now, when over 4,000 additional homes have since been built in the surrounding

neighborhoods? This proposal appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's long-standing master planning principles, which emphasize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the distinct character of each village. Introducing additional noise, lighting, and traffic impacts would inevitably disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, diminish property values, and increase HOA costs over time.

Response I29-3

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how the District's decision to not install stadium lighting at Northwood High School's construction in 1999 and trespassing and property damage are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. The Draft EIR is intended to disclose potential physical environmental effects, not to address social or economic considerations unless they would result in a physical change to the environment. No further response is warranted, and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I29-4

Even more concerning, the project scope explicitly allows for non-school related activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no description of what these events are, how often they would occur, or what restrictions or controls would apply. The lack of definition and analysis in the Draft EIR raises serious questions about whether the full scope and impacts of the project have been properly evaluated.

Response I29-4

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. No further response is warranted, and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I29-5

We find this proposal deeply disturbing in many ways, as it conflicts with the principles of good neighborliness and responsible community planning. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw this project entirely and uphold the sound precedent set by your predecessors in 1999. They made the right decision then, and we urge the Board to show the same careful consideration in deciding this matter now.

Response I29-5

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how the District's decision to not install stadium lighting at Northwood High School's construction in 1999 is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA. The Draft EIR is intended to disclose potential physical environmental effects, not to address social or economic considerations unless they

would result in a physical change to the environment. No further response is warranted, and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I29-6

We look forward to seeing these concerns registered in the draft EIR comments.

Sincerely,

Yu (resident in LanesEnd)

Response I29-6

All public comments received during the review period are part of the administrative record and has been considered by the District's decision-makers prior to taking action on the project. No further response is required, and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

I30. Raymond, 11/04/2025

Comment I30-1

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines §§15126 and 15143, I respectfully submit the following comments regarding the adequacy and completeness of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project. The issues outlined below identify areas where the DEIR fails to adequately evaluate environmental, safety, accessibility, and community impacts as required under CEQA.

Response I30-1

The comment expresses concerns regarding the adequacy and completeness of the Draft EIR. The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. The Draft EIR did not identify any significant unavoidable impacts, and impacts would be less than significant with the mitigation measures identified. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No further response is warranted.

Comment I30-2

1. Parking and Traffic Analysis

The DEIR's parking analysis substantially underestimates attendance and vehicle generation for athletic events. The analysis does not account for peak-attendance scenarios, such as homecoming or playoff football games, which can attract well over 500–700 vehicles based on data from onsite parking attendance on the October 17 Northwood homecoming game held at Irvine High School. The DEIR's assumption of 250 attendees is implausible given that the marching band alone exceeds 250–300 members, excluding athletes, cheer teams, visiting teams, and spectators. The DEIR must disclose how parking demand was calculated and provide a contingency plan for overflow parking, crowd management, and prevention of illegal parking or trespassing in surrounding neighborhoods.

Response I30-2

The proposed project is not a stadium project, as it does not include bleachers or any increase in student population or visitors on campus. Events held at the project site would consist of athletic practices and activities, such as soccer and lacrosse. Football practices will be held at Northwood HS, but Varsity tackle football games would continue to be hosted at Irvine High School. Additionally, homecoming games would not be held at Northwood HS. Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines, and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I30-3

2. Noise and Lighting Impact Analysis

The DEIR measured both noise and lighting impacts only at the athletic field and along Portola Parkway, omitting residential areas where true environmental effects will occur. CEQA requires that the analysis include real-world operational conditions, including public address (PA) system use, marching band activity, spectator noise, and vehicular noise. Lighting impacts must also consider nearby communities such as Northwood Pointe and the Corte Bella neighborhood of Orchard Hills, where residents are likely to experience significant light spill and glare.

Response I30-3

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare,* which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare, and Topical Response 2, *Noise,* which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. Noise related to the marching band is an existing condition and would not change with implementation of the proposed project. Additionally, transportation noise was taken into account in the noise modeling and analysis (see Topical Response 3, *Transportation*).

Comment I30-4

3. Existing Ambient Noise Conditions

Residents already experience elevated background noise from daily campus operations, including bells, whistles from swimming classes, and student activities. Audible chatter from the swimming pool area can be heard from the Stallion cul-de-sac, indicating that baseline noise

levels are already high. Any additional nighttime use amplified by lighting and PA systems will cause a cumulative and measurable increase in noise levels for nearby homes.

Response I30-4

Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise,* which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents.

Comment I30-5

4. Undefined Non-School Events

The DEIR fails to define or analyze potential non-school-related uses of the proposed lighted field. Without specifying the types and frequency of non-school activities, the DEIR cannot accurately assess cumulative or after-hours impacts related to parking, lighting, noise, or security. This omission is a material deficiency under CEQA Guidelines §15126.2(a).

Response I30-5

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. No further response is warranted, and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I30-6

5. Community Impact Considerations

The DEIR lacks meaningful evaluation of impacts to the residential community. The omission of a localized analysis suggests that surrounding neighborhoods were not considered in the modeling of operational impacts. The EIR should be revised to include real-world conditions representative of community exposure, residential noise receptors, and nighttime illumination patterns.

Response I30-6

The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. The Draft EIR sufficiently evaluated impacts to nearby sensitive receptors (residential units) from light, glare, and noise. The Draft EIR did not identify any significant unavoidable impacts, and impacts would be less than significant with the mitigation measures identified. This

comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I30-7

6. Omission of Local Fire Authority (LFA) Review and California Building Code (CBC) Accessibility Compliance

The Draft EIR (DEIR) does not demonstrate that the proposed project has been reviewed or approved by the Local Fire Authority (City of Irvine Fire Department). The DEIR (Section 2.7.1 and Table 2-3) indicates that no local agency approval would be needed and only lists the Division of the State Architect (DSA) as a responsible agency. This omission is inconsistent with standard practice and requirements under the California Fire Code (Title 24, Part 9), which mandates Fire Department review for public-assembly areas, electrical installations, and emergency vehicle access. The absence of LFA consultation or permit verification raises concerns about compliance with Public Resources Code §21080.3(a), which requires coordination with responsible agencies having jurisdiction by law over public safety.

Response I30-7

As described in Chapter 2, *Project Description* of the Draft EIR, the proposed project includes the installation of four new athletic field lights around the existing football field and trenching for an electrical line. The proposed project does not include construction of new buildings, public-assembly structures, or modifications to emergency vehicle access. All work would occur within an existing, fully developed campus that is already served by established fire protection infrastructure. The City of Irvine Fire Department is not a responsible agency under CEQA for this project because no discretionary approval or permit from the Fire Department is required for the installation of athletic field lighting or underground utility trenching. Consistent with standard practice, the project would still be subject to compliance with applicable provisions of the California Fire Code, including requirements for safe construction practices and electrical safety, which are enforced through the State's building plan review process. As noted in the Draft EIR, the Division of the State Architect (DSA) is the agency with jurisdiction over plan review and approval for public school facilities, including verification of fire- and life-safety compliance under Title 24.

Because no new structures, assembly areas, or changes to site access are proposed that would alter fire protection needs or require separate Fire Department permitting, coordination with the local fire authority under Public Resources Code § 21080.3(a) is not required. The project would comply with all applicable fire-safety regulations during construction, and no change in fire protection service demand or associated physical environmental impacts would occur. Therefore, no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Additionally, the Orange County Fire Authority was invited to provide comments. The Orange County Fire Authority did not elect to provide any comments.

Comment I30-8

In addition, while the DEIR references the California Building Code (CBC) in the context of seismic safety (Section 3.4, Geology and Soils), it fails to address disability access compliance under CBC Chapter 11B and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The DEIR does not identify whether the proposed bleachers, pathways, or spectator areas meet DSA accessibility standards or whether the DSA has issued preliminary approval of the access design. Omission of this analysis represents a substantive deficiency under CEQA Guidelines §15126.2(a), which requires the EIR to evaluate potentially significant physical impacts related to safety and accessibility.

Response I30-8

As described in Chapter 2, *Project Description*, of the Draft EIR, the proposed project includes the installation of four new athletic field lights around the existing football field and trenching for an electrical line. The PA system has been removed from the project description (see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, for additional details). The proposed project does not include any new bleachers, pathways, or spectator areas. Therefore, no modifications to facilities subject to accessibility requirements under CBC Chapter 11B or the ADA are proposed, and no review or approval by the Division of the State Architect (DSA) for accessibility features is required. Because the project does not involve construction or alteration of structures or features related to public access or circulation, there is no potential for the project to result in physical environmental impacts associated with accessibility. Accordingly, the Draft EIR's analysis remains consistent with CEQA Guidelines § 15126.2(a), which requires evaluation of physical environmental impacts, and no revisions are necessary.

Comment I30-9

7. Recommendation – Defer Project Approval Pending LFA and DSA Certification

IUSD should defer project approval until the Local Fire Authority (LFA) and Division of the State Architect (DSA) issue written approvals confirming compliance with fire-safety and accessibility standards. Proceeding otherwise would constitute a procedural defect under CEQA §§15090–15091.

Response I30-9

Please see response to Response I30-7, above. With respect to the DSA, all school construction projects are required to obtain DSA approval prior to the start of construction, pursuant to

Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations. This requirement applies independently of the CEQA process. CEQA does not mandate that responsible or reviewing agencies issue final approvals before a lead agency may certify an EIR or consider project approval. Instead, CEQA requires the EIR to disclose environmental impacts and for the lead agency to adopt findings pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §§ 15090 to 15091. Compliance with building, fire-safety, and accessibility codes occurs during the separate design and permitting phase and is enforced through DSA's established regulatory process.

Therefore, deferring project approval until DSA or the LFA issues separate technical approvals is not required under CEQA and is not a procedural defect. The proposed project will remain fully subject to all applicable DSA plan review and construction compliance requirements prior to the commencement of construction. No revisions to the Draft EIR are required.

Comment I30-10

8. ADA Safety and Emergency Evacuation Preparedness for Game and Non-School Events

The DEIR fails to evaluate ADA life-safety conditions and emergency evacuation procedures under event scenarios involving large crowds during both school-sponsored and non-school events.

i. ADA Safety During Events – The DEIR does not show how accessible egress routes, wheelchair seating, and emergency access aisles will be maintained during large gatherings. No diagrams or references to CBC Chapter 11B §§11B-403.5 and 11B-1008 are provided. There is no evidence of audible/visual emergency notification systems for individuals with disabilities.

Response I30-10

Please see Response I30-8, above. ADA facilities already exist on-site for field access. All existing ADA items at the Northwood HS campus have been reviewed by the DSA and will not be modified by the proposed project. The proposed project does not include new seating, assembly areas, circulation paths, accessible seating locations, emergency egress routes, or modifications to on-site facilities that would affect ADA accessibility or life-safety conditions. Because the proposed project does not alter physical facilities related to accessible egress, wheelchair seating, emergency access aisles, or notification systems, there is no potential for the project to create or exacerbate physical environmental impacts associated with accessibility or evacuation. Compliance with ADA requirements and CBC Chapter 11B is mandatory for all school facilities and operational practices regardless of CEQA, and these requirements are enforced through separate regulatory processes, including DSA review where applicable. CEQA does not require an EIR to evaluate compliance with non-environmental regulatory programs unless the project would result in a reasonably foreseeable physical environmental impact, which is not the case here. Therefore, no revisions to the Draft EIR are required.

Comment I30-11

ii. Non-School Event Oversight – The DEIR fails to establish management and oversight standards for non-school events. Without a responsible entity identified for safety and ADA compliance, the project risks violating Title II of the ADA concerning program accessibility in public facilities.

Response I30-11

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. Additionally, please see Responses I30-8 and I30-10, above.

Comment I30-12

ii. Emergency Evacuation and Lighting Failure Scenarios – The DEIR omits any analysis of emergency evacuation in the event of lighting failure or earthquake during night events. It should evaluate whether backup power, egress illumination, and PA system override capabilities are in place to enable safe evacuation. The absence of an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) coordinated with the Local Fire Authority and Orange County Emergency Management Division is a major safety oversight.

Response I30-12

The proposed project's impacts to an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan is analyzed in Chapter 3.5, *Hazards and Hazardous Materials*, Section 3.5.4(f). The Draft EIR concluded that the proposed project would not alter the existing access or egress points, nor would it result in any permanent changes to road capacity, traffic controls, or emergency access routes. Adequate evacuation routes would continue to be provided to the project site. The proposed project would also be required to go through DSA's development review and permitting process and would be required to incorporate all applicable design and safety standards and regulations in the CBC to ensure that proposed project development does not interfere with the provision of local emergency services. These requirements apply independently of CEQA and remain in force regardless of the project.

Existing emergency evacuation procedures, life-safety systems, and campus emergency management protocols would remain unchanged. CEQA requires analysis of a project's potential to cause or exacerbate physical environmental impacts. The installation of lighting poles does not introduce new hazards that would alter existing emergency evacuation capabilities, require backup power systems, or change emergency response procedures. The project does not modify emergency vehicle access, pedestrian egress pathways, or public-assembly conditions. Therefore, the project would not result in a reasonably foreseeable physical environmental impact related to emergency evacuation. CEQA does not require an EIR

to evaluate operational emergency-planning procedures or to demonstrate preparation or approval of Emergency Action Plans unless a project would alter physical conditions in a way that creates a new environmental impact, which is not the case here. Accordingly, the Draft EIR's analysis is adequate, and no revisions are required.

Comment I30-13

iv. Requested Revisions – The Final EIR must include a comprehensive ADA Safety and Emergency Evacuation Plan that:

- Identifies accessible evacuation routes and assembly points for all event types;

- Specifies backup power and lighting provisions compliant with CBC §1008.3;

- Requires written approval from the LFA and DSA before occupancy.

Until these measures are addressed, the DEIR fails to ensure equitable evacuation and safety for all attendees in compliance with CEQA §15126.2(a) and CBC Chapters 10 and 11B.

Thank you for considering these comments. The DEIR must be revised to include realistic, data-supported analysis that fully reflects community, life-safety, and accessibility requirements.

Sincerely,

Raymond

Orchard Hills Village II Resident

Response I30-13

The requests presented in this comment extend beyond the scope of CEQA. Please see Responses I30-7, I30-8, I30-9, I30-10, and I30-12. No revisions to the Draft EIR are required.

I31. Suzanne Wong, 11/4/2025

Comment I31-1

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents of Orchard Hills writing to express our deep concerns regarding IUSD's proposal to install stadium lights and loud PA speakers at Northwood High School.

Response I31-1

This comment opposes the proposed project but does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I31-2

As nearby residents who will be impacted by this project, we were not properly informed about this project, and the Draft EIR does not take into account the impacts on nearby residential communities. Our understanding is that Northwood High School did not request these lights or speakers. It is one matter to accommodate after-school practices, but we are greatly concerned about the District's stated intent to allow non-school related activities, as cited in the project scope.

Response I31-2

Please see Topical Response 4, *Community Outreach*, which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. Additionally, please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, for information regarding community use. Therefore, the CEQA process for this project has been appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred.

Comment I31-3

Our communities already face ongoing issues such as illegal student drop-offs and pick-ups that block our private streets, as well as trespassing and damage to community-maintained landscaping. Night events, particularly those unrelated to school activities, would only exacerbate these existing problems.

Response I31-3

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how concerns regarding trespassing and property damage are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. Additionally, please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, for information regarding community use. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I31-4

Many of us purchased our homes in Orchard Hills for the quiet enjoyment and the quality of life the community offers. Nighttime activities would bring additional noise, lighting, traffic, and overflow parking into our neighborhoods, permanently altering that balance and character of our community.

Response I31-4

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents; Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines; and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking.

Comment I31-5

Although we are unable to attend the November 4 IUSD Board meeting, please register our objections to the current Draft EIR for the reasons outlined above. We support the educational mission of Northwood High School and IUSD, but strongly urge the District to consider the ongoing burdens this project would impose on nearby residents who have invested our life's savings to live in this quiet community.

Response I31-5

This comment objects to the proposed project but does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I31-6

We respectfully request that IUSD withdraw the current project or, at minimum, revise the Draft EIR to fully evaluate its impacts on surrounding residential neighborhoods. Please take into consideration the consequences of your decision-making on residents and voters in our Orchard Hills and Northwood Pointe communities.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Wong

Response I31-6

This comment requests that the District withdraw the proposed project or revise proposed project but does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I32. Jun Cui, 11/4/2025

Comment I32-1

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents and registered voters of the Lanes End community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School's football field on the south side of Portola Parkway.

Response I32-1

This comment serves as an introduction to the comment letter. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I32-2

Setting aside existing problems with student parking in our neighborhood, this project would create even greater challenges for our community, including overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light spillage, all of which the Draft EIR fails to evaluate from our side of the street. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built?

Response I32-2

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents; Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines; and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I32-3

The IUSD Board made a wise and considered decision in 1999, when Northwood High School was constructed, not to include lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating. Why change course now, when over 4,000 additional homes have since been built in the surrounding

neighborhoods? This proposal appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's long-standing master planning principles, which emphasize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the distinct character of each village. Introducing additional noise, lighting, and traffic impacts would inevitably disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, diminish property values, and increase HOA costs over time.

Response I32-3

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes why prior discretionary and design decisions are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I32-4

Even more concerning, the project scope explicitly allows for non-school related activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no description of what these events are, how often they would occur, or what restrictions or controls would apply. The lack of definition and analysis in the Draft EIR raises serious questions about whether the full scope and impacts of the project have been properly evaluated.

Response I32-4

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I32-5

We find this proposal troubling, as it conflicts with the principles of good neighborliness and responsible community planning. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw this project entirely and uphold the sound precedent set by your predecessors in 1999. They made the right decision then, and we urge the Board to show the same careful consideration in deciding this matter now.

Response I32-5

This comment urges the District Board of Education to withdraw the proposed project. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I32-6

We look forward to seeing these concerns registered in the draft EIR comments.

Sincerely,

Name: JUN CUI

Home A[redacted]

Email:[redacted]

Response I32-6

This comment serves as a conclusionary sentence. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I33. Elizabeth Mancuso, 11/4/2025

Comment I33-1

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

I am a resident of Orchard Hills and recently became aware of the proposed Northwood High School field lighting and PA speakers project.

Response I33-1

This comment serves as an introduction to the comment letter. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I33-2

I am deeply concerned as to why the immediately adjacent neighborhoods were not informed or consulted during the preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The Draft EIR fails to address critical residential neighborhood impacts in several key areas. For example, it overlooks traffic and overflow parking into our communities, which is already a daily problem, and does not analyze peak game-day conditions for noise, traffic, or lighting spillage. The Draft EIR also incorrectly assumes that attendees would use public transportation, even though there is no OCTA bus route along Portola Parkway. It further lacks any plan for security or coordination with the Irvine Police Department to manage illegal parking, trespassing, and loitering in our private neighborhoods, which directly affects residents' quiet enjoyment.

Response I33-2

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents; and Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines.

Please see Topical Response 4, Community Outreach, which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. As such, the CEQA process for this project has been appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred.

Additionally, please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how concerns regarding trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Finally, the Draft EIR does not assume attendee reliance on public transportation in the analysis of transportation impacts. As shown in Chapter 3.8, *Transportation*, of the Draft EIR, information regarding public transportation was included in the discussion of the existing transit facilities in the vicinity of the project site. The Draft EIR does not include public transit as a mitigation measure, nor was it included in the analysis of impacts to circulation plans, VMT, design hazards, or emergency access.

Comment I33-3

While the project scope and disclosure filings with the State clearly and repeatedly state that the purpose of the proposed lights and PA speakers includes hosting non-school related events, the Draft EIR provides no explanation of what these "non-school events" are, how often they would occur, or what limits or other restrictions would apply, including traffic control, parking management, and community security. This complete lack of analysis leaves significant uncertainty about the scale and nature of potential uses.

Response I33-3

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I33-4

Even giving the District the benefit of the doubt, and taking the project scope at face value, the cost-benefit analysis does not appear to justify the installation of permanent stadium lights and loudspeakers for only five or six home football games a year. The resulting permanent disruptions, neighborhood impacts, and unnecessary costs to taxpayers cannot be justified by the limited and short-term benefits this project would provide.

Response I33-4

After careful consideration of community comments and concerns, the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project; no PA system will be installed. Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, for additional details.

Additionally, the comment does not identify specific environmental issues or deficiencies in the environmental analysis presented in the Draft EIR. The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I33-5

I strongly urge the Board to drop this project or, at minimum, reject the current flawed Draft EIR and require a full redo of the EIR process to correct its fundamental deficiencies, including meaningful consultation with nearby residential communities and a genuine analysis of the true impacts on surrounding neighborhoods.

Thank you for your reconsideration.

Elizabeth Mancuso

138 Crescent Moon

Irvine

Response I33-5

This comment urges the District Board of Education to drop the proposed project or reject the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I34. James Mancuso, 11/4/2025

Comment I34-1

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

I am a resident of Orchard Hills and recently became aware of the proposed Northwood High School field lighting and PA speakers project.

Response I34-1

This comment serves as an introduction to the comment letter. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I34-2

I am deeply concerned as to why the immediately adjacent neighborhoods were not informed or consulted during the preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The Draft EIR fails to address critical residential neighborhood impacts in several key areas. For example, it overlooks traffic and overflow parking into our communities, which is already a daily problem, and does not analyze peak game-day conditions for noise, traffic, or lighting spillage. The Draft EIR also incorrectly assumes that attendees would use public transportation, even though there is no OCTA bus route along Portola Parkway. It further lacks any plan for security or coordination with the Irvine Police Department to manage illegal parking, trespassing, and loitering in our private neighborhoods, which directly affects residents' quiet enjoyment.

Response I34-2

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents; and Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines.

Additionally, please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how concerns regarding trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Finally, the Draft EIR does not assume attendee reliance on public transportation in the analysis of transportation impacts. As shown in Chapter 3.8, *Transportation*, of the Draft EIR, information regarding public transportation was included in the discussion of the existing transit facilities in the vicinity of the project site. The Draft EIR does not include public transit as a mitigation measure, nor was it included in the analysis of impacts to circulation plans, VMT, design hazards, or emergency access.

Comment I34-3

While the project scope and disclosure filings with the State clearly and repeatedly state that the purpose of the proposed lights and PA speakers includes hosting non-school related events, the Draft EIR provides no explanation of what these "non-school events" are, how often they would occur, or what limits or other restrictions would apply, including traffic control, parking management, and community security. This complete lack of analysis leaves significant uncertainty about the scale and nature of potential uses.

Response I34-3

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I34-4

Even giving the District the benefit of the doubt, and taking the project scope at face value, the cost-benefit analysis does not appear to justify the installation of permanent stadium lights and loudspeakers for only five or six home football games a year. The resulting permanent disruptions, neighborhood impacts, and unnecessary costs to taxpayers cannot be justified by the limited and short-term benefits this project would provide.

Response I34-4

After careful consideration of community comments and concerns, the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project; no PA system will be installed. Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, for additional details.

Additionally, the comment does not identify specific environmental issues or deficiencies in the environmental analysis presented in the Draft EIR. The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation

measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I34-5

I strongly urge the Board to drop this project or, at minimum, reject the current flawed Draft EIR and require a full redo of the EIR process to correct its fundamental deficiencies, including meaningful consultation with nearby residential communities and a genuine analysis of the true impacts on surrounding neighborhoods.

Thank you for your reconsideration.

Sincerely,

James Mancuso

138 Crescent Moon

Response I34-5

This comment urges the District Board of Education to drop the proposed project or reject the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I35. Corinne Giesemann, 10/19/2025

Comment I35-1

Your quick reply is much appreciated, Katie.

I'd love to understand what we gain in adding lights and a PA system. I know it would increase the times available for events to be held. It seems we have enough facilities including Uni to accommodate those needs.

Thank you,

Corinne

Response I35-1

This comment discusses the existing facilities that could accommodate events but does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I36. Sarah Le, 10/22/2025

Comment I36-1

Dear President McEwen, Members of the IUSD Board, and City Leaders,

I am writing as a concerned resident of The Groves at Orchard Hills to respectfully oppose the proposed field lighting and loudspeaker project at Northwood High School. This project is unnecessary, unwanted, and deeply disruptive to our surrounding neighborhoods of more than 4,000 homes.

Response I36-1

This comment opposes the proposed project but does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I36-2

Northwood High School did not request this project. The Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) is deeply flawed, overlooking the real impacts of noise, lighting, traffic, and parking on nearby communities such as Orchard Hills and Northwood Pointe. Our neighborhoods already face ongoing issues with Northwood students' illegal parking, student drop-offs, trespassing onto landscaped areas, and property damage, which have cost residents thousands of dollars in repairs, relandscaping, fencing, and security.

Response I36-2

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents; and Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines.

Additionally, please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how concerns regarding trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I36-3

This project is a wasteful use of taxpayer money. Existing problems remain unresolved by the District, and this proposed project would only make them worse. It would further diminish the quality of life and reduce property values for hundreds of families who live closest to the school. We elect our leaders to solve community issues, not to create new ones.

Response I36-3

The comment does not identify specific environmental issues or deficiencies in the environmental analysis presented in the Draft EIR. The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I36-4

I respectfully urge the Board to withdraw the DEIR and to work collaboratively with our community to find solutions that both support students and respect the rights of residents who live here.

Sincerely,

Best regards,

Sarah Le

Response I36-4

This comment urges the District Board of Education to drop the proposed project or reject the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I37. Feng Xie, 10/29/2025

Comment I37-1

Dear Katie,

I am a resident at Orchard Hill II. The reason I am writing this email to you is to let you know that I do not like the idea of building stadium lights at NHS. It is not necessary and will ruin the quality of life we enjoy here at Orchard Hills. There is no parking, and will promote more trespassing on our properties. Strong objections from me and my family.

Best regards,

Feng XIE

Response I37-1

This comment states that the proposed project would ruin the quality of life at Orchard Hills and comments on parking and trespassing. Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how concerns regarding trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

I38. Annie Liping Shu, 10/29/2025

Comment I38-1

Dear all,

My name is Liping Shu, and I live in Lanes End in Northwood Pointe, right next to Portola Parkway. I recently heard about the IUSD proposal to install stadium lights and loud stadium speaker systems at the Northwood High School sports fields, and this has made me very anxious and worried.

Response I38-1

This comment serves as an introduction to the comment letter. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I38-2

I live with my 80-year-old mother, who is very sensitive to noise and already suffers from severe sleep and rest issues. The installation of high-volume sound equipment so close to our home would have a significant negative impact on her health and well-being.

Response I38-2

After careful consideration of community comments and concerns, the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project; no PA system will be installed. Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, for additional details.

Comment I38-3

I sincerely hope that the district will seek more input from nearby residents and handle this matter with great care. Thank you very much for your willingness to listen to the concerns of the community.

Best regards,

Annie Liping Shu

Email:[redacted]

cell:[redacted]

Response I38-3

This comment serves as a conclusionary sentence. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I39. Cindy and Don Bai, 10/30/2025

Comment I39-1

Dear Respected Board Members of the IUSD,

We would like to express our concerns regarding the proposal of putting in additional stadium lights and speakers at the Northwood High School.

Response I39-1

This comment expresses the commentors' concerns about the proposed project. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I39-2

As residents on Mustang of Corte Bella, we hear the school sport activities (and the coaches' commands) with the current sound system. We are afraid that with the proposed additional broadcasts and lightings system, our peace and quiet will be much more affected. In addition, we do not want to see more invalid parking of cars on the neighborhood streets due to increased school sports.

Response I39-2

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents; Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines; and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking.

Comment I39-3

We appreciate your kind attention to this matter. Thank you.

Cindy and Don Bai

[redacted]

Response I39-3

This comment serves as a conclusionary sentence. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I40. Wenkai Qin, 11/3/2025

Comment I40-1

Dear Cassie,

We are residents and registered voters of the Lanes End community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School's football field on the south side of Portola Parkway.

Response I40-1

This comment serves as an introduction to the comment letter. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I40-2

Setting aside existing problems with student parking in our neighborhood, this project would create even greater challenges for our community, including overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light spillage, all of which the Draft EIR fails to evaluate from our side of the street. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built?

Response I40-2

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents; Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines; and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking.

Comment I40-3

The IUSD Board made a wise and considered decision in 1999, when Northwood High School was constructed, not to include lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating. Why change course now, when over 4,000 additional homes have since been built in the surrounding neighborhoods? This proposal appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's long-standing master planning principles, which emphasize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the

distinct character of each village. Introducing additional noise, lighting, and traffic impacts would inevitably disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, diminish property values, and increase HOA costs over time.

Response I40-3

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes prior discretionary and design decisions are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Additionally, see Response to Comment I40-2, regarding noise, lighting, and traffic impacts.

Comment I40-4

Even more concerning, the project scope explicitly allows for non-school related activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no description of what these events are, how often they would occur, or what restrictions or controls would apply. The lack of definition and analysis in the Draft EIR raises serious questions about whether the full scope and impacts of the project have been properly evaluated.

Response I40-4

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I40-5

We find this proposal troubling, as it conflicts with the principles of good neighborliness and responsible community planning. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw this project entirely and uphold the sound precedent set by your predecessors in 1999. They made the right decision then, and we urge the Board to show the same careful consideration in deciding this matter now.

Response I40-5

See Response I40-3 for a response regarding prior discretionary and design decisions.

Comment I40-6

We look forward to seeing these concerns registered in the draft EIR comments.

Sincerely,

Dr. Wenkai Qin

[redacted]

[redacted]

Response I40-6

This comment serves as a conclusionary sentence. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I41. Katie Chen, 11/6/2025

Comment I41-1

Dear Members of the Board,

I am writing to express my concerns of the proposed Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project. As a long-time resident of the Northwood neighborhood, I am deeply concerned that this project will irreversibly damage the quiet and semi-rural character of our community.

Response I41-1

This comment expresses concern over the proposed project and serves as an introduction to the comment letter. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I41-2

Our neighborhood is a peaceful residential area surrounded by orchard groves and open space, where residents value quite environment, dark night skies, minimal noise, and light evening traffic. The introduction of four 70-foot light poles, an amplified public-address system, and expanded nighttime athletic events beyond Northwood High school uses will bring new and ongoing light, noise, and vehicle impacts into an area not designed for this level of activity.

Response I41-2

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents; and Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines.

Comment I41-3

Although the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) concludes that these impacts are “less than significant,” that finding does not reflect the reality our community will experience. The DEIR identifies no mitigation measures to address increased lighting, noise, or traffic. Instead, it relies on technical assumptions that underestimate the actual day-to-day disruption these

facilities will cause. Without enforceable restrictions on event frequency, hours of operation, or sound levels, there are no real protections for nearby residents.

Response I41-3

See Response I41-2 regarding lighting, noise, and traffic.

Comment I41-4

Furthermore, the public outreach for this project was inadequate. Many affected homeowners were unaware of the proposed project. One scoping notice and limited online postings do not constitute meaningful engagement for a project with citywide implications.

Response I41-4

Please see Topical Response 4, *Community Outreach*, which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. Therefore, the CEQA process for this project has been appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred.

Comment I41-5

With the installation of permanent lighting and a PA system, Northwood High School would effectively become a regional event facility serving the entire City of Irvine, rather than a neighborhood school. The DEIR even acknowledges that the fields would be available for outside user groups under the Civic Center Act. This means our quiet residential area would host large-scale community or city events at night — bringing in additional traffic, parking congestion, and noise far beyond what is appropriate for a neighborhood setting.

Response I41-5

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Additionally, see Response I41-2 regarding noise and traffic.

Comment I41-6

Once these changes are made, the peaceful character of our community cannot be restored. For these reasons, I urge the Irvine Unified School District and the board to reject this project

and instead select the No Project Alternative outlined in the DEIR. Northwood High can continue to provide outstanding educational opportunities without imposing citywide event impacts on its surrounding neighborhoods.

Response I41-6

This comment opposes the proposed project but does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I41-7

Thank you for considering my comments.

Best Regards,

Katie Chen

Response I41-7

This comment serves as a conclusionary sentence. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I42. Grace Ouy, 11/6/2025

Comment I42-1

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

I am a resident of Orchard Hills and recently became aware of the proposed Northwood High School field lighting and PA speakers project.

Response I42-1

This comment serves as an introduction to the comment letter. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I42-2

I am deeply concerned as to why the immediately adjacent neighborhoods were not informed or consulted during the preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The Draft EIR fails to address critical residential neighborhood impacts in several key areas. For example, it overlooks traffic and overflow parking into our communities, which is already a daily problem, and does not analyze peak game-day conditions for noise, traffic, or lighting spillage. The Draft EIR also incorrectly assumes that attendees would use public transportation, even though there is no OCTA bus route along Portola Parkway. It further lacks any plan for security or coordination with the Irvine Police Department to manage illegal parking, trespassing, and loitering in our private neighborhoods, which directly affects residents' quiet enjoyment.

Response I42-2

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents; Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines; Topical Response 4, *Community Outreach*, which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA; and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking.

Additionally, Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, describes how concerns regarding trespassing are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Finally, the Draft EIR does not assume attendee reliance on public transportation in the analysis of transportation impacts. As shown in Chapter 3.8, *Transportation*, of the Draft EIR, information regarding public transportation was included in the discussion of the existing transit facilities in the vicinity of the project site. The Draft EIR does not include public transit as a mitigation measure, nor was it included in the analysis of impacts to circulation plans, VMT, design hazards, or emergency access.

Comment I42-3

While the project scope and disclosure filings with the State clearly and repeatedly state that the purpose of the proposed lights and PA speakers includes hosting non-school related events, the Draft EIR provides no explanation of what these "non-school events" are, how often they would occur, or what limits or other restrictions would apply, including traffic control, parking management, and community security. This complete lack of analysis leaves significant uncertainty about the scale and nature of potential uses.

Response I42-3

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I42-4

Even giving the District the benefit of the doubt, and taking the project scope at face value, the cost-benefit analysis does not appear to justify the installation of permanent stadium lights and loudspeakers for only five or six home football games a year. The resulting permanent disruptions, neighborhood impacts, and unnecessary costs to taxpayers cannot be justified by the limited and short-term benefits this project would provide.

Response I42-4

After careful consideration of community comments and concerns, the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and no PA system will be installed. Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, for additional details.

Additionally, the comment does not identify specific environmental issues or deficiencies in the environmental analysis presented in the Draft EIR. The District has prepared the Draft EIR in

compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I42-5

I strongly urge the Board to reject the current flawed Draft EIR and require a full redo of the EIR process to correct its fundamental deficiencies, including meaningful consultation with nearby residential communities and a genuine analysis of the true impacts on surrounding neighborhoods.

Thank you for your reconsideration.

Sincerely,

Grace Ouy

Response I42-5

This comment urges the District Board of Education to drop the proposed project or reject the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I43. Gerald and Nancy Valuch, 11/10/2025

Comment I43-1

Please see attached letter. We are original owners of the LanesEnd community and are very concerned about the proposed Northwood High School Lights and PA System, especially the impact on parking in our community. We have parking available ONLY on one side of each street. The other side is designated as a FIRE LANE with towing as a solution throughout the community.

Response I43-1

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines, and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I43-2

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents and registered voters of the Lanes End community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School's football field on the south side of Portola Parkway.

Response I43-2

This comment serves as an introduction to the attached comment letter. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I43-3

Setting aside existing problems with student parking in our neighborhood, this project would create even greater challenges for our community, including overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light spillage, all of which the Draft EIR fails to evaluate from our side of the street. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built?

Response I43-3

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare, and Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Please see Response I43-1 regarding parking and traffic congestion.

Comment I43-4

The IUSD Board made a wise and considered decision in 1999, when Northwood High School was constructed, not to include lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating. Why change course now, when over 4,000 additional homes have since been built in the surrounding neighborhoods? This proposal appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's long-standing master planning principles, which emphasize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the distinct character of each village. Introducing additional noise, lighting, and traffic impacts would inevitably disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, diminish property values, and increase HOA costs over time.

Response I43-4

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes why prior discretionary and design decisions are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Additionally, please see Response I43-1 regarding parking and traffic congestion and Response I43-2 regarding noise and lighting impacts.

Comment I43-5

Even more concerning, the project scope explicitly allows for non-school related activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no description of what these events are, how often they would occur, or what restrictions or controls would apply. The lack of definition and analysis in the Draft EIR raises serious questions about whether the full scope and impacts of the project have been properly evaluated.

Response I43-5

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I43-6

We find this proposal troubling, as it conflicts with the principles of good neighborliness and responsible community planning. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw this project entirely and uphold the sound precedent set by your predecessors in 1999. They made the right decision then, and we urge the Board to show the same careful consideration in deciding this matter now.

Response I43-6

This comment urges the District Board of Education to withdraw the proposed project. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I43-7

We look forward to seeing these concerns registered in the draft EIR comments.

Sincerely,

Gerald A. Valuch

Nancy M. Valuch

[redacted]

[redacted]

Response I43-7

This comment serves as a conclusionary sentence. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I44. Jacquelyn Chiong, 11/11/2025

Comment I44-1

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents and registered voters of the Lanes End community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School's football field on the south side of Portola Parkway.

Response I44-1

This comment serves as an introduction to the attached comment letter. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I44-2

Setting aside existing problems with student parking in our neighborhood, this project would create even greater challenges for our community, including overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light spillage, all of which the Draft EIR fails to evaluate from our side of the street. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built?

Response I44-2

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare, and Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Additionally, please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines, and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I44-3

The IUSD Board made a wise and considered decision in 1999, when Northwood High School was constructed, not to include lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating. Why change course now, when over 4,000 additional homes have since been built in the surrounding neighborhoods? This proposal appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's long-standing master planning principles, which emphasize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the distinct character of each village. Introducing additional noise, lighting, and traffic impacts would inevitably disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, diminish property values, and increase HOA costs over time.

Response I44-3

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes why prior discretionary and design decisions are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Additionally, please see Response I44-2 regarding parking and traffic congestion and noise and lighting impacts.

Comment I44-4

Even more concerning, the project scope explicitly allows for non-school related activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no description of what these events are, how often they would occur, or what restrictions or controls would apply. The lack of definition and analysis in the Draft EIR raises serious questions about whether the full scope and impacts of the project have been properly evaluated.

Response I44-4

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I44-5

We find this proposal troubling, as it conflicts with the principles of good neighborliness and responsible community planning. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw this project entirely and uphold the sound precedent set by your predecessors in 1999. They made the right

decision then, and we urge the Board to show the same careful consideration in deciding this matter now.

Response I44-5

This comment urges the District Board of Education to withdraw the proposed project. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I44-6

We look forward to seeing these concerns registered in the draft EIR comments.

Sincerely,

Jacquelyn Chiong

Response I44-6

This comment serves as a conclusionary sentence. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I45. Brian Gerstein, 11/11/2025

Comment I45-1

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents and registered voters of the Lanes End community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School's football field on the south side of Portola Parkway.

Response I45-1

This comment serves as an introduction to the attached comment letter. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I45-2

Setting aside existing problems with student parking in our neighborhood, this project would create even greater challenges for our community, including overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light spillage, all of which the Draft EIR fails to evaluate from our side of the street. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built?

Response I45-2

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare, and Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Additionally, please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines, and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I45-3

The IUSD Board made a wise and considered decision in 1999, when Northwood High School was constructed, not to include lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating. Why change course now, when over 4,000 additional homes have since been built in the surrounding neighborhoods? This proposal appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's long-standing master planning principles, which emphasize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the distinct character of each village. Introducing additional noise, lighting, and traffic impacts would inevitably disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, diminish property values, and increase HOA costs over time.

Response I45-3

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which explains that prior discretionary and design decisions are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Additionally, please see Response I44-2 regarding parking and traffic congestion and noise and lighting impacts.

Comment I45-4

Even more concerning, the project scope explicitly allows for non-school related activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no description of what these events are, how often they would occur, or what restrictions or controls would apply. The lack of definition and analysis in the Draft EIR raises serious questions about whether the full scope and impacts of the project have been properly evaluated.

Response I45-4

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I45-5

We find this proposal troubling, as it conflicts with the principles of good neighborliness and responsible community planning. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw this project entirely and uphold the sound precedent set by your predecessors in 1999. They made the right

decision then, and we urge the Board to show the same careful consideration in deciding this matter now.

Response I45-5

This comment urges the District Board of Education to withdraw the proposed project. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I45-6

We look forward to seeing these concerns registered in the draft EIR comments.

Sincerely,

Brian Gerstein

Response I45-6

This comment serves as a conclusionary sentence. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I46. Annie Liping Shu, 11/11/2025

Comment I46-1

Dear all,

Following my attendance at the recent district meeting, I took the opportunity to speak with several of my neighbors. To my surprise, almost none of them were aware of the district's plan to install loudspeakers and lighting equipment at Northwood High School. After I shared the information, many expressed deep concern that such installations could disrupt the peace and quiet of our neighborhood.

Response I46-1

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare, and Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. Additionally, This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I46-2

Our community includes a significant number of elderly residents who live alone and tend to retire early in the evening. The potential noise from the loudspeakers, in particular, could have a serious impact on their rest and overall well-being.

Response I46-2

Please see Response I46-1 regarding noise impacts.

Comment I46-3

I am forwarding to you a petition signed by these concerned residents. We respectfully ask that the district carefully consider the impact of this project on the quality of life of those living nearby before proceeding with any installation. I plan to continue collecting signatures from our neighborhood and will share them with you as soon as they are available.

Thank you very much for your understanding and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Annie Liping Shu

Response I46-3

This comment serves as a conclusionary sentence. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I47. Christina Shaw, 11/12/2025

Comment I47-1

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We, residents of Orchard Hills, are writing to express our deep concerns regarding IUSD's proposal to install stadium lights and a loud PA system at Northwood High School.

Response I47-1

This comment opposes the proposed project but does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I47-2

As nearby residents who will be impacted by this project, we were not properly informed about it, and the Draft EIR does not adequately account for the impacts on nearby residential communities. Our understanding is that Northwood High School did not request these lights or speakers. It is one matter to accommodate after-school practices. Still, we are greatly concerned about the District's stated intention to permit non-school-related activities, as outlined in the project scope.

Response I47-2

Please see Topical Response 4, *Community Outreach*, which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. Therefore, the CEQA process for this project has been appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred. Additionally, see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I47-3

Our communities already face ongoing issues such as illegal student drop-offs and pick-ups that block our private streets, as well as trespassing and damage to community-maintained

landscaping. Night events, particularly those unrelated to school activities, would only exacerbate these existing problems.

Response I47-3

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines, and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how concerns regarding trespassing and property damage are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I47-4

Many of us purchased our homes in Orchard Hills for the quiet enjoyment and the quality of life the community offers. Nighttime activities would bring additional noise, lighting, traffic, and overflow parking into our neighborhoods, permanently altering that balance and character of our community.

Response I47-4

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents; Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines; and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking.

Comment I47-5

Although we are unable to attend the November 4 IUSD Board meeting, we would like to register our objections to the current Draft EIR for the reasons outlined above. We support the educational mission of Northwood High School and IUSD, but strongly urge the District to consider the ongoing burdens this project would impose on nearby residents who have invested their life's savings to live in this quiet community.

Response I47-5

This comment objects to the proposed project but does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not

a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I47-6

We respectfully request that IUSD withdraw the current project or, at a minimum, revise the Draft EIR to fully evaluate its impacts on surrounding residential neighborhoods. Please consider the consequences of your decision-making on residents and voters in our Orchard Hills and Northwood Pointe communities.

Response I47-6

This comment requests that the District withdraw the proposed project or revise proposed project but does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I48. Kisung Kim, 11/12/2025

Comment I48-1

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. While we strongly support Northwood High School's mission and the education of its students, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, specifically regarding evening events that would result in permanent nighttime impacts on nearby neighborhoods.

Response I48-1

This comment states that the commentor has concerns about the proposed project and serves as an introduction to the comment letter. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I48-2

We are already experiencing issues stemming from insufficient student parking during regular school days. Students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Since our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly bearing the cost of upkeep and repair for areas affected by this activity.

Response I48-2

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines. Additionally, please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how concerns regarding trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I48-3

The proposed major nighttime events would significantly increase these existing problems for residents in Orchard Hills, Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding

permanent nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by introducing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours.

Response I48-3

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare, and Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. Additionally, please see Response I48-2 regarding traffic impacts. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I48-4

Critically, the Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze the resulting noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, thereby ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures, such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community.

Response I48-4

Please see Response I48-2 regarding traffic and parking impacts. The Draft EIR identifies feasible mitigation measures to reduce the project's potential environmental impacts to less-than-significant levels, consistent with CEQA Guidelines § 15126.4. Impacts related to light spillage, noise, and transportation were determined to be less than significant (see Topical Responses 1, 2, and 3); thus, no mitigation measures are required for these topics. CEQA does not require mitigation measures beyond what is necessary to reduce significant impacts to less-than-significant levels. Therefore, the Draft EIR's mitigation and monitoring measures are adequate, enforceable, and consistent with CEQA requirements.

Comment I48-5

We support the goal of providing student-athletes with safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to the existing operating hours for the tennis courts and swimming pools. However, we oppose permitting large evening events that involve amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seating.

We respectfully urge the Irvine Unified School District (IUSD) to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. Additionally, the Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts.

Response I48-5

This comment states that nighttime practices should be limited to 7:30 p.m. and that the Draft EIR should be redone.

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how neighborhood security is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Additionally, please see Responses I48-2 and I48-3 regarding noise, lighting, traffic, and parking impacts. This comment opposes the proposed project but does not raise any specific environmental issues regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I48-6

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community.

Sincerely,

Kisung Kim

Orchard Hills Resident

Response I48-6

This comment serves as a conclusionary sentence. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I49. Ivy Chang, 11/12/2025

Comment I49-1

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods.

Response I49-1

This comment states that the commentor has concerns about the proposed project and serves as an introduction to the comment letter. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I49-2

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours.

Response I49-2

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines. Additionally, please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how concerns regarding trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA.

Additionally, please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare, and Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I49-3

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community.

Response I49-3

Please see Response I49-2 regarding impacts to noise, lighting, traffic, parking, and neighborhood security.

Comment I49-4

We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts.

Response I49-4

This comment states that nighttime practices should be limited to 7:30 p.m. and that the Draft EIR should be redone.

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how neighborhood security is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA. Additionally, please see Response I49-2 regarding noise, lighting, traffic, and parking impacts. This comment opposes the proposed project but does not raise any specific environmental issues regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I49-5

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community.

Sincerely,

Ivy Chang

Orchard Hills Resident

Response I49-5

This comment serves as a conclusionary sentence. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I50. Daphne Kent, 11/12/2025

Comment I50-1

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods.

Response I50-1

This comment states that the commentor has concerns about the proposed project and serves as an introduction to the comment letter. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I50-2

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours.

Response I50-2

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines. Additionally, please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how concerns regarding trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA.

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare, and Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I50-3

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community.

Response I50-3

Please see Response I50-2 regarding noise, lighting, traffic, parking, and neighborhood security impacts.

Comment I50-4

We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts.

Response I50-4

This comment states that nighttime practices should be limited to 7:30 p.m. and that the Draft EIR should be redone.

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how neighborhood security is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA. Also, please see Response I50-2 regarding noise, lighting, traffic, and parking impacts. This comment opposes the proposed project but does not raise any specific environmental issues regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I50-5

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community.

Sincerely,

Daphne Kent

Orchard Hills Resident

Response I50-5

This comment serves as a conclusionary sentence. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I51. Carlos Bravo, 11/12/2025

Comment I51-1

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods.

Response I51-1

This comment states that the commentor has concerns about the proposed project and serves as an introduction to the comment letter. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I51-2

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours.

Response I51-2

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines, and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how concerns regarding trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA.

Also, please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare, and Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I51-3

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community.

Response I51-3

Please see Response I51-2 regarding noise, lighting, traffic, parking, and neighborhood security impacts.

Comment I51-4

We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts.

Response I51-4

This comment states that nighttime practices should be limited to 7:30 p.m. and that the Draft EIR should be redone.

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how neighborhood security is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA. Also see Response I51-2 regarding noise, lighting, traffic, and parking impacts. This comment opposes the proposed project but does not raise any specific environmental issues regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I51-5

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community.

Sincerely,

Carlos Bravo

Orchard Hills Resident

Response I51-5

This comment serves as a conclusionary sentence. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I52. Mingyu Joo, 11/12/2025

Comment I52-1

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods.

Response I52-1

This comment states that the commenter has concerns about the proposed project and serves as an introduction to the comment letter. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I52-2

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours.

Response I52-2

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines, and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how concerns regarding trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA.

Additionally, please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare, and Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I52-3

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community.

Response I52-3

Please see Response I52-2 regarding noise, lighting, traffic, parking, and neighborhood security impacts.

Comment I52-4

We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts.

Response I52-4

This comment states that nighttime practices should be limited to 7:30 p.m. and that the Draft EIR should be redone.

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how neighborhood security is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA. Additionally, please see Responses I52-2 regarding noise, lighting, traffic, and parking impacts. This comment opposes the proposed project but does not raise any specific environmental issues regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I52-5

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community.

Sincerely,

Mingyu Joo

Orchard Hills Resident

Response I52-5

This comment serves as a conclusionary sentence. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I53. Keumjoo Ahn, 11/12/2025

Comment I53-1

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods.

Response I53-1

This comment states that the commentor has concerns about the proposed project and serves as an introduction to the comment letter. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I53-2

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours.

Response I53-2

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines, and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how concerns regarding trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA.

Also see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare, and Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I53-3

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community.

Response I53-3

Please see Response I53-2 regarding noise, lighting, traffic, parking, and neighborhood security impacts.

Comment I53-4

We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts.

Response I53-4

This comment states that nighttime practices should be limited to 7:30 p.m. and that the Draft EIR should be redone.

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how neighborhood security is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA. Also see Response I53-2 regarding noise, lighting, traffic, and parking impacts. This comment opposes the proposed project but does not raise any specific environmental issues regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I53-5

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community.

Sincerely,

Keumjoo Ahn

Orchard Hills Resident

Response I53-5

This comment serves as a conclusionary sentence. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I54. Matt Chow, 11/12/2025

Comment I54-1

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods.

Response I54-1

This comment states that the commentor has concerns about the proposed project and serves as an introduction to the comment letter. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I54-2

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours.

Response I54-2

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines, and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how concerns regarding trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA.

Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare, and Topical Response 2, *Noise*, describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I54-3

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community.

Response I54-3

Please see Response I54-2 regarding noise, lighting, traffic, parking, and neighborhood security impacts.

Comment I54-4

We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts.

Response I54-4

This comment states that nighttime practices should be limited to 7:30 p.m. and that the Draft EIR should be redone.

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how concerns regarding neighborhood security is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA. Additionally, please see Response I54-2 regarding noise, lighting, traffic, and parking impacts. This comment opposes the proposed project but does not raise any specific environmental issues regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its

consideration as part of the project review and approval process; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I54-5

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community.

Sincerely,

Matt Chow

Orchard Hills Resident

Response I54-5

This comment serves as a conclusionary sentence. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I55. James P Calpin, 11/12/2025

Comment I55-1

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods.

Response I55-1

This comment states that the commentor has concerns about the proposed project and serves as an introduction to the comment letter. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I55-2

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours.

Response I55-2

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines; Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how concerns regarding trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA; Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; and Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which

describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I55-3

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community.

Response I55-3

Please see Response I55-2 regarding noise, lighting, traffic, parking, and neighborhood security impacts.

Comment I55-4

We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts.

Response I55-4

This comment states that nighttime practices should be limited to 7:30 p.m. and that the Draft EIR should be redone.

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how neighborhood security is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA. Also see Response I55-2 regarding noise, lighting, traffic, and parking impacts. This comment opposes the proposed project but does not raise any specific environmental issues regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I55-5

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community.

Sincerely,

Jim

James P Calpin

Orchard Hills Resident

Response I55-5

This comment serves as a conclusionary sentence. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I56. Rack and Myung Hong, 11/12/2025

Comment I56-1

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods.

Response I56-1

This comment states that the commentor has concerns about the proposed project and serves as an introduction to the comment letter. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I56-2

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours.

Response I56-2

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines; Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how concerns regarding trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA; Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; and Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which

describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I56-3

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community.

Response I56-3

Please see Response I56-2 regarding noise, lighting, traffic, parking, and neighborhood security impacts.

Comment I56-4

We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts.

Response I56-4

This comment states that nighttime practices should be limited to 7:30 p.m. and that the Draft EIR should be redone.

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how neighborhood security is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA. Also see Response I56-2 regarding noise, lighting, traffic, and parking impacts. This comment opposes the proposed project but does not raise any specific environmental issues regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I56-5

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community.

Sincerely,

Rack and Myung Hong

Orchard Hills Resident

Response I56-5

This comment serves as a conclusionary sentence. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I57. Batool Peykarestan, 11/12/2025

Comment I57-1

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods.

Response I57-1

This comment states that the commentor has concerns about the proposed project and serves as an introduction to the comment letter. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I57-2

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours.

Response I57-2

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines; Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how concerns regarding trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA; Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; and Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which

describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I57-3

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community.

Response I57-3

Please see Response I57-2 regarding noise, lighting, traffic, parking, and neighborhood security impacts.

Comment I57-4

We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts.

Response I57-4

This comment states that nighttime practices should be limited to 7:30 p.m. and that the Draft EIR should be redone.

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how neighborhood security is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA. Also see Response I57-2 regarding noise, lighting, traffic, and parking impacts. This comment opposes the proposed project but does not raise any specific environmental issues regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I57-5

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community.

Sincerely,

Batool Peykarestan

Orchard Hills Resident

Response I57-5

This comment serves as a conclusionary sentence. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I58. Jean Chow, 11/12/2025

Comment I58-1

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods.

Response I58-1

This comment states that the commentor has concerns about the proposed project and serves as an introduction to the comment letter. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I58-2

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours.

Response I58-2

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines; Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how concerns regarding trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA; Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; and Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which

describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I58-3

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community.

Response I58-3

Please see Response I58-2 regarding noise, lighting, traffic, parking, and neighborhood security impacts.

Comment I58-4

We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts.

Response I58-4

This comment states that nighttime practices should be limited to 7:30 p.m. and that the Draft EIR should be redone.

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how neighborhood security is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA. Also see Response I58-2 regarding noise, lighting, traffic, and parking impacts. This comment opposes the proposed project but does not raise any specific environmental issues regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I58-5

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community.

Sincerely,

Jean Chow

Orchard Hills Resident

Response I58-5

This comment serves as a conclusionary sentence. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I59. Hossein Zarei, 11/12/2025

Comment I59-1

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods.

Response I59-1

This comment states that the commentor has concerns about the proposed project and serves as an introduction to the comment letter. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I59-2

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours.

Response I59-2

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines; Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how concerns regarding trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA; Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; and Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which

describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I59-3

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community.

Response I59-3

Please see Response I59-2 regarding noise, lighting, traffic, parking, and neighborhood security impacts.

Comment I59-4

We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts.

Response I59-4

This comment states that nighttime practices should be limited to 7:30 p.m. and that the Draft EIR should be redone.

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how neighborhood security is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA. Also see Response I59-2 regarding noise, lighting, traffic, and parking impacts. This comment opposes the proposed project but does not raise any specific environmental issues regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I59-5

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community.

Sincerely,

Hossein Zarei

Orchard Hills Resident

Response I59-5

This comment serves as a conclusionary sentence. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I60. Dennis Lo, 11/12/2025

Comment I60-1

As the resident of Orchard Hills Village III Community Association, also known as The Reserve, I write to share many residents' concerns regarding the proposed installation of stadium lighting and a public address system at Northwood High School. We appreciate the District's commitment to supporting student programs and athletics, and we recognize the importance of providing safe and equitable facilities. However, this project introduces significant burdens for the surrounding neighborhoods that deserve serious consideration.

Response I60-1

This comment states that the commentor has concerns about the proposed project and serves as an introduction to the comment letter. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I60-2

Our community of more than 1,000 homes relies on Orchard Hills Drive as its main ingress and egress. We already experience daily traffic congestion from school-related activity, especially during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up periods. Vehicles frequently queue along Orchard Hills Drive and use our primary entrances as waiting areas, often restricting access and causing inconvenience for residents and friction with our on-site security personnel. These conditions exist today under normal daytime operations and would only worsen with evening events and amplified activities.

Response I60-2

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines. The commenter's observations regarding queueing along Orchard Hills Drive reflect current school-related circulation patterns, particularly during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up periods. Such queueing is an existing condition and is not caused by the proposed project, which does not alter student enrollment, bell schedules, or daytime pick-up and drop-off operations. The proposed project would not introduce new daytime traffic demand during school peak periods, as events under the project would occur outside school traffic hours. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I60-3

The Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is severely deficient in many areas and not technically sound in its analysis. It fails to present accurate or complete data regarding lighting, noise, and traffic impacts. No lighting or sound measurements were taken from nearby residential vantage points, and the EIR does not address the cumulative effects of event parking, on-street congestion, and the lack of adequate onsite parking. In addition, it fails to evaluate peak-event impacts, when traffic volumes, lighting use, and noise levels would be at their highest, or to consider the need for parking and traffic controls, as well as appropriate security measures for both event attendees and nearby residents. These omissions render the report incomplete under the intent and standards of CEQA.

Response I60-3

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents; and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking. Also see Response I60-2 regarding traffic.

Comment I60-4

Our residents are not opposed to allowing student athletic practices, and it would be reasonable for such activities to continue until approximately 7:30 p.m., similar to existing use at the school's tennis courts and swimming pool. However, any expansion into "stadium-style" use carries the risk of incremental additions such as spectator seating and amplified events that could permanently alter the nature of the facility, and therefore have real negative impacts on our residential neighborhoods. We strongly urge the District to remove any intention of creating or evolving toward stadium-level use.

Response I60-4

This comment states that nighttime practices should be limited to 7:30 p.m. and that the Draft EIR should be redone. Please see Responses I60-2 and I60-3 regarding noise, lighting, traffic, and parking impacts. This comment opposes the proposed project but does not raise any specific environmental issues regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I60-5

Furthermore, the proposed inclusion of “non-school" related activities in the project scope is undefined and unexamined in the Draft EIR. There is no discussion of what these uses entail, how often they might occur, or what impacts they may have on nearby communities. To maintain transparency and public trust, the District must remove this provision entirely. Doing so would reassure residents that the project’s intent is limited to legitimate school purposes and not open-ended community or commercial uses.

Response I60-5

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I60-6

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your continued service to our students and the Irvine community.

Sincerely,

Dennis Lo, Resident of Orchard Hills Village III - The Reserve

Response I60-6

This comment serves as a conclusionary sentence. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I61. Xiangli Liu, 11/12/2025

Comment I61-1

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

I am writing to express my concerns of the proposed Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project. As a long-time resident of the Northwood neighborhood, I am deeply concerned that this project will irreversibly damage the quiet and semi-rural character of our community.

Response I61-1

This comment states that the commentor has concerns about the proposed project and serves as an introduction to the comment letter. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I61-2

Our neighborhood is a peaceful residential area surrounded by orchard groves and open space, where residents value quite environment, dark night skies, minimal noise, and light evening traffic. The introduction of four 70-foot light poles, an amplified public-address system, and expanded nighttime athletic events beyond Northwood High school uses will bring new and ongoing light, noise, and vehicle impacts into an area not designed for this level of activity.

Response I61-2

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents; and Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines.

Comment I61-3

Although the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) concludes that these impacts are “less than significant,” that finding does not reflect the reality our community will experience. The DEIR identifies no mitigation measures to address increased lighting, noise, or traffic. Instead, it relies on technical assumptions that underestimate the actual day-to-day disruption these

facilities will cause. Without enforceable restrictions on event frequency, hours of operation, or sound levels, there are no real protections for nearby residents.

Response I61-3

Please see Response I61-2 regarding lighting, noise, or traffic impacts.

Comment I61-4

Furthermore, the public outreach for this project was inadequate. Many affected homeowners were unaware of the proposed project. One scoping notice and limited online postings do not constitute meaningful engagement for a project with citywide implications.

Response I61-4

Please see Topical Response 4, *Community Outreach*, which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. Therefore, the CEQA process for this project has been appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred.

Comment I61-5

With the installation of permanent lighting and a PA system, Northwood High School would effectively become a regional event facility serving the entire City of Irvine, rather than a neighborhood school. The DEIR even acknowledges that the fields would be available for outside user groups under the Civic Center Act. This means our quiet residential area would host large-scale community or city events at night — bringing in additional traffic, parking congestion, and noise far beyond what is appropriate for a neighborhood setting.

Response I61-5

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events, and Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking. Also see Response I61-2 regarding lighting, noise, or traffic impacts. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I61-6

Once these changes are made, the peaceful character of our community cannot be restored. For these reasons, I urge the Irvine Unified School District and the board to reject this project and instead select the No Project Alternative outlined in the DEIR. Northwood High can

continue to provide outstanding educational opportunities without imposing citywide event impacts on its surrounding neighborhoods.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Response I61-6

This comment urges the District and the District Board of Education to reject the proposed project and also serves as a conclusionary paragraph. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I62. Henry Cheng, 11/12/2025

Comment I62-1

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods.

Response I62-1

This comment states that the commentor has concerns about the proposed project and serves as an introduction to the comment letter. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I62-2

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours.

Response I62-2

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation ,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines; Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how concerns regarding trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA; Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; and Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which

describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment I62-3

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community.

Response I62-3

Please see Response I62-2 regarding noise, lighting, traffic, parking, and neighborhood security impacts.

Comment I62-4

We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts.

Response I62-4

This comment states that nighttime practices should be limited to 7:30 p.m. and that the Draft EIR should be redone.

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how neighborhood security is not an environmental topic to be addressed under CEQA. Also see Responses I62-2 regarding noise, lighting, traffic, and parking impacts. This comment opposes the proposed project but does not raise any specific environmental issues regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I62-5

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community.

Sincerely,

Henry Cheng, M.D.

Family Medicine Physician

Orchard Hills Resident

Response I62-5

This comment serves as a conclusionary sentence. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

I63. Albert Liu, 11/12/2024

Comment I63-1

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We want to make you aware of the Irvine Unified School District's (IUSD) proposed project to install stadium lighting and a public address system at Northwood High School. The District has released a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR), and today is the final day to submit public comments.

Response I63-1

This comment does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I63-2

This project matters greatly to our community. It introduces permanent nighttime operations beyond the school's current use and will intensify ongoing traffic, parking, and noise issues that have already cost our association nearly $100,000 over the years in added fencing, security, landscape replacement, and parking-related expenses. Homes in Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza will be closest to the field and most directly affected by noise, light, traffic, and parking impacts.

Response I63-2

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents; and Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines.

Also see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No further response is warranted and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I63-3

The Draft EIR is severely deficient in its analysis. It fails to evaluate any residential impacts, including noise, light spillage, traffic congestion, overflow parking, security, or speeding concerns. Measurements were limited to the football field and Portola Parkway, ignoring surrounding neighborhoods entirely.

Thank you,

Albert Liu

Orchard Hill Resident

Response I63-3

Please see Response 163-2.

The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. Please see Topical Responses 1, 2, 3, and 6 regarding impacts on lighting, noise, transportation, and security. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

I64. Daniel Yafei Guo, 11/04/2025

Comment I64-1

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

I am a resident of Orchard Hills and recently became aware of the proposed Northwood High School field lighting and PA speakers project.

Response I64-1

This comment introduces the commenter but does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I64-2

I am deeply concerned as to why the immediately adjacent neighborhoods were not informed or consulted during the preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The Draft EIR fails to address critical residential neighborhood impacts in several key areas. For example, it overlooks traffic and overflow parking into our communities, which is already a daily problem, and does not analyze peak game-day conditions for noise, traffic, or lighting spillage. The Draft EIR also incorrectly assumes that attendees would use public transportation, even though there is no OCTA bus route along Portola Parkway. It further lacks any plan for security or coordination with the Irvine Police Department to manage illegal parking, trespassing, and loitering in our private neighborhoods, which directly affects residents' quiet enjoyment.

Response I64-2

Please see Topical Response 4, *Community Outreach,* which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. Therefore, the CEQA process for this project has been appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred. Also, please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents, and Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines.

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which describes how trespassing, property damage, and parking are not environmental topics to be addressed under CEQA. The Draft EIR is intended to disclose potential physical environmental effects, not to address social or economic considerations unless they would result in a physical change to the environment. No further response is warranted and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

The Draft EIR does not assume attendee reliance on public transportation in the analysis of transportation impacts. As shown in Chapter 3.8, *Transportation*, of the Draft EIR, information regarding public transportation was included in the discussion of the existing transit facilities in the vicinity of the project site. The Draft EIR does not include public transit as a mitigation measure, nor was it included in the analysis of impacts to circulation plans, VMT, design hazards, or emergency access. Therefore, no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I64-3

While the project scope and disclosure filings with the State clearly and repeatedly state that the purpose of the proposed lights and PA speakers includes hosting non-school related events, the Draft EIR provides no explanation of what these "non-school events" are, how often they would occur, or what limits or other restrictions would apply, including traffic control, parking management, and community security. This complete lack of analysis leaves significant uncertainty about the scale and nature of potential uses.

Response I64-3

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. No further response is warranted and no revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I64-4

Even giving the District the benefit of the doubt, and taking the project scope at face value, the cost-benefit analysis does not appear to justify the installation of permanent stadium lights and loudspeakers for only five or six home football games a year. The resulting permanent disruptions, neighborhood impacts, and unnecessary costs to taxpayers cannot be justified by the limited and short-term benefits this project would provide.

Response I64-4

This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue. As directed by

§ 15131(a) of the CEQA Guidelines, economic or social effects of a project shall not be treated as significant effects on the environment. Therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I64-5

I strongly urge the Board to drop this project or, at minimum, reject the current flawed Draft EIR and require a full redo of the EIR process to correct its fundamental deficiencies, including meaningful consultation with nearby residential communities and a genuine analysis of the true impacts on surrounding neighborhoods.

Thank you for your reconsideration.

Sincerely,

Daniel Yafei Guo

Response I64-5

The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. The Draft EIR did not identify any significant unavoidable impacts, and impacts would be less than significant with the mitigation measures identified. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

I65. Shiqi Chen, 11/04/2025

Comment I64-1

Dear Members of the Board,

I am writing to express my concerns of the proposed Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project. As a long-time resident of the Northwood neighborhood, I am deeply concerned that this project will irreversibly damage the quiet and semi-rural character of our community

Response I65-1

This comment introduces the commenter and opposes the proposed project but does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the Draft EIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

Comment I65-2

Our neighborhood is a peaceful residential area surrounded by orchard groves and open space, where residents value quite environment, dark night skies, minimal noise, and light evening traffic. The introduction of four 70-foot light poles, an amplified public-address system, and expanded nighttime athletic events beyond Northwood High school uses will bring new and ongoing light, noise, and vehicle impacts into an area not designed for this level of activity

Response I65-2

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents; and Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines.

Comment I65-3

Although the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) concludes that these impacts are “less than significant,” that finding does not reflect the reality our community will experience. The DEIR identifies no mitigation measures to address increased lighting, noise, or traffic. Instead, it relies on technical assumptions that underestimate the actual day-to-day disruption these

facilities will cause. Without enforceable restrictions on event frequency, hours of operation, or sound levels, there are no real protections for nearby residents.

Response I65-3

The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. The Draft EIR did not identify any significant unavoidable impacts, and impacts would be less than significant with the mitigation measures identified.

Comment I65-4

Furthermore, the public outreach for this project was inadequate. Many affected homeowners were unaware of the proposed project. One scoping notice and limited online postings do not constitute meaningful engagement for a project with citywide implications.

Response I65-4

Please see Topical Response 4, *Community Outreach,* which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. Therefore, the CEQA process for this project has been appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred.

Comment I65-5

With the installation of permanent lighting and a PA system, Northwood High School would effectively become a regional event facility serving the entire City of Irvine, rather than a neighborhood school. The DEIR even acknowledges that the fields would be available for outside user groups under the Civic Center Act. This means our quiet residential area would host large-scale community or city events at night—bringing in additional traffic, parking congestion, and noise far beyond what is appropriate for a neighborhood setting.

Response I65-5

Please see Topical Response 5, *Non-school Events*, which describes the nature and purpose of proposed non-school events. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment I65-6

Once these changes are made, the peaceful character of our community cannot be restored. For these reasons, I urge the Irvine Unified School District and the board to reject this project and instead select the No Project Alternative outlined in the DEIR. Northwood High can continue to provide outstanding educational opportunities without imposing citywide event impacts on its surrounding neighborhoods.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Best Regards,

Shiqi Chen

Response I65-5

This comment does not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. However, this comment is not a direct comment on the content or adequacy of the DEIR and does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required.

2.4.3 Community Meeting Comment Cards

CC1. Maria Hensley, 10/20/2025

Comment CC1-1

Noise along Portola from cars will be increased. This is not significant is a false statement.

Response CC1-1

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which includes a discussion of traffic-related noise. Also see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment CC1-2

Speeding – cars use Portola & Orchard Hills Rd as racetrack.

Response CC1-2

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines. Unsafe driving behavior on public roadways is an existing enforcement issue under the jurisdiction of local law enforcement and is not a physical environmental impact caused or exacerbated by the project. As directed by § 15131(a) of the CEQA Guidelines, social effects of a project shall not be treated as significant effects on the environment. Therefore, no further response is required. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment CC1-3

Mitigation in the meeting discussed were just around construction.

Response CC1-3

The Draft EIR identifies feasible mitigation measures to reduce the project's potential environmental impacts to less-than-significant levels, consistent with CEQA Guidelines §15126.4. Impacts related to light spillage, noise, and transportation were determined to be less than significant (see Topical Response 1, 2, and 3); thus, no mitigation measures are required for these topics. CEQA does not require mitigation measures beyond what is necessary to reduce

significant impacts to less-than-significant levels. Therefore, the Draft EIR's mitigation and monitoring measures are adequate, enforceable, and consistent with CEQA requirements.

Comment CC1-4

Where is money coming from to pay for this project when it is not needed.

Response CC1-4

The comment does not provide a specific issue regarding the detailed technical analyses contained within the DEIR regarding a specific environmental issue. The District has prepared the DEIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The DEIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. The District acknowledges the commenter's concerns regarding the proposed project, and This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. This comment does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required. No revisions to the DEIR are necessary.

CC2. Corinne Giesemann, 10/20/2025

Comment CC2-1

1. Concern re: Financial cost. Allocation of our tax dollars. Probably better to allocate funds to more pressing needs. Our athletes have had plenty & adequate accommodation @ our 4+ fields (lighted) in Irvine: UHS, IHS, PHS, Crean Lutheran, Beckman.

Response CC2-1

The comment does not provide a specific issue regarding the detailed technical analyses contained within the DEIR regarding a specific environmental issue. The District has prepared the DEIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The DEIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. The District acknowledges the commenter's concerns regarding the proposed project, and This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. This comment does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required. No revisions to the DEIR are necessary.

Comment CC2-2

2. Affect on Ecosystem: Would like study on affect on wildlife with light, noise, traffic.

Response CC2-2

The Draft EIR confirmed that the High School is not located within a biologically sensitive area or a migratory corridor (see Chapter 5), ensuring the proposed project will not impact wildlife or sensitive species. Additionally, the California Department of Fish and Game Region 5 and the California Department of Conservation received copies of the NOP and NOA and were invited to provide comments. Neither agency elected to provide any comments. The information provided meets all CEQA requirements, and no further analysis or changes to the Draft EIR are necessary.

Comment CC2-3

3. Concern re: speeding along Orchard Hills Drive (occurs currently)

Response CC2-3

Please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines. Unsafe driving

behavior on public roadways is an existing enforcement issue under the jurisdiction of local law enforcement and is not a physical environmental impact caused or exacerbated by the project. As directed by § 15131(a) of the CEQA Guidelines, social effects of a project shall not be treated as significant effects on the environment. Therefore, no further response is required. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment CC2-4

4. Overflow parking. Back to school Night traffic already overflows into surrounding residential communities.

Response CC2-4

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

Comment CC2-5

5. Find it hard to believe less insignificant noise

- Not signif, who?
- We hear fireworks from Anaheim + other cities
- They echo though our hills
- Noise
- The wildlife in the Orchard Hills preserves are most definitely to be impacted
- This analysis only took into account construction noise
- Athletic noise would not have significant impacts, but the PA system would + music/band
- Traffic (speeding on the Orchard Hills Rd) can be heard already. It is likely to increase

Thank you.

Response CC2-5

Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

2.4.4 Verbal Comments

V1. John Duong, 10/20/2025

Comment V1-1

This comment raises concerns regarding a typo in Chapter 3.1, Aesthetics of the Draft EIR. This comment also states that there is no mass transit connecting to the Northwood High School Campus and raises concerns regarding the noticing process of proposed project.

Response V1-1

The typo referenced by the commenter has been corrected. Please see Chapter 3, *Revisions to the Draft EIR*, of this Final EIR for all revisions made to the Draft EIR. Additionally, please see Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines. The Draft EIR does not assume attendees' reliance on public transportation in the analysis of transportation impacts. As shown in Chapter 3.8, *Transportation*, of the Draft EIR, information regarding public transportation was included in the discussion of the existing transit facilities in the vicinity of the project site. The Draft EIR does not include public transit as a mitigation measure, nor was it included in the analysis of impacts to circulation plans, VMT, design hazards, or emergency access.

Please see Topical Response 4, *Community Outreach,* which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA. The NOA was sent to multiple residences within a 500-foot radius of the campus. On September 29, 2025, it was also sent to the HOA leadership, as requested, for review and distribution to residents. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. Therefore, the CEQA process for this project has been appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred.

V2. Maria Hensley, 10/20/2025

Comment V2-1

This comment states that the commenter did not receive an email that the project was moving forward. This comment also expresses concerns regarding traffic noise, and requests that police be present if the proposed project is implemented.

Response V2-1

Please see Topical Response 4, *Community Outreach,* which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA. The NOA was sent to multiple residences within a 500-foot radius of the campus. On September 29, 2025, it was also sent to the HOA leadership, as requested, for review and distribution to residents. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. Therefore, the CEQA process for this project has been appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred. Additionally, please see Topical Response 2, *Noise,* which describes how operational noise impacts from the proposed project, including traffic-related noise, would not be significant for nearby residents.

The commenter's suggestions regarding police presence are at the discretion of the City of Irvine Police Department and do not raise an environmental issue regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR. The City of Irvine Police Department received copies of the NOP and NOA and was invited to provide comments; the City of Irvine Police Department did not provide any comments. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

V3. Jerry Barnes, 10/20/2025

Comment V3-1

This comment states that the commenter finds it very difficult to believe that there will be no impacts to nearby residents.

Response V3-1

The District has prepared the Draft EIR in compliance with the CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, § 15000 et seq.). The Draft EIR provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's potential environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives, consistent with CEQA requirements. The Draft EIR sufficiently evaluated impacts to nearby sensitive receptors (residential units) from light, glare, and noise (see Topical Responses 1, 2, and 3). The Draft EIR did not identify any significant unavoidable impacts, and impacts would be less than significant with the mitigation measures identified. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

V4. Corinne Giesemann, 10/20/2025

Comment V4-1

This comment states that the Draft EIR should take into account lighting, band and audience noise, and speeding cars. This comment also states that other current campuses in the District meet student's needs.

Response V4-1

Please see Topical Response 1, *Light and Glare*, which describes how the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts regarding light and glare; Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents; and Topical Response 3, *Transportation,* which describes that DEIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines.

Regarding other campuses in the District, the comment does not raise a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process.

V5. Dennis Low, 10/20/2025

Comment V5-1

This comment raises concerns regarding notification of the Draft EIR to HOAs.

Response V5-1

Please see Topical Response 4, *Community Outreach,* which describes the noticing process and distribution of the NOP and NOA. The NOA was sent to multiple residences within a 500-foot radius of the campus. On September 29, 2025, it was also sent to the HOA leadership, as requested, for review and distribution to residents. The District provided multiple avenues for public participation and disclosure consistent with CEQA's public review and noticing requirements. Therefore, the CEQA process for this project has been appropriately implemented, and no procedural violations occurred.

V6. Dave Petka, 10/20/2025

Comment V6-1

This comment inquires where people will sit during football games, and how overflow parking will be accommodated.

Response V6-1

Please see Topical Response 6, *Non-CEQA Issues*, which addresses comments received regarding parking. The proposed project would not include new bleachers or additional football games on the campus, as Varsity tackle football games would continue to be held at Irvine High School.

V7. Shawn Rombut, 10/20/2025

Comment V7-1

This comment expresses concerns about noise and traffic. This comment also states that the opportunity for a new football stadium is gone.

Response V7-1

Please see Topical Response 2, *Noise*, which describes how the District has decided to remove the PA system from the proposed project, and how operational noise impacts from the proposed project would not be significant for nearby residents, and Topical Response 3, *Transportation*, which describes how the Draft EIR accurately assesses impacts related to transportation consistent with the CEQA Guidelines. Also, the proposed project is not a stadium project, and does not include any bleachers or increase in student, staff, or visitor capacity. Events at the site will be limited to football practices and other sports, such as soccer and lacrosse, and community events. Northwood HS Varsity tackle football games will continue to be hosted at Irvine High School.

V8. Josh Guo, 11/10/2025

Comment V8-1

This comment opposes the proposed project.

Response V8-1

The comment does not provide a specific issue regarding the detailed technical analyses in the Draft EIR regarding a specific environmental issue; therefore, no further response is required. This comment has been provided to the District for its consideration as part of the project review and approval process. No revisions to the Draft EIR are necessary.

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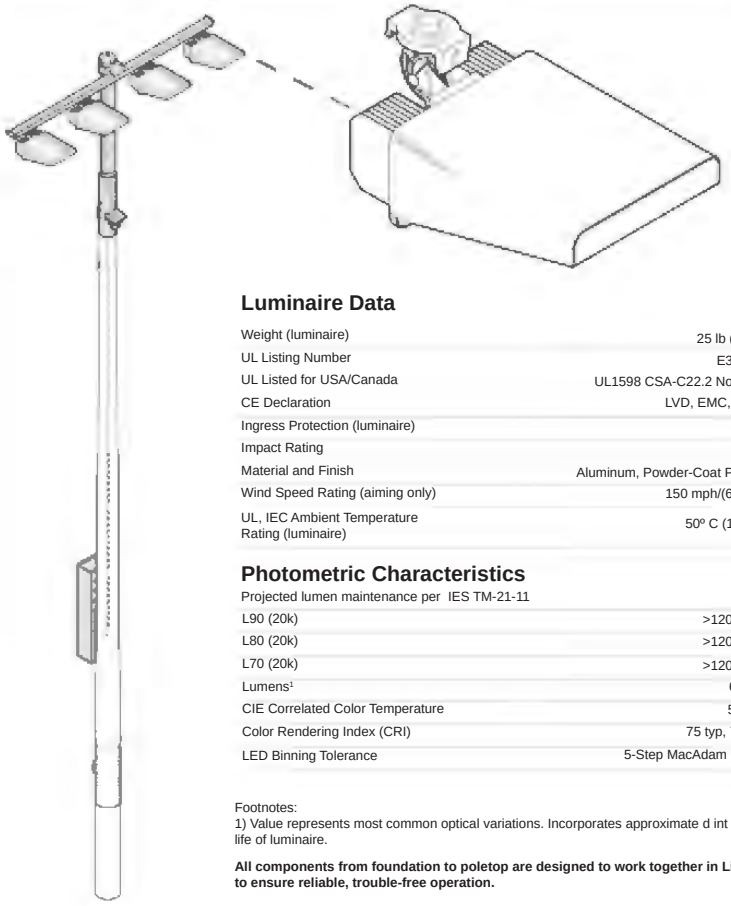
Figure 1 - Proposed Lighting Fixtures

Total Light Control™ - TLC-LED-550 Luminaire



Datasheet: Light-Structure System ™

TLC-LED-550 Luminaire and Driver



Luminaire Data

Weight (luminaire)	25 lb (11 kg)
UL Listing Number	E338094
UL Listed for USA/Canada	UL1598 CSA-C22.2 No 250.0
CE Declaration	LVD, EMC, RoHS
Ingress Protection (luminaire)	IP66
Impact Rating	IK07
Material and Finish	Aluminum, Powder-Coat Painted
Wind Speed Rating (aiming only)	150 mph/(67 m/s)
UL, IEC Ambient Temperature Rating (luminaire)	50º C (122º F)

Photometric Characteristics

Projected lumen maintenance per IES TM-21-11

L90 (20k)	>120,000 h
L80 (20k)	>120,000 h
L70 (20k)	>120,000 h
Lumens[1]	67,000
CIE Correlated Color Temperature	5700 K
Color Rendering Index (CRI)	75 typ, 70 min
LED Binning Tolerance	5-Step MacAdam Ellipse

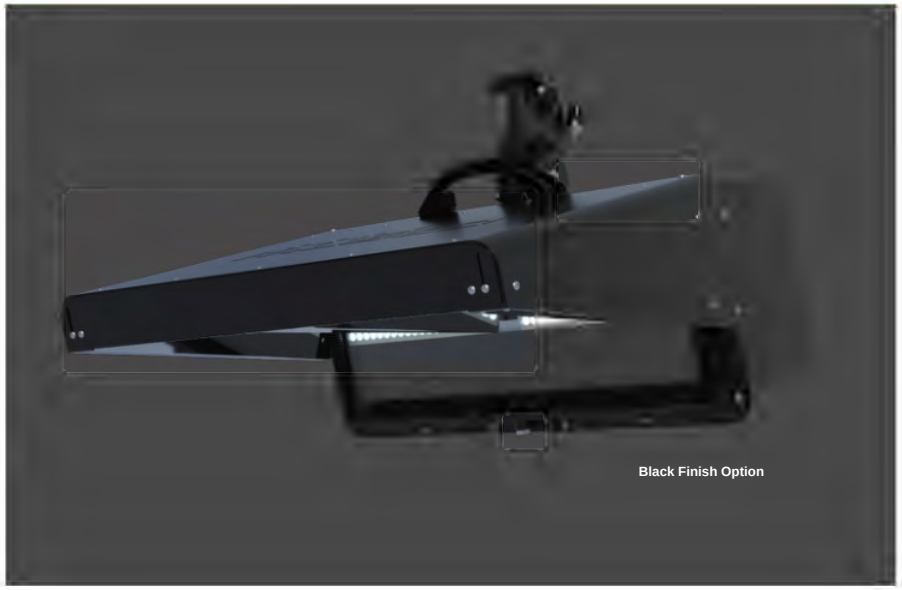
Footnotes:
1) Value represents most common optical variations. Incorporates approximate d int depreciation factor for life of luminaire.

All components from foundation to poletop are designed to work together in Light-Structure System™ to ensure reliable, trouble-free operation.

Source: MUSCO 2025.

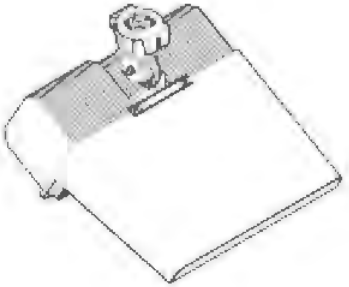
Figure 1 - Proposed Lighting Fixtures

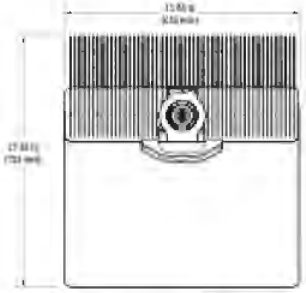
Total Light Control™ - TLC-LED-550 Luminaire

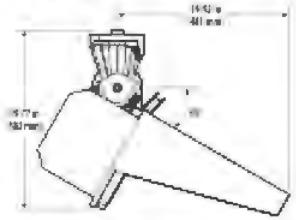


Black Finish Option

Datasheet: TLC-LED-1500 Luminaire and Driver







Luminaire Data

Weight (luminaire)	67 lb (30 kg)
UL Listing Number	E338094
UL Listed for USA/Canada	UL1598 CSA-C22.2 No 250.0
CE Declaration	LVD, EMC, RoHS
Ingress Protection (luminaire)	IP66
Impact Rating	IK07
Material and Finish	Aluminum, Powder-Coat Painted
Wind Speed Rating (aiming only)	150 mph/(67 m/s)
UL, IEC Ambient Temperature Rating (luminaire)	50º C (122º F)

Photometric Characteristics

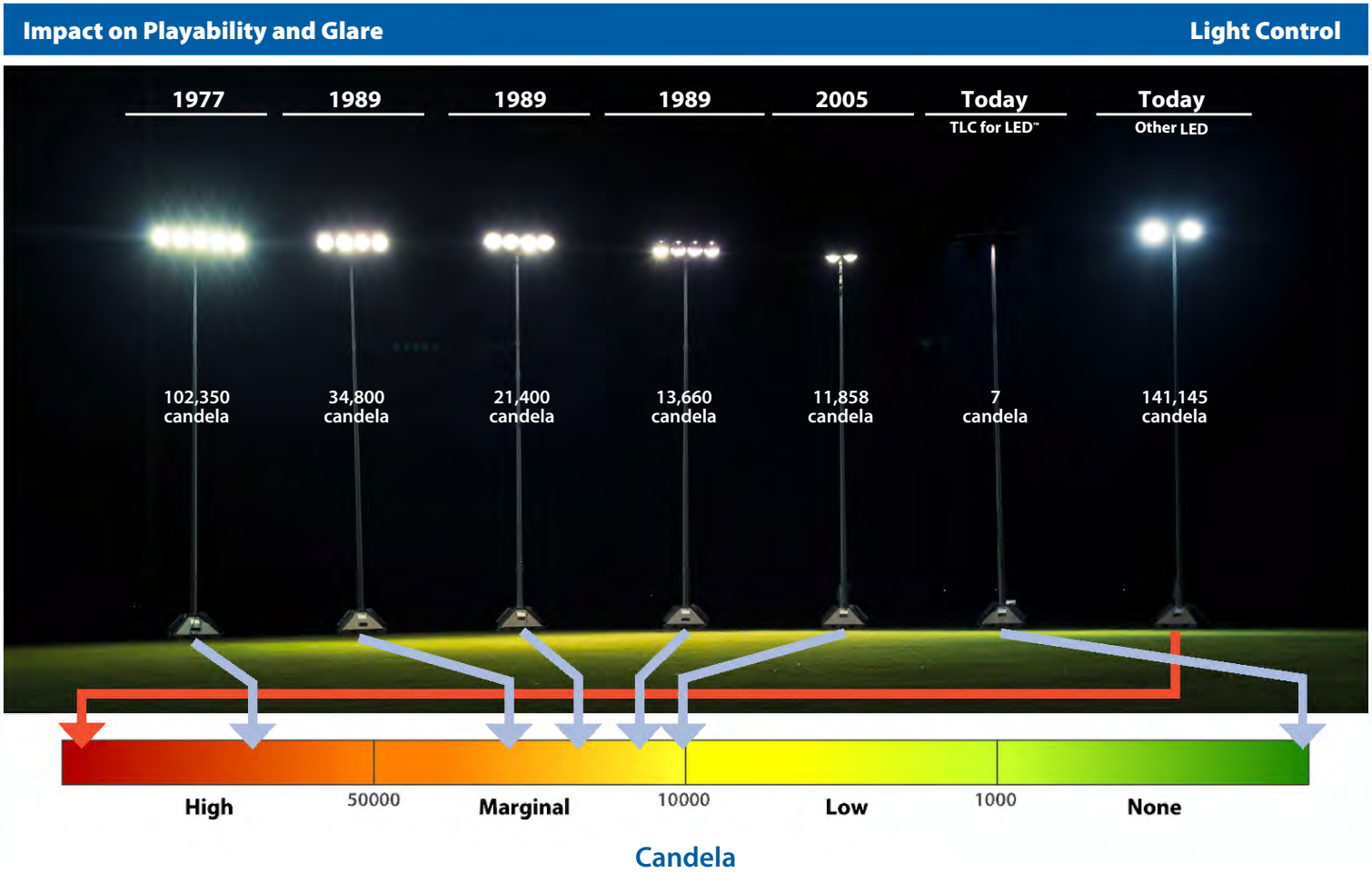
Projected lumen maintenance per IES TM-21-11

L90 (20k)	>120,000 h
L80 (20k)	>120,000 h
L70 (20k)	>120,000 h
Lumens[1]	181,000
CIE Correlated Color Temperature	5700 K
Color Rendering Index (CRI)	75 typ, 70 min
LED Binning Tolerance	5-Step MacAdam Ellipse

Footnotes:
1) Value represents most common optical variations. Incorporates approximate d int depreciation factor for life of luminaire.

Source: MUSCO 2025.

Figure 2 - Proposed Lighting Examples



Candela values (single fixture) reported from photometric reports at 15˚ above the beam center.

Photographed at 100 ft (30 m) from field edge. Used equal parameters for: on-field light level per pole, mounting height, luminaire aiming angles, and pole distance from aiming point.

Source: MUSCO 2021.

Figure 2 - Proposed Lighting Examples



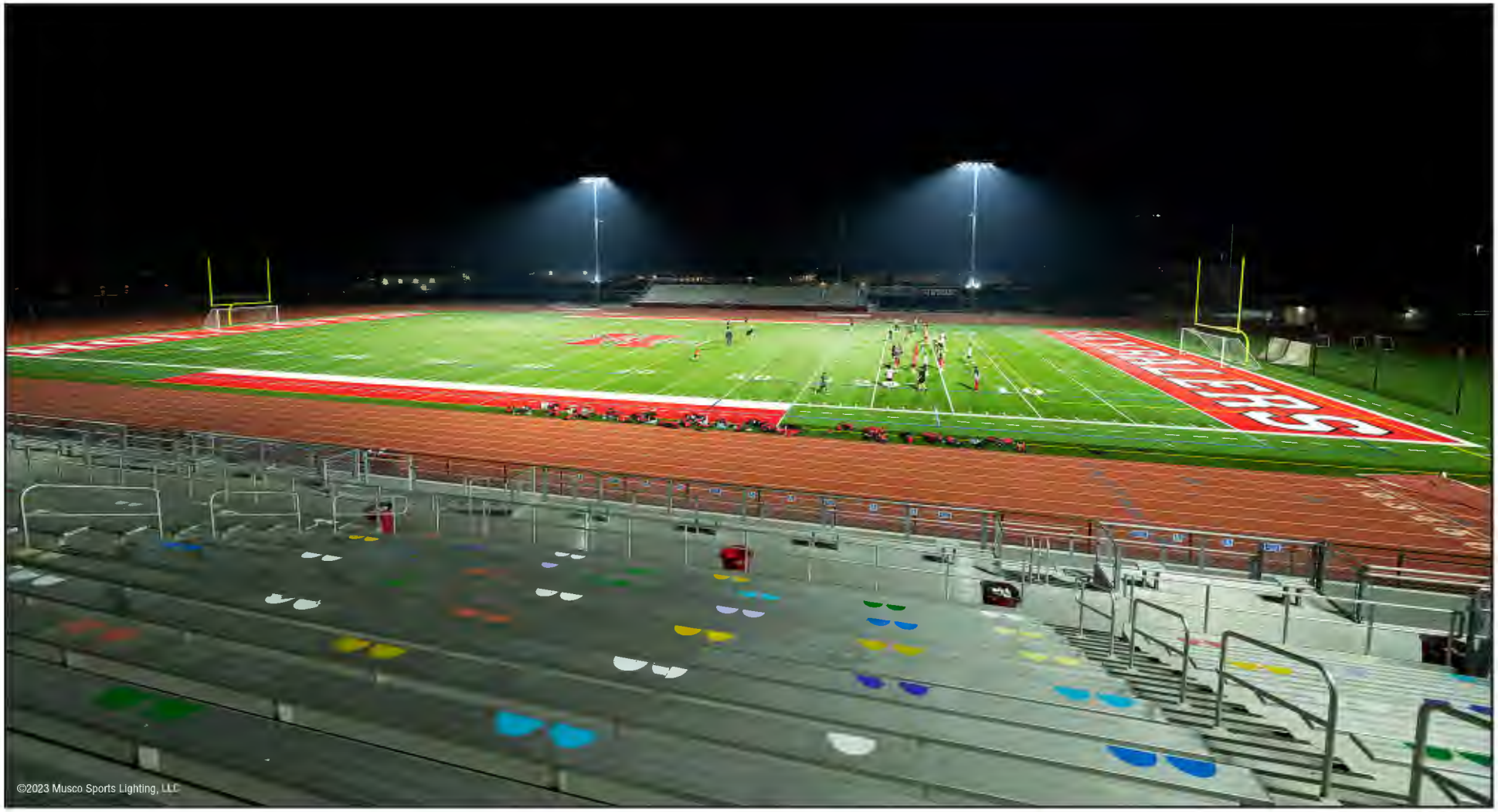
Source: MUSCO 2023.

Figure 2 - Proposed Lighting Examples



Source: MUSCO 2023.

Figure 2 - Proposed Lighting Examples



Source: MUSCO 2023.

3. REVISIONS TO THE DRAFT EIR

3.1 INTRODUCTION

This section contains revisions to the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) in response to comments from agencies, organizations, and the public, as well as staff-directed changes. These text revisions include typographical corrections, insignificant modifications, and amplifications and clarifications of the Draft EIR. For each revision, the Draft EIR page and location on the page are identified, followed by the textual, tabular, or graphical revision.

Double underlined text represents language that has been added to the EIR; text with ~~strikethrough~~ represents language that has been deleted from the Draft EIR. None of the revisions to the Draft EIR constitute significant new information, as defined in California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15088.5; therefore, the Draft EIR does not need to be recirculated.

3.2 DRAFT EIR REVISIONS

3.2.1 Revisions to Significant Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Section ES.4, *Summary of the Proposed Project*, page ES-3:

The proposed project would include the installation of new permanent field lights around the existing football field ~~and infrastructure to allow for a future public address (PA) system~~. The football field is expected to be used until 9~~10~~:00 p.m. and include new events/uses of the fields during light operating hours that would include band practice; flag football, Freshman and JV tackle football, lacrosse, and soccer games; and track and field events that are currently held off-campus.

The proposed text change does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Section ES.5, *Summary of Project Alternatives*, Section ES.5.2, *Restricted Hours Alternative*, page ES-4:

Under the Restricted Hours Alternative, the proposed Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project would be implemented and would include the installation of four new athletic field lights around the existing football field ~~and infrastructure to allow for a future public address (PA) system~~.

The proposed text change does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Section 2.4.3, *Existing Conditions*, page 2-9:

Existing Athletic Facilities

The project site consists of an existing track and field located in the southern portion of the Northwood HS campus that is surrounded by a chain link fence. The existing field consists of a synthetic turf field that currently used for Freshman and JV tackle football, flag football, soccer, track, and lacrosse games. The field also includes black netting along the northeastern and southwestern sides of the field, and aluminum benches for the athletes on the northern and southern sides of the field.

The track consists of an all-weather track that surrounds the synthetic turf field, along with track and field equipment. The track and field also includes an equipment storage building and scoreboard located in the southern portion of the track and field.

Athletic/Events Schedule

Northwood HS hosts various sports events and other school events. The existing sports events include Freshman and JV tackle football, flag football, girls and boys soccer, girls and boys lacrosse, and track and field. The track and field also hosts band events. Table 2-1, *Northwood High School Existing Athletics/Events Schedule*, shows the existing schedule for sports events and other school events.

Table 2-1 Northwood High School Existing Athletics/Events Schedule

Activity/Use	Anticipated Number of Home Events	Days of Week	Times		Maximum Number of Attendees
			Start	End	
Tackle Football (August to November)					
Freshman Football	5 per year	Tuesday or Wednesday	3:30 pm	6:00 pm	250~~200~~
Junior Varsity Football	5 per year	Wednesday	3:30 pm	6:30 pm	250~~200~~
~~Varsity Football~~	~~7 per year~~	~~Wednesday or Thursday~~	~~2:30 pm~~	~~6:00 pm~~	~~200~~
Flag Football (August to November)					
Junior Varsity Flag Football	6 per year	Monday or Wednesday	3:30 pm	6:00 pm	130
Varsity Flag Football	12 per year	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Friday	2:30 pm	6:00 pm	130
Band (August to November)					
Band	30 per year	Wednesday or Thursday	7:00 am	8:30 am	230
Soccer (November to February)					
Girls Junior Varsity Soccer	9 per year	Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday	3:15 pm	5:30 pm	160~~140~~
Girls Varsity Soccer	10~~8~~ per year	Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday	2:30 pm	5:30 pm	160~~140~~
Boys Fresh/Soph Soccer	9 per year	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday	3:15 pm	5:30 pm	160~~140~~
Boys Junior Varsity Soccer	9 per year	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday	3:15 pm	7:00 pm	160~~140~~
Boys Varsity Soccer	12 per year	Monday, Tuesday,	2:30 pm	5:30 pm	160~~140~~

Table 2-1 Northwood High School Existing Athletics/Events Schedule

Activity/Use	Anticipated Number of Home Events	Days of Week	Times		Maximum Number of Attendees
			Start	End	
		Wednesday Thursday, or Friday			
Lacrosse (February to May)					
Girls Junior Varsity Lacrosse	5 per year	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday	3:30 pm	7:15 pm	150~~140~~
Girls Varsity Lacrosse	9 per year	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday	2:30 pm	5:30 pm	150~~140~~
Boys Junior Varsity Lacrosse	3 per year	Monday or Wednesday	4:45 pm	7:15 pm	150~~140~~
Boys Varsity Lacrosse	8 per year	Monday, Wednesday, or Friday	2:30 pm	5:30 pm	150~~140~~
Track and Field (February to May)					
Track and Field	5~~4~~ per year	Wednesday, Thursday, or Saturday[1]	3:00 pm	6:00 pm	400

Source: Irvine Unified School District, 2025.

[1] Saturday Events start at 8:00 a.m.

The proposed text change does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Section 2.6.1, *Description of the Project*, page 2-13:

The proposed project would consist of the installation of four new athletic field lights around the existing football field ~~and infrastructure to allow for a future PA system~~. The proposed project would also consist of trenching for the installation of an electrical line to provide electricity for the four athletic field lights and is anticipated to disturb approximately 1,500 square feet. The proposed project would allow for events occurring off-campus to be held on

the Northwood HS campus. Events would consist of sports games and practices, other school events, and non-school events.

The proposed project would not require the demolition of any existing structures, and no new buildings would be constructed on the campus. Additionally, the proposed project would not increase the student capacity or enrollment at Northwood HS.

Athletic Field Lights

The proposed project includes the installation of four new athletic field lights located adjacent to the existing track and field. Two light poles with athletic field lights would be located on the northwest border of the track and field and two light poles with athletic field lights would be located on the southeast border of the track and field (see Figure 2-4, *Conceptual Site Plan*). Each light pole would be approximately 70 feet in height, include ~~12~~ 9 light fixtures, and have a load capacity of 66.64 kilowatts (kW). The athletic field lighting would be directed toward the field and would be used to add lighting for nighttime sporting events, other school events, and non-school events.

Additionally, from the power distribution equipment and lighting control equipment, a single electrical conduit line would connect to a power system pullbox that would be installed to connect the electrical conduit line to the existing conduit line; see Figure 2-4.

~~PA System~~

~~The proposed project is anticipated to include the infrastructure to allow for a future permanent PA system. The future PA system would consist of four speakers with one speaker attached to each lighting pole. To accommodate this potential system, an electrical conduit line may be installed underneath the track and field to connect the speakers to the pullboxes located in the northern and southern portions of the project site. The speakers would be used during sporting events, other school events, and non-school events.~~

Hardscaping

The proposed project is anticipated to include expansion of hardscaping, which would be limited to the installation of the athletic field light poles and installation of the power distribution equipment and lighting control equipment. The light poles would be installed by setting the athletic field light poles in concrete. A concrete pad would be installed for the area that would include the power distribution equipment and lighting control equipment. Additionally, installation of the conduit lines would result in demolition and then the reinstallation of existing hardscaping. Installation of the conduit lines would not result in an expansion of hardscaping. No other areas would be hardscaped.

The proposed text change does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Section 2.6.2, *Event Scheduling*, page 2-14 to page 2-17:

The proposed improvements at Northwood HS may be used for sporting events and practices, other school events, and non-school events. The proposed event scheduling is contingent upon District operational needs and may be modified at the District's discretion. Sporting events and practices are anticipated to consist of Freshman and JV 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. Table 2-2, *Northwood High School Proposed Athletics/Events Schedule*, shows the proposed sports activities, days, and times.

Similar to the existing athletics schedule, the tackle football season would begin in August and conclude in November. Varsity tackle football practices would be held at Northwood HS and games would continue to be held at Irvine High School. The Freshman tackle football is projected to include five home games that would be played on Tuesdays or Wednesdays from 3:30 pm to 6:00 pm and Junior Varsity tackle football would include five home games during the season on Wednesday nights which would occur from 3:30 pm to 6:30 pm. The Freshman and Junior Varsity schedules would be the same as the existing athletics schedule and the maximum number of attendees is not expected to increase under the proposed schedule. ~~The proposed Varsity tackle football schedule would include 10 home games per year on Thursdays or Fridays from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. This would be different than the existing schedule in which seven home games are played on Wednesday or Thursday from 2:30 pm to 6:00 pm and have 200 maximum attendees. Additionally, the maximum number of attendees is expected to increase under the proposed schedule by 50 attendees each for the Freshman, Junior Varsity, and Varsity games.~~

Similar to the existing athletics schedule, the flag football season is projected to begin in August and conclude in November. The Junior Varsity flag football team would play six home games per year on Mondays or Wednesdays, which would start at 4:30 pm and end at 6:00 pm. Additionally, the Varsity flag football team would play 12 home games per year on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Fridays with start times at 2:30 pm and end times at 6:00 pm at the latest. The proposed Junior Varsity and Varsity flag football schedules would remain the same as the existing schedule, and the maximum number of attendees for the Junior Varsity and Varsity games would remain the same.

Band practices are anticipated to occur approximately 30 times per year and would occur from 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Band practices utilizing the track and field would start in August and end in

November. The band practice schedule would remain the same as the existing schedule and the number of maximum attendees would remain the same.

Similar to the existing athletics schedule, the girls and boys soccer seasons are projected to begin in November and conclude in February. The girls Junior Varsity soccer team would play nine home games per year on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, or Fridays, which would start at 3:15 pm and end at 5:30 pm. The girls Junior Varsity soccer team's proposed schedule would remain the same as the existing schedule and the maximum number of attendees is not expected to increase under the proposed schedule~~., however the maximum number of attendees is expected to increase from 140 to 175~~. The girls Varsity soccer team would play 10 home games per year on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, or Fridays, which would start at 5:00 pm and end at 9:00 pm. Compared to the existing events schedule, the days of the week would remain the same, but the proposed events schedule may change the times from 2:30 pm to 5:30 pm to 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm and the maximum number of attendees is not expected to increase under the proposed schedule ~~the maximum number of attendees is expected to increase from 140 to 175~~.

The boys Fresh/Soph soccer team would play nine home games per year on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Fridays, which would start at 3:15 pm and end at 5:30 pm. The boys Junior Varsity soccer team would play nine home games per year on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Fridays, which would start at 3:15 pm and end at 7:00 pm. The existing events schedule and the maximum number of attendees for the Fresh/Soph and Junior Varsity boys would remain the same~~, but the number of attendees is expected to increase from 140 to 160~~. The boys Varsity soccer team would play 12 home games per year on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Fridays, which would start at 5:00 pm and end at 9:00 pm. Compared to the existing events schedule, the number of proposed games would not change but the days of the week may change from Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays or Fridays to Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Fridays. Additionally, the maximum number of attendees is not expected to increase under the proposed schedule ~~the number of attendees is expected to increase from 140 to 160~~.

Similar to the existing athletics schedule, the girls and boys lacrosse seasons are projected to begin in February and end in May. The girls Junior Varsity lacrosse team would play five home games per year on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays, which would start at 3:30 pm and end at 7:15 pm. The existing girls Junior Varsity lacrosse team schedule would not be different from the proposed events schedule~~, but~~ and the maximum number of attendees is not expected to increase under the proposed schedule ~~from 140 to 150~~. The girls Varsity lacrosse team would play nine home games per year on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays, which would start at 5:00 pm and end at 9:00 pm. Compared to the existing events schedule, the number of games and days of the week would remain the same under the proposed events schedule, but the times may change from 2:30 pm to 5:30 pm to 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

Additionally, the maximum number of attendees is not expected to increase under the proposed schedule. ~~the number of attendees is expected to increase from 140 to 150.~~

The proposed text change does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Section 2.6.2, *Event Scheduling*, page 2-18:

The boys Junior Varsity lacrosse team would play three home games per year on Mondays or Wednesdays, which would start at 4:45 pm and end at 7:15 pm. The existing boys Junior Varsity lacrosse team schedule would not be different from the proposed events schedule~~, but~~ and the number of attendees is not expected to increase under the proposed schedule ~~from 140 to 150~~. The boys Varsity lacrosse team would play eight home games per year on Mondays, Wednesdays, or Fridays, which would start at 5:00 pm and end at 9:00 pm. Compared to the existing events schedule, the number of games and days of the week would remain the same under the proposed events schedule, but the times may change from 2:30 pm to 5:30 pm to 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Additionally, the maximum number of attendees is not expected to increase under the proposed schedule. ~~the number of attendees is expected to increase from 140 to 150.~~

The track and field season is projected to begin in February and end in May. The track and field team would have five home track and field events per year on Wednesdays, Thursdays, or Saturdays which would start at 3:00 pm and end at 6:00 pm. The proposed track and field schedule ~~in~~ is not expected to increase the number of events ~~by one; however,~~ and the days of the week, the times for the events, and the maximum number of attendees would remain the same.

The athletic field lights are anticipated to be utilized throughout the year for school events and non-school events from dusk to 9:00 pm similar to the District's other high schools. As required by the Civic Center Act, the facilities would be available to outside user groups to utilize the athletic field lights from dusk to 9~~10~~:00 pm, which aligns with the City of Irvine hours of operation. The hours of operation can be extended via a variance from the City of Irvine and approval by the District Use of Facilities Department. The proposed schedule offers flexibility and may be subject to change. The District would have the authority to use lights for practices and events based on specific needs; thus, the event schedule may be adjusted for different school and community events.

Table 2-2 Northwood High School Proposed Athletics/Events Schedule[1]

Activity/Use	Anticipated Number of Home Events	Days of Week	Times		Maximum Number of Attendees
			Start	End	
Tackle Football (August to November)					
Freshman Football	5 per year	Tuesday or Wednesday	3:30 pm	6:00 pm	250
Junior Varsity Football	5 per year	Wednesday	3:30 pm	6:30 pm	250
~~Varsity Football~~	~~10 per year~~	~~Thursday or Friday~~	~~6:00 pm~~	~~9:00 pm~~	~~250~~
Flag Football (August to November)					
Junior Varsity Flag Football	6 per year	Monday or Wednesday	4:30 pm	6:00 pm	130
Varsity Flag Football	12 per year	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Friday	2:30 pm	6:00 pm	130
Band (August to November)					
Band	30 per year	Wednesday	4:30 pm	7:30 pm	230
Soccer (November to February)					
Girls Junior Varsity Soccer	9 per year	Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday	3:15 pm	5:30 pm	160~~175~~
Girls Varsity Soccer	10 per year	Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday	5:00 pm	9:00 pm	160~~175~~
Boys Fresh/Soph Soccer	9 per year	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Friday	3:15 pm	5:30 pm	160
Boys Junior Varsity Soccer	9 per year	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Friday	3:15 pm	7:00 pm	160
Boys Varsity Soccer	12 per year	Monday, Tuesday,	5:00 pm	9:00 pm	160

Table 2-2 Northwood High School Proposed Athletics/Events Schedule[1]

Activity/Use	Anticipated Number of Home Events	Days of Week	Times		Maximum Number of Attendees
			Start	End	
		Wednesday, or Friday			
Lacrosse (February to May)					
Girls Junior Varsity Lacrosse	5 per year	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday	3:30 pm	7:15 pm	150
Girls Varsity Lacrosse	9 per year	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday	5:00 pm	9:00 pm	150
Boys Junior Varsity Lacrosse	3 per year	Monday or Wednesday	4:45 pm	7:15 pm	150
Boys Varsity Lacrosse	8 per year	Monday, Wednesday, or Friday	5:00 pm	9:00 pm	150
Track and Field (February to May)					
Track and Field	5 per year	Wednesday, Thursday, or Saturday	3:00 pm	6:00 pm	400

Source: Irvine Unified School District

The proposed text change does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Section 3.1, *Aesthetics*, Section 3.1.2, *Existing Conditions*, page 3.1-3:

VIEWSHEDS AND SCENIC VISTAS

Scenic vistas are panoramic views of features such as mountains, forests, the ocean, or urban skylines. The city of Irvine ~~Placentia~~ is primarily developed with urban uses and also includes several prominent landforms, such as the Santiago Hills, northern flatlands, central flatlands, and San Joaquin Hills. The project site is not located within a scenic vista or scenic corridor. The

nearest scenic areas are the Santiago Hills, which are approximately 3.7 miles northeast of the project site.

The proposed text change does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Section 3.1, *Aesthetics*, Section 3.1.4, *Project Impact Analysis*, page 3.1-10:

The project site is in an urbanized area. According to the US Census Bureau, the City of Irvine has a population of approximately 318,683 (US Census 2025), which meets the definition of an urbanized area (at least 100,000) as defined in the PRC section 21071, Urbanized Area. The existing vertical elements of the campus that are visible from the residential areas to the south, permanent sidewalk light poles near the tennis courts, score board, trees, fencing, basketball hoops, and school buildings. The proposed project includes the installation of four 70-foot light poles with ~~12~~ 9 light fixtures. The project is consistent with the existing campus zoning and land use designation. Implementation of the proposed project would not violate any regulations governing scenic quality. As the project site is already developed with school uses, the proposed light poles would not interfere with public views, including background views of Santiago Hills, and would not conflict with regulations governing scenic quality. Therefore, impacts would be **less than significant**.

Significance without Mitigation: Less than significant.

The proposed text change does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Section 3.1, *Aesthetics*, Section 3.1.4, *Project Impact Analysis*, page 3.1-12:

Generation of Glare

The design elements for glare control include mounting height, visors and shielding, aim, and reflective housing around the lamp. The project would also use 900W fixtures resulting in maximum spill control. As part of the proposed project, the lighting engineer would ensure that the lights are properly adjusted and maintained so that glare would not impact the surrounding community (see Figure 3-1.2 through 3.1-7). Additionally, the highest measured light level at 150 feet from the field remains at or below 0.1 fc, and the nearest residential property line to the south of the project site is located beyond the 150 feet boundary line. The proposed project would not cause any measurable increase in lighting at nearby residential properties. In general, all school activities are scheduled to end by 9:00 p.m., and community use would end by 9~~10~~:00

p.m. The project would not result in a substantial new source of glare that would affect nighttime views in the area. Therefore, this impact is **less than significant**.

Significance without Mitigation: Less than significant.

The proposed text change does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Section 3.2, *Air Quality*, Section 3.2.4, *Standards for Analysis*, page 3.2-30:

As stated in Section 2.6.1, *Description of the Project*, the proposed project would entail the installation of four athletic field lights around the existing football field~~,~~ and utility trenching for the electrical lines~~, and infrastructure to allow for a future Public Address (PA) system~~. The proposed project would allow for events occurring off-campus to be held on the Northwood HS campus and would not impact student or staff capacity at Northwood HS.

The proposed text change does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Section 3.2, *Air Quality*, Section 3.2.5, *Project Impact Analysis*, page 3.2-31:

The proposed project would entail the renovation of the existing track and field with the addition of field lighting ~~and infrastructure to allow for a future PA system~~ to accommodate Northwood HS sports activities, other school activities, and non-school events. Implementation of the proposed project would not involve any residential development and would not have a direct impact on local resident growth assumptions for the City. In addition, the proposed project would involve improvements to an existing campus without increasing student or employment capacity and would not substantially influence the employment growth forecasts for the City. Thus, the proposed project is not anticipated to substantially affect demographic projections beyond what is accounted for in the current 2022 AQMP. Therefore, the proposed project would be consistent with the AQMP under the first criterion.

The proposed text change does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Section 3.2, *Air Quality*, Section 3.2.5, *Project Impact Analysis*, page 3.2-36:

Operation of the proposed project would not generate substantial emissions from onsite stationary sources. Land uses that have the potential to generate substantial stationary sources of emissions include industrial land uses, such as chemical processing and warehousing operations where truck idling would occur onsite and would require a permit from South Coast AQMD. The proposed project would entail the renovation of the existing track and field with addition of field lighting ~~and infrastructure to allow for a future PA system~~, which does not fall within these categories of uses. Localized air quality impacts related to operation-related emissions would be **less than significant**.

Carbon Monoxide Hotspots

Since South Coast AQMD currently does not have adopted CO hotspot screening criteria, Bay Area Air District's recommended threshold was used in this analysis. Under existing and future vehicle emission rates, a project would have to increase traffic volumes at a single intersection to more than 44,000 vehicles per hour—or 24,000 vehicles per hour where vertical and/or horizontal air does not mix—to generate a significant CO impact (Bay Area Air District 2023).

The proposed project would result in a maximum of 150 new peak hour trips ~~during football games~~ and a maximum of 2,460 intersection turning counts at the intersection of Portola Parkway and Yale Avenue (refer to Appendix F). As such, the proposed project would not add vehicle trips to the regional roadway network to cause an exceedance of 44,000 vehicles per hour or 24,000 vehicle per hour where vertical and/or horizontal mixing is substantially limited at an intersection.

The proposed text change does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Section 3.5, *Hazards and Hazardous Materials*, Section 3.5.4, *Project Impact Analysis*, page 3.5-18:

The proposed project would consist of the installation of four new stadium lights located adjacent to the existing track and field, ~~infrastructure to allow for a future Public Address (PA) system,~~ utility trenching, and hardscaping. No manufacturing, industrial, or other uses using large amounts of hazardous materials would occur within the Northwood HS campus. Operation of the proposed project would not transport, use, store, or dispose of hazardous materials beyond typical school facilities such as cleaning and maintenance supplies (e.g., cleaners, paint, pesticides). Operation of the proposed project would use cleaners and other chemicals in small quantities, which is not typically considered hazardous materials that could result in a significant

hazard to the public or the environment. No new uses on-site are proposed. Compliance with applicable federal and state laws and regulations governing the use, storage, transport, and disposal of hazardous materials would ensure that all potentially hazardous materials are used and handled in an appropriate manner and would minimize the potential for safety impacts to occur. Therefore, the proposed project would not create substantial hazards to the public or the environment. Impacts would be **less than significant**.

The proposed text change does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Section 3.5, *Hazards and Hazardous Materials*, Section 3.5.4, *Project Impact Analysis*, page 3.5-19:

The project site is located on the Northwood HS campus. The proposed project would consist of installing four new stadium lights located adjacent to the existing track and field, ~~infrastructure to allow for a future PA system,~~ utility trenching, and hardscaping. As stated in Section 3.5(a), construction activities would require small amounts of hazardous materials, including vehicle fuels, lubricants, grease, and transmission fluids. Additionally, operation of the proposed project would transport, use, store, and dispose of small amounts of hazardous materials typical of school facilities such as cleaning and maintenance supplies (e.g., cleaners, paint, pesticides). Operation of the proposed project would use cleaners and other chemicals in small quantities, which is not typically considered hazardous materials that could result in a significant hazard to the public or the environment. The proposed project would also comply with applicable federal and state laws and regulations governing the use, storage, transport, and disposal of hazardous materials.

The proposed text change does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Section 3.5, *Hazards and Hazardous Materials*, Section 3.5.4, *Project Impact Analysis*, page 3.5-22:

The proposed project would consist of installing four new stadium lights located adjacent to the existing track and field, ~~infrastructure to allow for a future PA system,~~ and utility trenching. These improvements would occur entirely within the boundaries of the campus, and access is provided via Yale Avenue and Northwood High School Private Road. Construction activities would be limited in scope and duration and would not require road closures or significant changes to on- or off-site circulation. The proposed project would have no impact on emergency

response or evacuation plans. The project site is located within Evacuation Management Zone: Orchard Hills 1D and evacuation routes in the vicinity include Wolf Trail and a portion of Yale Avenue, which connect to the portion of Yale Avenue and Northwood High School Private Road that serves the school (City of Irvine 2025). The proposed project would not alter the existing access or egress points, nor would it result in any permanent changes to road capacity, traffic controls, or emergency access routes. Adequate evacuation routes would continue to be provided to the project site.

The proposed text change does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Section 3.6, *Hydrology and Water Quality*, Section 3.6.4, *Project Impact Analysis*, page 3.6-13:

Grading, excavation, and construction activities associated with the proposed project may impact water quality through soil erosion and increasing the amount of silt and debris carried in runoff. Additionally, the use of construction materials such as fuels, solvents, and paints may present a risk to surface water quality. Finally, the refueling and parking of construction vehicles and other equipment on-site during construction may result in oil, grease, or related pollutant leaks and spills that may discharge into the storm drain system.

The proposed project consists of the installation of four new athletic field lights around the existing football field. ~~and infrastructure to allow for a future Public Address (PA) system~~.

The proposed text change does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Section 3.6, *Hydrology and Water Quality*, Section 3.6.4, *Project Impact Analysis*, page 3.6-17:

As described in Section 3.6.4(c)(i), the proposed project would not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the project site or the surrounding area. The proposed project would result in the installation of four new stadium lights located adjacent to the existing track and field ~~and infrastructure to allow for a future PA system~~. The expansion of hardscaping would be limited to the installation of the athletic field light poles and the concrete pad for the installation of the power distribution equipment and lighting control equipment. The proposed project would result in a minor increase of impervious surfaces onsite, approximately 1,500 total square feet. Stormwater from the proposed project would flow to onsite stormwater facilities and to stormwater drainage system in the public right of way like existing conditions.

The proposed text change does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Section 3.7, *Noise*, Section 3.7.4, *Project Impact* Analysis, page 3.7-24:

The athletic field lights are anticipated to be utilized throughout the year for school events and non-school events from dusk to 9:00 p.m. similar to other high schools within the District. As required by the Civic Center Act, the facilities would be available to outside user groups to utilize the athletic facilities from dusk to 9~~10~~:00 p.m., which aligns with the City's hours of operation (Municipal Code Section 3-4-127). The hours of operation can be extended via a variance from the City of Irvine and approval by the District Use of Facilities Department. The proposed schedule offers flexibility and may be subject to change. The District would have authority over the use of lights for practices and events based on specific needs; thus, the event schedule may be adjusted for different school and community events. ~~The proposed project is anticipated to include infrastructure to allow the implementation of a future PA system. The speakers would be oriented towards the audience in the spectator areas. The speakers may be used during sporting events, other school events, and non-school events.~~

The ~~future PA system's~~ primary onsite operational noise sources associated with flag football, Freshman and JV tackle football, soccer, lacrosse, and track ~~sports~~ events and other school events would include ~~a PA system with speakers mounted on light poles modeled at a height of 20 feet,~~ ~~spectator~~ attendee cheering from western home side and eastern visitor side ~~bleachers~~, on-field players and referee whistle blasts for ~~football~~ games. A Track and Field event would have a maximum capacity event of up to 400 attendees ~~spectators~~. ~~A football event would have a maximum capacity of up to 250 spectators.~~ The nearest residential uses are located to the south of the track and field across Portola Parkway and are shielded by an existing 6-foot sound wall. Sports events and other school events are temporary periodic (not daily) events that occur throughout the school year Monday through Saturday during regular campus operating hours (2:30 pm to 9:00 pm, see Table 2-2). Attendee ~~Spectator~~ capacity would range from 130 participants to up to 400 participants. Existing sports events and other school events at the track and field range from 130 to 400 attendees ~~participants~~. Band activities would remain the same.

The proposed text change does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Section 3.7, *Noise*, Section 3.7.4, *Project Impact* Analysis, page 3.7-25 to page 3.7-26:

Four new field lights (light fixtures and poles) ~~with infrastructure to allow for a future PA system~~ would be installed at the existing track and field on campus as part of the proposed project. The proposed project's operational scenarios were modeled using SoundPLAN computer software. SoundPLAN uses industry-accepted propagation algorithms based on International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and ÖAL-28 standards for outdoor sound propagation. The modeling calculations account for classical sound wave divergence (spherical spreading loss with adjustments for source directivity from point sources) plus attenuation factors due to air absorption and ground effects. Additionally, SoundPLAN provides for other correction factors, including level increases due to reflections, source directivity, and source tonality.

The most conservative scenarios modeled included existing and future conditions for ~~both football games~~ track and field events, as these event~~s~~ would have the most ~~spectator~~ attendees ~~and PA system activity~~. Additionally, the proposed project does not include the addition of a PA system, and Varsity tackle football games would continue to be held at Irvine High School. See Appendix E for modeling results. SoundPLAN noise modeling estimated noise levels at the receptor locations, representing the nearest residential receptors to the project site.

The proposed text change does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Section 3.7, *Noise*, Section 3.7.4, *Project Impact* Analysis, page 3.7-26:

Table 3.7-9 SoundPLAN Modeled Noise Levels, dBA Leq

Receptors	Ambient Measurement dBA L_{eq}	Modeling Scenario, dBA L_{eq}			Increase Over Ambient, dBA[1]	
		~~Existing Football~~	~~Future Football~~	Future Track and Field	~~Future Football~~	Future Track and Field
R-1 - 101 Stallion	48.4	~~35.0~~	~~35.0~~	30.4	~~><1~~	>1
R-2 - 78 Winslow Lane	47.8	~~26.7~~	~~26.7~~	23.2	~~><1~~	>1
R-3 - 1020 Timberwood	64.7	~~40.5~~	~~40.5~~	37.8	~~><1~~	>1

Source: SoundPLAN. See Appendix E.

[1] Modeling includes PA system and Varsity tackle football game scenarios; however, the project does not include a PA system, and Varsity tackle football games would occur off-site.

As shown in Table 3.7-9, future sports events noise levels range from 23.2 dBA to 40.5 dBA L_{eq} at the nearest noise sensitive receptors to the track and field. Proposed project noise levels attributable to sports events would be similar to existing noise levels, however, would occur during the evening hours and not extending past 9:00 pm. Table 3.7-9 also shows that future sports events at the track and field would result in noise levels more than 10 dBA below ambient noise conditions at the nearest noise sensitive receptors. In addition, future sports events at the track and field would also result in a negligible less than 1 dBA increase over ambient noise levels. The SoundPLAN modeling includes Varsity tackle football games and PA system activity, which are not part of the proposed project. Thus, actual operational noise levels would be lower than those modeled. Furthermore, Section 6-8-205 of the Municipal Code exempts school bands, school athletic and school entertainment events, provided said events are conducted on school property or authorized by special City permit from the noise level standards within Section 6-8-204 of the City of Irvine Noise Ordinance. Therefore, this impact would be **less than significant**.

The proposed text change does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Section 3.8, *Transportation*, Section 3.8.2, *Existing Conditions*, page 3.8-7:

EXISTING TRAFFIC VOLUMES

Manual traffic counts were taken at the three study area intersections during the Friday evening peak period on April 18, 2025. The peak hour for this analysis (6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.) refers to the one-hour time period prior to the beginning of a ~~varsity football~~ game at the field, which would ~~typically occur from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on a Friday and would~~ generate the highest number of attendees as compared to all other activities at the facility. The existing peak hour traffic volumes and turning movements are shown in Appendix F.

The proposed text change does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Section 3.8, *Transportation*, Section 3.8.3, *Standards for Analysis*, page 3.8-9:

Table 3.8-2 Project-Generated Traffic

Facility	Pre-Event Peak Hour			Daily Traffic
	Inbound	Outbound	Total	
Trip Generation Rates				
Athletic (vehicle trips per attendee)	0.55	0.05	0.60	1.20
Generated Traffic Volumes				
Average Day (85 additional attendees)	47	4	51	102
~~Football~~ Sports Game (250 attendees, 50 additional daily attendees)	138	12	150	60

Source: Garland Associated 2025 (Appendix F).
NOTE: ~~The varsity football games currently take place at the field, but during daylight hours.~~ The peak hour traffic volumes represent the shift to the evening starting times. The daily traffic volume represents an increase of 50 additional attendees per day.

Table 3.8-2 indicates that the facility would generate an estimated 51 vehicle trips during the peak hour (47 inbound and 4 outbound) and 102 daily trips on an average day with 85 additional attendees. The peak hour for this analysis represents the one-hour time period at the beginning of an event when patrons are traveling to the athletics field. Approximately the same level of traffic would be generated at the end of an event when patrons are exiting (with the inbound and outbound traffic volumes reversed).

INTERSECTION IMPACT ANALYSIS

The impact analysis for the three study area intersections was conducted by comparing the ICU values and LOS for the “without project” and “with project” scenarios. For the existing conditions scenario, the analysis compared the existing conditions to the conditions with the proposed project.

The comparative levels of service at the study area intersections for the existing conditions scenario are summarized in Table 3.8-3, *Project Impact on Intersection Levels of Service, Existing Conditions as Baseline*, for the Friday evening peak hour. The table shows the before and after ICU values and the LOS that would occur at each study area intersection. Also shown are the increases in the ICU values that would occur as a result of the proposed project. The last column in Table 3.8-3 indicates if the intersections would be significantly impacted by the project-generated traffic.

Table 3.8-3 Project Impact on Intersection Levels of Service, Existing Conditions as Baseline

Intersection	ICU Value and Level of Service		Increase in ICU Value	Significant Impact
	Existing Conditions	Existing Plus Project		
Signalized Intersections				
Portola Parkway/Yale Avenue	0.393 – A	0.429 – A	0.036	No
Portola Parkway/Orchard Hills Drive	0.408 – A	0.420 – A	0.012	No
Orchard Hills Drive/Wolf Trail	0.316 – A	0.316 – A	0.000	No

Source: Garland Associated 2025 (Appendix F).

Table 3.8-3 indicates that none of the study area intersections would be significantly impacted by the traffic that would be generated by the proposed project for a peak day event ~~(varsity football game)~~ for the existing conditions baseline scenario.

As the proposed project is expected to be fully completed in the fall of 2026, the first full year of operation for the facility would be the year 2027. The existing (2025) traffic volumes were expanded by a growth factor of 4.04 percent to account for general regional growth and the cumulative impacts of traffic associated with other development projects in the area. This growth factor represents a two percent annual growth rate for two years, compounded annually.

The comparative levels of service for the year 2027 analysis scenario are shown in Table 3.8-4, *Project Impact on Intersection Levels of Service, Year 2027 as Baseline*. Table 3.8-4 indicates that none of the study area intersections would be significantly impacted by the traffic that would be generated by the proposed project for a peak day event ~~(varsity football game)~~ for the year 2027 baseline scenario.

The proposed text change does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Section 3.8, *Transportation*, Section 3.8.4, *Project Impact Analysis*, page 3.8-12:

The proposed project would remain consistent with the 2024 SCAG RTP/SCS, Connect SoCal, as no changes to land use, or circulation are proposed. The goals of Connect SoCal are related to housing, transportation technologies, equity, and resilience. The proposed project would install stadium lighting~~, infrastructure to allow for a future Public Address (PA) system,~~ and associated

equipment. The proposed project would not interfere with the City's ability to continue to provide "complete streets" circulation improvements or Strategies 1, 2, and 3 of the SCAG Active Transportation Technical Report. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with Connect SoCal. Impacts would be **less than significant**.

The proposed text change does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Section 3.10, *Utilities and Service Systems*, Section 3.10.4, *Project Impact Analysis*, page 3.10-11:

Electricity is provided by SCE. The proposed project would connect to existing electric power infrastructure for operation. Underground system electrical conduit lines would be installed to connect the proposed stadium light poles to power distribution equipment and lighting control equipment that would be located north of the track and field. ~~Additionally, the proposed project would also include the installation of infrastructure to allow for a future Public Address (PA) system.~~

The proposed text change does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Section 4, *Alternatives to the Proposed Project*, Section 4.6, *Restricted Hours Alternative*, page 4-8:

Under the Restricted Hours Alternative, the proposed Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project would be implemented and would include the installation of four new athletic field lights around the existing football field ~~infrastructure to allow for a future public address (PA) system~~. Under this Alternative, the difference from the proposed project is that field use would be required to stop at 9:00 p.m. and lights would turn off at 9:00 p.m., instead of 10:00 p.m.

The proposed text change does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

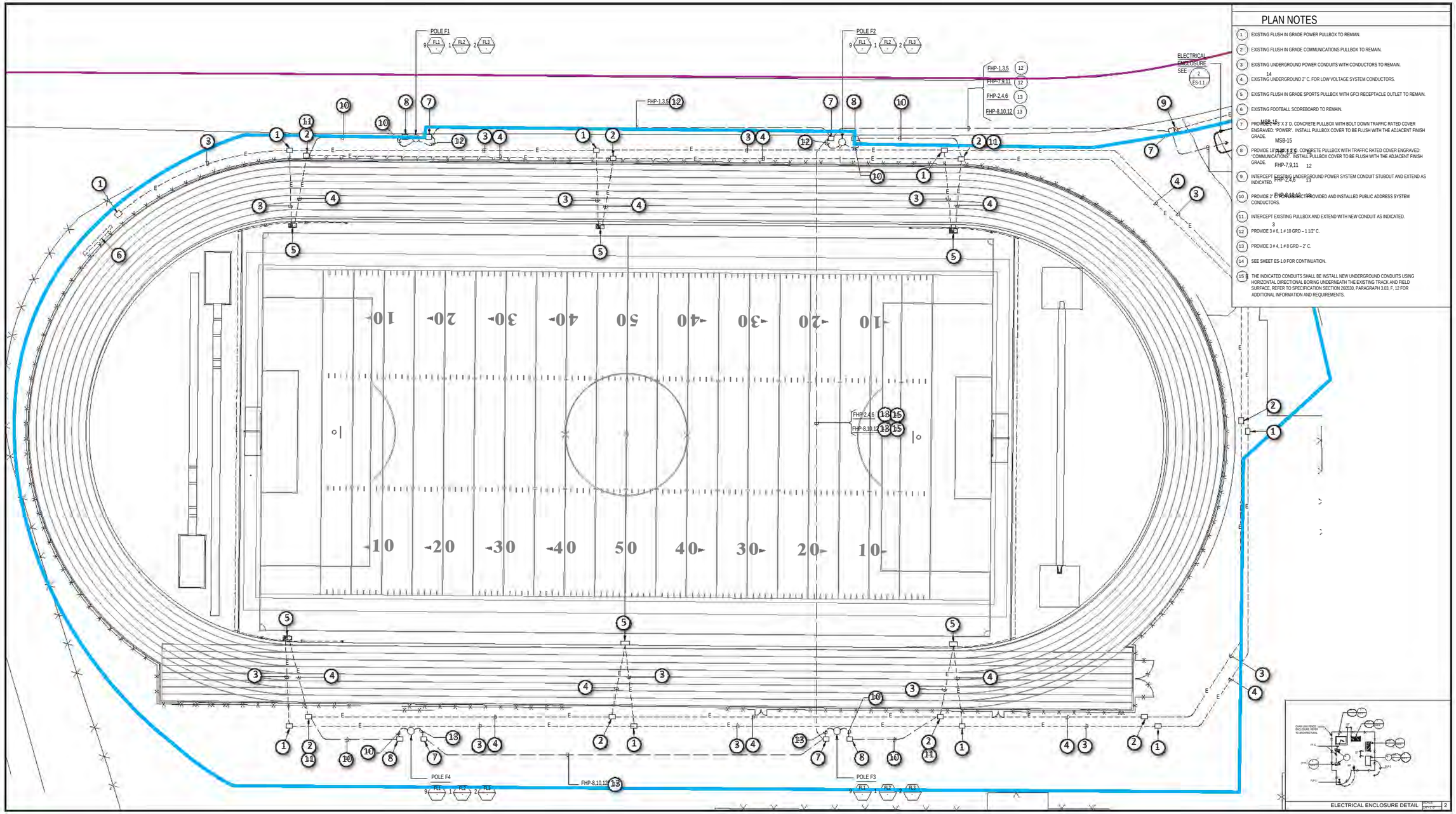
3.2.2 Revisions to Figures in the Draft EIR

The following Draft EIR figure has been revised in response to comments received during the public review period of the Draft EIR and removed the public address (PA) system from the proposed project:

Figure 2-4 - Conceptual Site Plan [Revised]

The proposed revision to the figure does not require recirculation of the EIR because it does not provide significant new information that would give rise to a new significant environmental impact; a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact; or suggest a project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed, that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Figure 2-4 - Conceptual Site Plan [REVISED]



Northwood High School Campus

Project Site

Source: Ruhnau Clarke 2025.

0 50
Scale (Feet)

Appendix A - Comment Letters Received

ORCHARD HILLS™
VILLAGE

Sent via Electronic Mail

October 20, 2025

Kathleen Gil
Facilities Planner, IUSD
c/o Irvine Unified School District Board of Education
Irvine Unified School District
[redacted]

RE: Community Opposition – Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Improvement Project (Draft Environmental Impact Report)

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board of Education,

On behalf of the Orchard Hills Village II Community Association (OHVII), representing 809 homes directly bordering Northwood High School on three sides, we respectfully submit this formal objection to the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Improvement Project.

O1-1

This letter supplements and reinforces OHVII's prior correspondence dated November 22, 2024, which registered our initial objection and requested direct notification of any CEQA-related actions. Unfortunately, those issues remain unresolved, and the current DEIR fails to provide a meaningful or adequate evaluation of the project's true impacts on the community most directly affected by it – the immediate neighboring residents of Northwood High. Instead of focusing on real, site-specific conditions and foreseeable effects on adjacent homes, the DEIR relies on generalized assumptions that overlook the very factors CEQA is intended to address.

I. Primary Community Concerns

Orchard Hills Village II is the only non-gated community within the greater Orchard Hills development, leaving our residents uniquely exposed to illegal parking, late-night traffic, and student trespassing, among other concerns. These risks are not hypothetical, they are ongoing, well-documented problems that the DEIR fails to acknowledge or address. O1-2

1. Noise Intrusion and Evening Disturbance – Residents already hear the school's marching band between 7:00 a.m. and 8:30 a.m., a daytime sound tolerated as part of normal school activity. If that is already clearly audible, the noise during evening football games, with an award-winning 300-member band, cheering crowds, and amplified PA systems, will be exponentially louder and far more disruptive. The DEIR's noise analysis is materially flawed. It relies on a single monitoring point along Portola Parkway rather than on-field measurements within our community and fails to model actual game-day peak events. By dismissing these impacts as "less than significant," the DEIR grossly understates the disturbance this project would cause. O1-3

2. Light Pollution and Visual Intrusion – Four 70-foot light poles with 12 fixtures each will cast glare directly into nearby homes, including second-story windows along our streets, particularly those abutting Twisted Oak, Bandana, and Stallion. Our community enjoys scenic hillside views, which the DEIR fails to acknowledge or protect. O1-4

As an example, Section 3.1.2 ("Existing Conditions") of the DEIR analyzes view sheds and vistas in the City of Placentia, a location entirely unrelated to this project. This is not a minor clerical error. It is a glaring example of a pro forma EIR that was never intended to assess actual on-site conditions or real-world impacts. The inclusion of irrelevant geography demonstrates that the report was prepared with a template-based, non-site-specific approach lacking any genuine evaluation of the physical environment or the surrounding residential community. It is therefore an extremely flawed study that fails to identify, quantify, or mitigate any of the visual and lighting impacts on the neighborhoods most directly affected by this project. Moreover, the DEIR conducts no analysis of candle-lumen intensity or ambient light spillage, another fundamental omission that disregards our residential conditions. These lights will create widespread ambient glow and degrade the nighttime environment. O1-5

3. Traffic, Parking, and Safety Risks – Our community already experiences unauthorized student parking, cut-through traffic, and pedestrian hazards. Parents are also using our private streets to drop off their students, further compounding congestion and safety concerns. Nighttime events will significantly worsen these conditions. The DEIR incorrectly assumes that some attendees will use "mass transit," yet no OCTA bus route serves Portola Parkway, virtually all attendees will drive. O1-6

As a real-world example, the football game between Orange High School and Northwood High School on Friday, October 17, 2025 (Northwood's Homecoming), held at Irvine High, overflowed with cars filling the entire dirt lot along the I-5 freeway. The traffic control supervisor onsite confirmed that attendance far exceeded projections, with 500–700 vehicles instead of 300. The DEIR fails to consider these firsthand experiences, let alone evaluate peak impacts like this event.

4. Cumulative Growth and Neighborhood Change – When Northwood High opened in 1999, surrounding development was minimal. Today, some 3,500 of the 4,000 approved homes have been built for Orchard Hills and adjoining communities. The DEIR fails to reflect this changed environment, relying instead on outdated baseline assumptions inconsistent with CEQA §15125(a). Moreover, the avocado orchards immediately abutting the school's sports fields are slated to be turned over to OHVII by the Irvine Company within the next several years under an existing agreement. Once transferred, these areas will become part of the residential community, eliminating the current open-space buffer and bringing our community even closer to the field, further amplifying light, noise, and traffic impacts that the DEIR fails to evaluate. O1-7

5. Unresolved Trespassing, Drop-Offs, and Property Damage – For years, OHVII has dealt with illegal parking, student trespassing, and property damage to association-maintained areas. We have spent nearly $100,000 on fencing, replanting, and security, while also contending with parents dropping off students inside our private streets. Despite our repeated communications with Northwood administrators over the past several years, these issues remain unresolved. We expect IUSD to address these problems as a good neighbor would, not expand activities that exacerbate them. This project will only add insult to injury, deepening an already untenable situation for nearby residents. O1-8

6. No Demonstrated Need for the Project – Northwood administrators have confirmed they did not request this project. Most athletic practices and games occur immediately after school, not at night. For over 25 years, the school has successfully operated using existing daylight facilities and shared facilities with other schools. Installing permanent lighting and a new PA system introduces unnecessary costs and negative community impacts, a solution seeking to solve a non-existing problem. O1-9

[redacted]

7. Quality of Life and Property Value Impacts – This project will undoubtedly reduce our community's overall quality of life, introducing continuous traffic congestion, illegal parking, noise, and trespassing that will necessitate higher HOA fees to manage. These recurring disturbances will have a direct and adverse impact on property values. O1-10

Before pursuing new capital projects, IUSD must first address the current problems, including minimum adequate staffing to cite fence climbers, increased fence height, deterrent vegetation along Northwood's property line, and other preventative measures to reduce hazards and liability exposure. These are known, documented issues that the DEIR completely ignores. We expect any satisfactory mitigation to include measures that actively involve and engage our community in their design and enforcement. If this DEIR is not substantially corrected, OHVII is prepared to pursue every recourse available to safeguard the welfare and property interests of our community. O1-11

II. Legal Deficiencies Under CEQA

The DEIR is inadequate and noncompliant with CEQA for the following reasons: O1-12

- Improper Baseline – Fails to represent existing residential conditions (§15125(a)).
- Segmentation of Related and Future Impacts – Violates CEQA §15165 by omitting foreseeable future components such as potential PA system expansion, constituting unlawful segmentation of related activities. O1-13
- Failure to Analyze Cumulative Impacts – Ignores combined effects of lighting, PA operations, and traffic (§15130). O1-14
- Insufficient Mitigation and Monitoring – Lacks enforceable standards for decibel limits, light spillage, parking control, and community oversight. O1-15
- Deficient Public Notice and Outreach – Despite OHVII's written request, the Association and other directly adjacent homeowners were not properly notified or engaged regarding the DEIR (§15087(a)). O1-16

III. Constructive Alternatives and Requested Actions

IUSD should maintain the existing, proven operating model in place since 1999. Portola High School and Irvine High School already possess fully lighted athletic fields, originally designed and intended to accommodate Northwood High's nighttime athletic use. Northwood football played at Portola High for approximately two years before returning to Irvine High. Continuing to use these shared facilities, as has been successfully practiced for over two decades and remains the most logical, cost-efficient, and least disruptive solution for both students and surrounding residents. O1-17

Should IUSD wish to explore new athletic field opportunities in the future, the District should engage with the City of Irvine regarding the planned Gateway Preserve Park (former All American Asphalt site). That location could potentially support expanded athletic programming while avoiding residential conflicts entirely. O1-18

If the District continues to pursue this project at Northwood High, it must begin with, but not be limited to:

- Recirculating the DEIR to correct baseline, analytical, and notification deficiencies. O1-19
- Conducting supplemental studies on noise, lighting (including candle-lumen levels), and traffic conditions based on actual game-night data.

[redacted]

- Adopting enforceable and satisfactory mitigation measures—including curfews, shielding, full-time security/towing service guarding our communities and private streets during all night activities, community participation, and ongoing monitoring.
- Establishing a Community Impact Mitigation Agreement with OHVII and, if appropriate, the City of Irvine before any project approval.

O1-19 cont

While we value collaboration and recognize IUSD's role in serving students, we are equally committed to protecting the well-being and property interests of our residents. Should the District proceed without addressing these deficiencies, OHVII is prepared to pursue all legal remedies under CEQA.

O1-20

Respectfully submitted,

Orchard Hills Village II Community Association

John Duong
President, Board of Directors
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

Comment Letter O2

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments - RE: Draft EIR, Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Project

Attachments: LanesEnd Letter to IUSD - 11-10-25.pdf

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil, President McEwen, and Members of the IUSD Board,

Please find the enclosed letter from the LanesEnd Community Association regarding the Draft Environmental Report (EIR) for the proposed Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Improvement Project. This letter represents the Board's formal public comment and outlines our community's concerns with the Draft EIR and the significant impacts this project would have on surrounding neighborhoods. We respectfully request that this correspondence be included in the official public record for the Draft EIR.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Dave Petka

President, Board of Directors
LanesEnd Community Association



[redacted]

November 10, 2025

Irvine Unified School District Board of Education
c/o Kathleen Gil, Facilities Planner
[redacted]

RE: Public Comment – Opposition to Draft EIR, Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Improvement Project

Dear President McEwen and Members of the Board,

I am writing on behalf of the LanesEnd community in Northwood Pointe. We recently became aware of IUSD's intention to install stadium lights and loud amplified speakers at Northwood High School. Our Board of Directors met on November 4 and voted unanimously to oppose the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR), given its many flaws and the significant impacts this project would have on nearby residents. O2-1

Our community is located directly across Portola Parkway from the Northwood High School football field. The Northwood Pointe neighborhood was developed just before the high school opened in 1999. At that time, IUSD made a conscious decision not to include stadium lights, amplified speakers, or bleacher seating because of the school's close proximity to surrounding homes. During my twenty-two years serving on the LanesEnd Board (as well as the 1,930-home Northwood Pointe Master Association), I have witnessed the growth of our community, which today consists of families with young children, multi-generational households with elderly parents, and retirees like myself, many of whom have invested their life savings into their homes and this neighborhood. Installing these lights and loudspeakers would directly expose our residents to intrusive lighting, noise, and traffic. The Draft EIR fails to properly evaluate these effects on adjacent neighborhoods, particularly those south of Portola Parkway. O2-2

We also question the absence of critical analyses in the Draft EIR, which make the document procedurally and substantively deficient. For example, why is a public address system needed if, at face value, the main purpose is limited to practices? Even so, what athletic practices extend past 7:30 p.m.? Regarding parking, Section 2.4.4 of the Draft EIR falls short of basic parking and circulation standards and omits any count of available visitor parking. Table 2-2 is misleading, O2-3 O2-4



estimating a maximum of only 250 attendees for football events while ignoring the 300-member Northwood Marching Band, visiting teams, coaches, and fans. This example, among many other non-logical assumptions, illustrates the Draft EIR's failure to properly assess the project's true environmental impacts and demonstrates that it would not meet the standards required under CEQA. O2-4 cont.

Equally concerning is the omission of any evaluation of residential neighborhoods that would be directly impacted. The Draft EIR fails to acknowledge or measure the effects of lighting and noise on nearby communities such as LanesEnd, Collage, and Georgetown, all of which front along Portola Parkway and are in direct line of sight to the proposed field improvements. The absence of data or measurements from these areas undermines the credibility and purpose of an environmental review that is meant to protect surrounding residents. Such oversight further demonstrates how procedurally and substantively deficient this Draft EIR is and contradicts the very intent of the EIR process, which is to ensure transparency and accountability in evaluating real environmental impacts. In this case, the report is completely absent of any analysis reflecting real-world effects on residential neighborhoods, as if our communities do not exist. O2-5

The lack of sincere community outreach and engagement only compounds these deficiencies and raises mistrust. Nearby neighborhoods were never meaningfully consulted or notified early in the process, despite being the most directly affected. The EIR's analysis is also built on incomplete and misleading assumptions. It provides no baseline data from actual residential vantage points and no comparative analysis between current ambient conditions and projected peak-use events. By avoiding any analysis of lighting, noise, traffic, and cumulative disturbance where the impacts would be most significant, the Draft EIR reaches its predetermined conclusion of "no significant impact." That conclusion is invalid precisely because the report fails to analyze the very conditions that would demonstrate significant and lasting harm to the surrounding communities. O2-6 O2-7

We are deeply concerned that the analysis understates the true impacts on our community and does not reflect the reality of what large-scale evening events would mean for local residents. The introduction of nighttime sports and amplified sound will fundamentally alter the quiet residential character of our neighborhood and diminish the quality of life for hundreds of families. During my twenty-six years in the Northwood Pointe community (and over forty-two years owning homes in Irvine), I have never encountered a proposal with this magnitude of potential negative impact and threat to the Northwood Pointe neighborhoods. O2-8

Perhaps most concerning of all is the inclusion of non-school-related activities in the project scope, as described in the Draft EIR's Notice of Completion filed with the State on September 23, 2025. The Draft EIR provides no clear definitions or analysis of such uses, leaving open the possibility of unrelated events that could greatly expand the frequency and intensity of field use. The absence of this clarity is deeply troubling. It raises legitimate questions about the District's long-term intentions and undermines the community's trust in the stated purpose of the project. O2-9

We strongly urge IUSD to remove this element entirely from the project to eliminate any doubt or future misuse of the facilities beyond school purposes. O2-9 cont.

We respectfully request that the District withdraw the current Draft EIR and conduct a thorough reevaluation that fully accounts for the proximity of the LanesEnd community and surrounding neighborhoods. We also ask that IUSD engage directly with affected residents before taking any further action to permanently alter the use and intensity of the Northwood High School athletic facilities. We have always supported the work of Northwood High School and IUSD in the academic arena; however, on this matter of planning and community impact, the District must engage with the residents who are also its constituents. O2-10

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your service to our students and community. We trust the Board will carefully consider the serious and lasting consequences this project poses to nearby homeowners.

Sincerely,

/David Petka/

President, Board of Directors
LanesEnd Community Association

Board of Directors (Immediate Past President)
Northwood Pointe Master Association

CC:

[redacted]

Comment Letter I1

From: [redacted]

[redacted] NHS Stadium Lights & Speakers

Date: Friday, October 17, 2025 5:34:30 PM

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Katie, Jeff, and other board members,

I'm a resident of the Orchard Hills 2 community in Irvine, directly adjacent to NHS. I1-1

While I am also a parent of an NHS student, I'm concerned about your upcoming stadium lights and speaker project that may have the following impact on my community:

1. Traffic: Night games will bring heavy evening traffic through our streets.
2. Parking: As the only non-gated community in Orchard Hills, OHVII will absorb event overflow parking—adding to the illegal student parking already occurring daily. I1-2
3. Trespassing and Property Damage: Students frequently cross through our landscaped areas, causing nearly $100,000 in repairs and security costs. Night events will invite more property damage and costs, which could increase HOA assessment dues. I1-3
4. Light Pollution: Stadium lights will be visible across OHVII and as far as Corte Bella. I3-4
5. Noise: Night events will bring amplified announcements, cheering, and two marching bands (home and away teams) disrupting evening quiet. I3-5
6. Lack of Transparency: When Northwood was built in 1999, IUSD chose not to install lights to protect nearby homes. Now, with over 4,000 homes in Orchard Hills—including 809 in OHVII—IUSD has failed to extend that same consideration to our community. I3-6

I urge you to reconsider the breadth of the project and put in mitigating measures to address the concerns noted above which are shared by my fellow community residents.

I am unable to attend the meeting on the 20th, but please take into account my concerns above." I3-7

Best Regards,

Vivian Shih

Comment Letter I2

From: [redacted]
re: NHS Stadium light, noise pollution and traffic concerns
Date: Saturday, October 18, 2025 11:04:07 AM

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Greetings to our city leaders!

I am a resident of the Orchard Hills 2 community in Irvine, directly adjacent to NHS. I2-1

We are concerned about your upcoming stadium lights and speaker project that may have the following impact on my community.

We have had all our kids in athletics on the wonderful track and field at Northwood, but feel Irvine has enough stadiums at Irvine High, Portola and Crean Lutheran for evening and large events. I2-2
Irvine, our quiet hills and wildlife don't need more noise and light pollution.

We may also experience significantly increased traffic potentially racing through our residential streets. We already have problems with speeding and issues with safety for walkers, joggers, bikers, strollers, skating. This may add to the issue. I2-3
Students and parents already use our private, residential streets as a thoroughfare.

1. **Traffic:** Night games will bring heavy evening traffic through our streets.
2. **Parking:** As the only non-gated community in Orchard Hills, OHVII will absorb event overflow
parking—adding to the illegal student parking already occurring daily.
3. **Trespassing and Property Damage:** Students frequently cross through our landscaped areas, causing nearly $100,000 in repairs and security costs. Night events will invite more property damage and costs, which could increase HOA assessment dues. I2-4
4. **Light Pollution:** Stadium lights will be visible across OHVII and as far as Corte Bella. I2-5
5. **Noise:** Night events will bring amplified announcements, cheering, and two marching bands (home and away
teams) disrupting evening quiet. I2-6
6. **Lack of Transparency:** When Northwood was built in 1999, IUSD chose not to install lights to protect nearby homes. Now, with over 4,000 homes in Orchard Hills—including 809 in OHVII—IUSD has failed to extend that same consideration to our community. I2-7

I urge you to reconsider the breadth of the project and put in mitigating measures to address the concerns noted above which are shared by my fellow community residents.

Thank you for representing us on the City Council. Irvine is a master planned community priding itself on peaceful green spaces for relaxation, health and well-being. Let's preserve that in as many of our neighborhoods as possible. I2-8

Corinne Giesemann

Sent from my iPhone

From: [redacted]
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Lights and speakers at Northwood High School
Date: Saturday, October 18, 2025 11:57:06 AM
Attachments: image001.png

Thanks, Raianna. Yes, copy and paste for the most part with added comments.

Kelvin Okino
Executive Director, Facilities and Construction | Irvine Unified School District
[redacted]

From: Raianna Chavez <[redacted]
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Lights and speakers at Northwood High School

Fyi

Get Outlook for Android

From: Lauren Brooks [redacted]
Sent: Friday, October 17, 2025 6:25:09 PM
To: Raianna Chavez [redacted]
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Lights and speakers at Northwood High School

Lauren Brooks
Board of Education,
Irvine Unified School District

Sent from my iPhone.
Please excuse all typos.

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** Divya [redacted]
> **Date:** October 18, 2025 at 2:11:48 AM GMT+3
> **To:** [redacted]

Cc: Eric Keith [redacted]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Lights and speakers at Northwood High School

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Katie, Jeff, and other board members,

I'm a resident of the Orchard Hills 2 community in Irvine, directly adjacent to NHS.

I3-1

While I am also a parent of an NHS student, I'm concerned about your upcoming stadium lights and speaker project that may have the following impact on my community:

1. **Traffic:** Night games will bring heavy evening traffic through our streets.
2. **Parking:** As the only non-gated community in Orchard Hills, OHVII will absorb event overflow parking—adding to the illegal student parking already occurring daily. I3-2
3. **Trespassing and Property Damage:** Students frequently cross through our landscaped areas, causing nearly $100,000 in repairs and security costs. Night events will invite more property damage and costs, which could increase HOA assessment dues. I3-3
4. **Light Pollution:** Stadium lights will be visible across OHVII and as far as Corte Bella. I3-4
5. **Noise:** Night events will bring amplified announcements, cheering, and two marching bands (home and away teams) disrupting evening quiet. I3-5
6. **Lack of Transparency:** When Northwood was built in 1999, IUSD chose not to install lights to protect nearby homes. Now, with over 4,000 homes in Orchard Hills—including 809 in OHVII—IUSD has failed to extend that same consideration to our community. I3-6

I urge you to reconsider the breadth of the project and put in mitigating measures to address the concerns noted above which are shared by my fellow community residents.

I am unable to attend the meeting on the 20th, but please take into account my concerns above. I3-7

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Divya Gupta
[redacted]

Sent from my iPhone

From: Steven [redacted]
[redacted] lights and speaker project
Date: Saturday, October 18, 2025 12:12:08 PM

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

[redacted]
Sent: Friday, October 17, 2025 at 06:38:14 PM PDT
Subject: Northwood high School stadium lights and speaker project

Dear Katie, Jeff, and other board members,

I'm a resident of the Orchard Hills 2 community in Irvine, directly adjacent to NHS. I4-1

I'm concerned about your upcoming stadium lights and speaker project that may have the following impact on my community:

1. Traffic: Night games will bring heavy evening traffic through our streets.
2. Parking: As the only non-gated community in Orchard Hills, OHVII will absorb event overflow parking—adding to the illegal student parking already occurring daily. I4-2
3. Trespassing and Property Damage: Students frequently cross through our landscaped areas, causing nearly $100,000 in repairs and security costs. Night events will invite more property damage and costs, which could increase HOA assessment dues. I4-3
4. Light Pollution: Stadium lights will be visible across OHVII and as far as Corte Bella. I4-4
5. Noise: Night events will bring amplified announcements, cheering, and two marching bands (home and away teams) disrupting evening quiet. I4-5
6. Lack of Transparency: When Northwood was built in 1999, IUSD chose not to install lights to protect nearby homes. Now, with over 4,000 homes in Orchard Hills—including 809 in OHVII—IUSD has failed to extend that same consideration to our community. I4-6

I urge you to reconsider the breadth of the project and put in mitigating measures to address the concerns noted above which are shared by my fellow community residents.

I am unable to attend the meeting on the 20th, but please take into account my concerns above." I4-7

Thank you
Shirley Yang

Comment Letter I5

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Katie, Jeff, and Esteemed Board Members,

I am a resident of Orchard Hills 2 in Irvine, located next to Northwood High School (NHS), and I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed stadium lights and speaker project and its potential impacts on our community: I5-1

1. **Noise Disturbance**: Evening events will bring amplified announcements, crowd noise, and two marching bands, disrupting the quiet of our evenings. I5-2
2. **Increased Traffic**: Night games will likely cause significant evening traffic congestion on our neighborhood streets.
3. **Parking Issues**: As the only non-gated community in Orchard Hills, Orchard Hills VII will likely face overflow parking from events, exacerbating the existing issue of illegal student parking. I5-3
4. **Light Pollution**: The proposed stadium lights will likely be visible throughout Orchard Hills VII and as far as Corte Bella, affecting the nighttime ambiance. I5-4
5. **Trespassing and Property Damage**: Students frequently cut through our landscaped areas, resulting in nearly $100,000 in repair and security costs. Night events may increase trespassing and damage, potentially raising HOA dues. I5-5
6. **Lack of Community Consideration**: When Northwood was built in 1999, IUSD opted against installing stadium lights to protect nearby residences. With over 4,000 homes now in Orchard Hills, including 809 in Orchard Hills VII, we are disappointed that similar consideration has not been extended to our community. I5-6

I respectfully urge you to reassess the scope of this project and implement measures to mitigate these concerns, which are shared by many in our community. I5-7

Sincerely, Steven Chen

From: [redacted]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Urgent: CEQA Violations and Legal Concerns Over Northwood Stadium Lighting Proposal
Date: Sunday, October 19, 2025 5:38:58 PM

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Kathleen Gil,

I'm a homeowner in Orchard Hills Village II (OHVII), one of the neighborhoods most directly and severely impacted by the proposed stadium lighting and amplified PA system at Northwood High School. I6-1

This proposal is not just disruptive—it appears procedurally flawed and potentially unlawful.

Our HOA, which represents over 800 homes bordering Northwood on three sides, was never formally notified about this project, despite clear requirements under the **California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)** for meaningful public disclosure and opportunity to participate. This failure to engage directly with the most affected residents is not just disappointing—it could constitute a **violation of CEQA procedural obligations**. I6-2

We are not opposing this project out of emotion. We are responding to a pattern: I6-3

- Illegal student parking already clogs our streets daily.
- Trespassing through HOA-maintained property has caused nearly **$100,000 in damage** and security costs. I6-4
- Now, IUSD is attempting to introduce permanent, high-impact changes—**70-foot light poles, amplified announcements, and nighttime events**—with little to no direct engagement with those most affected. I6-5

The EIR grossly understates the impact on our neighborhood. This is not a theoretical concern—this is where we live and raise our families. We are not interested in being collateral damage to a plan that prioritizes convenience over community well-being. I6-6

If this project moves forward without correction of these CEQA violations and without serious mitigation measures, **legal action will be considered** by affected residents and associations. We are prepared to escalate this matter if IUSD does not act in good faith to rectify this process. I6-7

We urge you to:

- **Pause** the EIR timeline immediately.
- **Provide formal notification and engagement** with all affected HOAs, especially OHVII. I6-8
- **Reassess** the project with full and honest disclosure of community impact.

- **Commit to an in-person hearing** for Orchard Hills residents before any approvals move forward.

I6-8cont.

Sincerely,
Martin

Kathleen Gil

From: Josh Guo [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, October 19, 2025 10:20 PM
To: Kathleen Gil; Jazzelle Nava
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Opposition to Stadium Lights and PA Speakers at Northwood High School

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Kathleen & Jazzelle,
I am a homeowner in Orchard Hills VII (OHVII), the community that directly borders Northwood High School on three sides. I strongly oppose the proposed installation o**f 70-foot stadium lights and a loud public-address (PA) speaker system** as described in the Draft EIR. I7-1

Despite being the most directly affected under CEQA, our HOA and residents were not properly notified or consulted. The proposed project would bring significant noise, light pollution, traffic, and parking overflow into our quiet residential neighborhood. OHVII has already spent nearly $100,000 repairing landscape damage and increasing security due to student activity—night events with lights and amplified announcements would only increase costs, safety risks, and disruptions to residents' peace. I7-2

When Northwood High was built in 1999, IUSD intentionally excluded stadium lighting to protect nearby homes in Northwood Pointe. With over 4,000 homes now in Orchard Hills, our community deserves the same consideration. I7-3

We respectfully urge IUSD to **reject** this proposal and engage directly with the OHVII HOA before proceeding.

Best I7-4
Josh Guo
[redacted]

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]

Cc: John Duong - OHVII

Subject: [EXTERNAL] NWHS stadium lights project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Katie, Jeff, and other board members,

I'm a resident of the Orchard Hills 2 community in Irvine, directly adjacent to NHS. I8-1

I'm concerned about your upcoming stadium lights and speaker project that may have the following impact on my community:

1. **Traffic:** Night games will bring heavy evening traffic through our streets.
2. **Parking:** As the only non-gated community in Orchard Hills, OHVII will absorb event overflow parking—adding to the illegal student parking already occurring daily. I8-2
3. **Trespassing and Property Damage:** Students frequently cross through our landscaped areas, causing nearly $100,000 in repairs and security costs. Night events will invite more property damage and costs, which could increase HOA assessment dues. I8-3
4. **Light Pollution:** Stadium lights will be visible across OHVII and as far as Corte Bella. I8-4
5. **Noise:** Night events will bring amplified announcements, cheering, and two marching bands (home and away teams) disrupting evening quiet. I8-5
6. **Lack of Transparency:** When Northwood was built in 1999, IUSD chose not to install lights to protect nearby homes. Now, with over 4,000 homes in Orchard Hills—including 809 in OHVII—IUSD has failed to extend that same consideration to our community. I8-6

Have any studies been conducted addressing any of the concerns listed above? If so, please share them with OHVII residents to allay our concerns. If not, I urge you to hold off on moving forward until proper studies can be conducted on how this new project will affect the lives of nearby residents. I8-7

Thank you!

James Krenzke,
[redacted]

Kathleen Gil

From: Maria H [redacted]
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2025 5:11 PM
To: Kathleen Gil; Katie Mcewen; Jeff Kim; Lauren Brooks; Connie Stone; Cyril Yu; Cassie Parham; Eric Keith
Cc: City of Irvine –; City of Irvine –; John Duong (OHVII); Roman Jaklitsch; Jim Hensley; Paul Anderson
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Northwood High School Stadium Lights and PA System - Objection Letter from OHVII Landscape Committee Chair

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms Katie McEwen and Dr. Jeff Kim and members of the IUSD Board, Principal of NHS, Irvine City Planning Team, District 1 City Council Member, Ms Liu

I9-1

It has come to my attention that there is a proposal to install 70-foot stadium lights and a PA system, etc. on the Northwood High School athletic fields.

As Landscape Committee Chair for OHVII I am presenting my concerns as to parking, and potential trespassing and property damage specifically for OHVII as the community is directly behind the Northwood High school grounds.

I9-2

Over the years, since the community was built in 2015, the community has encountered many students parking on private property and trespassing on private property. I have worked closely with IPD Officer Lindsey Campbell and the HOA to address these issues and as such have implemented recommendations to fix the situation. The OHVII has incurred close to, if not over, $100K in landscape renovation, fencing, and security to bring down (hoping to eliminate) the number of students utilizing the property to get to school.

I object to this project as noted in the email from our OHVII Property Manager sent today noting our formal objection to the project.

I9-3

If this project does move forward, I would suggest on behalf of our HOA and other HOA's of the Northwood area surrounding and next to the NHS campus the following:

1 - Police presence at each event being held at NHS:

A: IPD Police monitoring / providing support to ensure that guests and students do not park in the residential areas - especially all private communities

I9-4

B: IPD Police presence on Portola and surrounding street arteries including Orchard Hills Road that is already being used as a racetrack, and consider lowering the speed limit permanently on Portola around the high school (between Jamboree and Jeffrey) to 40- 45 MPH

I9-4 cont

C- IPD Police presence at each of the neighboring communities. Northwood Point, Orchard Hills II, Eastwood etc. , to ensure there are no cars speeding and that they do not park in private communities. These cars will be towed immediately.

D- IPD Police presence at the NHS fences surrounding the school to apprehend students taking that path

2- The cost of landscaping / property damaged due to such NHS events will be reimbursed and paid for by the school district accordingly. I9-5

3- The stadium sound system may be at a level that is not acceptable and heard by all residents. Keeping in mind the times when children are put to bed - 8:00pm and an earlier time for infants. I9-6

Considering the issues and challenges around our landscaping and trespassing over the years, I do not recommend this project around the stadium lights and what it will bring to the surrounding community of Northwood. I9-7

On another point, the light and sound pollution will impact the wildlife around the surrounding area. Please note that all parks CLOSE at dusk for this reason. I9-8

Let's keep Irvine the best we can be and be mindful of all the issues this project will bring to our treasured community.

Thank you for reading my email

Maria I9-9

--

Maria Hensley
[redacted]

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2025 8:08 PM
To: [redacted]; Jeff Kim; Katie Mcewen; Lauren Brooks; Cyril Yu; Kathleen [redacted]
Cc: John Duong
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Concerns re: NHS Stadium light, noise pollution and traffic concerns

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Thank you, Kathleen, for the meeting this evening.

Melinda, Jeff, Katie and IUSD Board members, I'd like to point out some additional concerns: I10-1

1) Fiscal responsible allocation of tax payer dollars. There is not a pressing need for extended time on the athletic fields at this time. The 4 lighted fields (IHS, PHS, UHS, Crean Lutheran + Beckman HS) provide adequate facilities.

2) Parking concerns: Back-to-School might already produces significant overflow traffic into the surrounding community requiring shuttles. This will be reproduced many times over with large events. The HOA has spent a great deal of money with trash all over our community from students trespassing into our community. We will continue to foot the cost for the littering and damage to landscaping. I10-2

3) We hear normal noises (band in the AM, bells) already, which is nice in the daytime. We hear fireworks from Anaheim. They echo through our hills. The wildlife in the preserved hills will No Doubtedly be affected. Animals and residents NEED a quiet place to retreat to at night. I10-3
All biological beings NEED a dark, quiet place at night. We know that to keep our circadian rhythm on track and cortisol levels healthy. This is important for the well-being of our students.

4) The current EIR study takes into consideration only "athletic" noise. It DOES NOT take into account BAND, MUSIC, PA system noise. It also does not take into account traffic and speeding which already occurs on Orchard Hills Drive. When other high school students "discover" this street to speed on, it will be detrimental. It curves and is poorly lighted. Irvine Traffic and Irvine Conservancy should be involved and comment as well. I10-4
There will certainly be more traffic accidents and violations.

5) What is the background of the person making conclusions on the environmental impact of this project? Common sense knows it will create a significant amount of disruptive noise. I10-5

6) The other Irvine stadiums are located in more urban areas. NHS is nestled in the hills. It WILL affect the ecosystem and disturb the wildlife. My request is to have the Irvine Conservancy weigh in on this project. I10-6

7) Risk management of the increased traffic and potential accidents, traffic and parking violations, etc. Orchard Hills Drive is a curved, lowly lit road with a dangerous blind spot on the corner of Big Sycamore and Orchard Hills Drive. We urge that the City of Irvine Traffic conduct their own study. I10-7

8) EIR does not take into account projection of impact in years and just impact within the first few months. I10-8

We strongly urge you to take each of these concerns very seriously and respect the **thousands** of residents to be affected. I10-9

Lastly, we did not receive notice on this, so we are disadvantaged in lead time to respond adequately.

Thank you, I10-10

Corinne

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 18, 2025, at 11:03 AM, P G [redacted]

Greetings to our city leaders!

I am a resident of the Orchard Hills 2 community in Irvine, directly adjacent to NHS.

We are concerned about your upcoming stadium lights and speaker project that may have the following impact on my community.

We have had all our kids in athletics on the wonderful track and field at Northwood, but feel Irvine has enough stadiums at Irvine High, Portola and Crean Lutheran for evening and large events. Irvine, our quiet hills and wildlife don't need more noise and light pollution.

We may also experience significantly increased traffic potentially racing through our residential streets. We already have problems with speeding and issues with safety for walkers, joggers, bikers, strollers, skating. This may add to the issue.
Students and parents already use our private, residential streets as a thoroughfare.

1. **Traffic:** Night games will bring heavy evening traffic through our streets.
2. **Parking:** As the only non-gated community in Orchard Hills, OHVII will absorb event overflow parking—adding to the illegal student parking already occurring daily.
3. **Trespassing and Property Damage:** Students frequently cross through our landscaped areas, causing nearly $100,000 in repairs and security costs. Night events will invite more property damage and costs, which could increase HOA assessment dues.
4. **Light Pollution:** Stadium lights will be visible across OHVII and as far as Corte Bella.
5. **Noise:** Night events will bring amplified announcements, cheering, and two marching bands (home and away
teams) disrupting evening quiet.
6. **Lack of Transparency:** When Northwood was built in 1999, IUSD chose not to install lights to protect nearby homes. Now, with over 4,000 homes in Orchard Hills—including 809 in OHVII—IUSD has failed to extend that same consideration to our community.

I urge you to reconsider the breadth of the project and put in mitigating measures to address the concerns noted above which are shared by my fellow community residents.

Thank you for representing us on the City Council. Irvine is a master planned community priding itself on peaceful green spaces for relaxation, health and well-being. Let's preserve that in as many of our neighborhoods as possible.

Corinne Giesemann

Sent from my iPhone

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] opposing the IUSD proposal to install stadium lights and loud PA speakers @ NW High

Importance: High

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

As longtime beautiful Irvine and Orchard Hills residents, we strongly oppose the ISSD proposal to install stadium lights and loud PS speakers at Northwood High School. I11-1

Best Regards,

Barry Hsieh
[redacted]

Comment Letter I12

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2025 4:23 PM
To: Katie Mcewen; Jeff Kim; Lauren Brooks; Connie Stone; Cyril Yu; Eric Keith; Kathleen Gil; Jazzelle Nava; Melinda Liu Web
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Northwood High Stadium Lights/PA Speakers Proposal

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

IUSD Officials and Board Members,

I am writing to you to voice my objection to the IUSD proposal to install stadium lights and loud PA speakers at Northwood High School. As a 30-plus year resident of Irvine, 10 of which are currently in the Orchard Hills Village II Community, this project would negatively impact our community. We already deal with illegal student parking and frequent damage to our landscaping due to trespassing students resulting in high costs for repairs and security causing increased HOA dues. With the installation of the PA speakers and Stadium lights we would have to contend not only with noise and light pollution, but increased parking issues, and trespassing and damage during evening events at Northwood High. Having lived in the Northwood Pointe community previously, the IUSD chose not to install lights when Northwood High was being built to protect that community. I hope that IUSD would extend that same consideration to the Orchard Hills Village II community. I12-1
Thank you.

Regards,
Grace Sibayan-Hsieh

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Stadium Lighting and PA System at Northwood High

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. McEwen and Dr. Jeff Kim and members of the IUSD Board, Principle of NHS, Irvine City Planning Team, District 1 City Council Member Ms. Liu

The purpose of this message is to express my opposition to the proposed stadium style lighting and PA system at Northwood High. We purchased our home in the Strada Neighborhood of the Orchard Hills II development in 2016. This is our third residence since we moved to Irvine in 1996. We were attracted to the peaceful rural feel of this neighborhood, and this is the main reason we decided to buy here. The name "Orchard Hills" itself suggests the quiet rural setting that we have enjoyed since moving here. Adding the proposed lights and PA system will surely degrade the quiet enjoyment of our neighborhood. The lights and PA system will be seen and/ or heard from many areas of our neighborhood, and will negatively affect our quiet enjoyment. I13-1

Another issue of concern is the increased student trespassing and traffic that will in the area during these evening events. Our community has already been dealing with student vandalism, speeding, parking issues, and trespassing in our community as it is. We have spent almost $100K on fencing, landscaping repairs, security patrol already in an effort to mitigate these issues. NHS Students regularly either park or get dropped off by their parents on our streets so they can climb through our landscaping and climb the school fence. The parking problem at Northwood has become our problem. As an HOA Board Member, I can attest that the student issues are on our Board Meeting agenda every month. I13-2

I am disappointed that money was spent on a poorly executed Environmental Impact Report that is filled with inaccurate statements and assumptions. Furthermore, there does not seem to be a strong desire to go forward with this according to several school staff members or other stakeholders who were informally queried about this. I13-3

I am sure most of the Orchard Hills II and surrounding Northwood communities would agree with my position. Please consider the negative impact to the entire surrounding community as well as our home values if the proposal is carried forward.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I13-4

James Hensley
[redacted]

Comment Letter I14

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]
[redacted]
To: Kathleen Gil; Katie Mcewen; Jeff Kim; Lauren Brooks; Connie Stone; Cyril Yu; Cassie Parham; cc: City of Irvine –; City of Irvine –
Cc: M Hensley
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on the October 20th NHS Lighting Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear USID Board and all members who are part of the decision process for the Northwood High School Stadium Lighting Project

I am sending this email as a response to the meeting held on October 20th at Northwood High School to present the outcome of the Draft Environmental Impact Report. Present at that meeting were HOA Board members from Northwood Point, the Orchard Hills Reserve and Orchard Hills Village 2 communities. Also present were various residents from these communities and the Principal of Northwood High School. I believe there would be more in attendance if there was proper communication about this meeting as well as transparent communication about the project itself. I personally did not know about the project or meeting on Oct. 20th, which I shared in my previous email. I14-1

Upon hearing the complete presentation, below are my personal conclusions regarding the Lighting and PA project at Northwood High School.

Overview:

1) Residents present, including the Principal of NHS, did not request these lights on campus.
2) Report focuses on building and not the various residential /public nuances that are significant I14-2
3) Costs spent by OHVII to mediate student trespassing on private property
4) Lighting and PA noise will have a significant impact on the community.
5) Why are Great Park fields not being considered? We also have the other high schools in Irvine. Do not need to speed student monies for lighting when there are other uses of the funds.
6) Used for non-sporting activities not mentioned in the meeting, however, in the report.
7) Use of the IUSD funds on "Life Skills" Program instead for our young adults.

Details:

1 - Most people who attended the meeting have students who attended NHS currently or in past years. They were part of sports, and we all do not recall the need for these lights in the past. The games played there were for freshman or sophomore football, soccer etc. The varsity games were played at other high schools and worked well with the schedule. Now we have the Great Park with 24 soccer fields. Additionally there are many baseball and tennis courts. I14-3

The addition of lights to the field will not add to school spirit. The report listed this as one of the objectives of the project. NHS has always had wonderful school spirit and lights will not make a difference. Students, parents and the school faculty build spirit!

2 – The study focuses primarily on the building / installation of the lighting, and not the impact or result of having lighting in this location. All items that are considered public nuances like noise, aesthetics, safety, traffic etc., are I14-4

considered NOT a significant impact and therefore not discussed. I totally disagree with this. They do matter and due to the lack of discussion of these areas, it does not seem to be of concern to IUSD. It is for the residents.

3 - As the Orchard Hills Village 2 HOA Landscape Chair, I can share that the HOA has been working on eliminating the traffic / racing on Portola and Orchard Hills Road, the trespassing of students on the HOA landscaping, the climbing of the fence during school hours to get to school, parking on private property for years. These activities have to date resulted in close to $100K incurred by OHVII community to remediate issues. This project report does not address any of these issues that will impact all the surrounding communities (Reserve, OHVII, Northwood Point and potentially, Eastwood and the Groves) I14-5

b: Please note that the Northwood area is supported by approximately 5 IPD traffic officers. They have to cover the entire Northwood area (the square perimeter from Jamboree to 133 Toll Rd and from Northwood to 5 Fwy). Home games in the evening will not only bring additional traffic to the area, but there will not be enough IPD staff or parking. NHS has limited parking. The surrounding communities are private property, and no public parking is allowed. The parking was not discussed or considered significant in the report. It refers to public transportation that is not present to the extent discussed. I14-6

c: With the current racing of vehicles occurring on Portola and on Orchard Hills Road, additional introductions to the area will increase this unnecessary racing as they discover the racetrack around NHS - a two-lane street. PLEASE DO NOT SHARE THIS. I14-7

4) Lighting impact. During the presentation, pictures of the lighting and impact to the community were severely misrepresented. The lights were photoshopped in and did not truly reflect true stadium lights. These lights will illuminate into the Reserves, Northwood Pointe and OHVII residential homes.

4a: Lighting and Glare noted on section 3.1-4

I14-8

I really do not understand the evaluation comments around Light and Glare. The community around the NHS is completely dark after the sun goes down. This lighting will illuminate the entire area and will be noted by all homes in the area. This will seriously degrade the calm and peacefulness that residents have looked for and found living in Orchard Hills Northwood. This peace and quiet will be degraded by the loud sounds of the PA and traffic brought into the area.

5) I reviewed the home games schedule per the report. Where are the games being played now? There are 24 soccer fields located at the Great Park. There is more space, parking, and lighting at the Great Park. Why are these locations not considered? We also have other high schools we can utilize, this I believe is happening now. I14-9

6) The report also states that the school will be used for non-school events, which is a significant issue to our community. This will open a ton of **unknown** issues we do not want to entertain. What are these non-school related activities? I14-10

7) Can the IUSD Board please consider utilizing the funds to create a "Life Skills" program for the students. This would include learning the basics around nutrition, health, finances / banking, household repairs, automotive basics, sewing, wood shop etc. I14-11

Thank you for reading my email. I appreciate all you all do around our IUSD and hope these comments will help you understand what is not being looked at in this report. Also to emphasize that this project was not very well communicated.

I14-12

Thank you
Maria

--
Maria Hensley
[redacted]

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 12:15 PM
To: Kathleen Gil
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Opposition to Stadium Lights and PA System at Northwood High School

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil,

I am a resident of Orchard Hills Village 2, and I am writing to express my strong opposition to the installation of stadium lights and a PA system at Northwood High School. I15-1

This project is unnecessary and will significantly diminish the quality of life for nearby residents. The proposed lighting and loudspeaker system will generate excessive noise and light pollution, disrupt our evenings, and destroy the peaceful character of our neighborhood. In addition, the increased traffic and lack of parking will lead to congestion and trespassing on private property. Many of us chose this community for its tranquility and safety—qualities that will be lost if this project proceeds. I15-2

Please do not move forward with this plan. Thank you for listening to the concerns of nearby residents. I15-3

Sincerely,
Qiang Ruan
[redacted]

Kathleen Gil

From: Hi Chan [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 3:47 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Against Northwood New Lights and Loud PA

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Hello,
My name is Hi Chan. I'm a resident and owner of a property in Orchard Hills Village II, right behind Norwood High. I've been living in the community for 8 years.
I strongly oppose to the IUSD proposal to install stadium lights and loud PA!! I16-1
Sincerely,
Hi

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Noise & traffic concerns on the NHS field lighting project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear IUSD board members,

I'm a resident at Northwood Pointe community, specifically Lanes End. When I first read the project half-year ago, I was neutral. I thought the lights are beneficial for NHS students to do night time athlete practice, and it's also safe for the neighbor residents to walk around the area in the night. I17-1

Recently I learned that the project will include amplified PA system, and the field events will open to non-school activities. I17-2

My house is on the other side of Portola Parkway. My bedroom windows face the school and athlete field. In fall season NHS marching band practice wakes me up every morning. It is OK as those are workday mornings. But I cannot imagine loud speakers noise in the night, disrupting my quiet time. I17-3

Traffic will be a problem. There's only 1 winding road driving up to the NHS campus, I will foresee vehicles lining up on the slow driveway, or waiting long line at the traffic light intersection to turn in. Parking is definitely an issue. Whenever I attend a choir or an orchestra concert, at the school theatre, it's hard to find parking. NHS doesn't have enough parking space to accommodate any large event. I17-4

So, if the project, is ONLY to install the lights, and limit to the use of NHS students and doesn't impact neighbor residents, then it shall be fine. I17-5

Please kindly consider the above noise & traffic concerns, and review and revise this proposal.

I17-6

Sincerely regards,

Amy Jian

[redacted]

Comment Letter I18

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]

[redacted] Loud Speakers Installation at Northwood HS

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

As a resident of Orchard Hills, I recently learned that the Irvine Unified School District (IUSD) has initiated a project to install stadium lights and speakers at Northwood High School. The approval process moved forward swiftly and quietly, with little to no input sought from neighboring communities. I18-1

This is unfair to taxpayers like us, who fund our local schools through property taxes and expect transparency in return. IUSD owes us the due diligence of a thorough, public evaluation of the project's impacts—including light pollution, noise, traffic, and environmental effects—before proceeding. I18-2

With this in mind, I urge IUSD to cancel the project and redirect the budget toward more pressing needs, such as expanding challenging curricula and hiring additional qualified science teachers. I18-3

Sincerely,

Claire Guan

Kathleen Gil

From: Wenkai Qin [redacted]
Sent: Monday, November 3, 2025 9:51 PM
To: Kathleen Gil
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments RE Draft EIR for Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Speakers Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Kathleen,

We are residents and registered voters of the Lanes End community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School's football field on the south side of Portola Parkway. I19-1

Setting aside existing problems with student parking in our neighborhood, this project would create even greater challenges for our community, including overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light spillage, all of which the Draft EIR fails to evaluate from our side of the street. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built? I19-2

The IUSD Board made a wise and considered decision in 1999, when Northwood High School was constructed, not to include lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating. Why change course now, when over 4,000 additional homes have since been built in the surrounding neighborhoods? This proposal appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's long-standing master planning principles, which emphasize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the distinct character of each village. Introducing additional noise, lighting, and traffic impacts would inevitably disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, diminish property values, and increase HOA costs over time. I19-3

Even more concerning, the project scope explicitly allows for non-school related activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no description of what these events are, how often they would occur, or what restrictions or controls would apply. The lack of definition and analysis in the Draft EIR raises serious questions about whether the full scope and impacts of the project have been properly evaluated. I19-4

We find this proposal troubling, as it conflicts with the principles of good neighborliness and responsible community planning. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw this project entirely and uphold the sound precedent set by your predecessors in 1999. I19-5

I19-5 cont

They made the right decision then, and we urge the Board to show the same careful consideration in deciding this matter now.

We look forward to seeing these concerns registered in the draft EIR comments.

Sincerely,

Dr. Wenkai Qin I19-6

[redacted]

[redacted]

Comment Letter I20

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project (SCH No. 2025051426)

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

I am writing to express my concerns of the proposed Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project. As a long-time resident of the Northwood neighborhood, I am deeply concerned that this project will irreversibly damage the quiet and semi-rural character of our community. I20-1

Our neighborhood is a peaceful residential area surrounded by orchard groves and open space, where residents value quite environment, dark night skies, minimal noise, and light evening traffic. The introduction of four 70-foot light poles, an amplified public-address system, and expanded nighttime athletic events beyond Northwood High school uses will bring new and ongoing light, noise, and vehicle impacts into an area not designed for this level of activity. I20-2

Although the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) concludes that these impacts are “less than significant,” that finding does not reflect the reality our community will experience. The DEIR identifies no mitigation measures to address increased lighting, noise, or traffic. Instead, it relies on technical assumptions that underestimate the actual day-to-day disruption these facilities will cause. Without enforceable restrictions on event frequency, hours of operation, or sound levels, there are no real protections for nearby residents. I20-3

Furthermore, the public outreach for this project was inadequate. Many affected homeowners were unaware of the proposed project. One scoping notice and limited online postings do not constitute meaningful engagement for a project with citywide implications. I20-4

With the installation of permanent lighting and a PA system, Northwood High School would effectively become a regional event facility serving the entire City of Irvine, rather than a neighborhood school. The DEIR even acknowledges that the fields would be available for outside user groups under the Civic Center Act. This means our quiet residential area would host large-scale community or city events at night — bringing in additional traffic, parking congestion, and noise far beyond what is appropriate for a neighborhood setting. I20-5

Once these changes are made, the peaceful character of our community cannot be restored. For these reasons, I urge the Irvine Unified School District and the board to reject this project and instead select the **No Project Alternative** outlined in the DEIR. Northwood High can continue to provide outstanding educational opportunities without imposing citywide event impacts on its surrounding neighborhoods. I20-6

Thank you for considering my comments.

I20-6 cont.

Sincerely,
Hong Lin
[redacted]

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]

[redacted] Project at Northwood High

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

I am a resident of Orchard Hills and recently became aware of the proposed Northwood High School field lighting and PA speakers project. I21-1

I am deeply concerned as to why the immediately adjacent neighborhoods were not informed or consulted during the preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The Draft EIR fails to address critical residential neighborhood impacts in several key areas. For example, it overlooks traffic and overflow parking into our communities, which is already a daily problem, and does not analyze peak game-day conditions for noise, traffic, or lighting spillage. The Draft EIR also incorrectly assumes that attendees would use public transportation, even though there is no OCTA bus route along Portola Parkway. It further lacks any plan for security or coordination with the Irvine Police Department to manage illegal parking, trespassing, and loitering in our private neighborhoods, which directly affects residents' quiet enjoyment. I21-2

While the project scope and disclosure filings with the State clearly and repeatedly state that the purpose of the proposed lights and PA speakers includes hosting non-school related events, the Draft EIR provides no explanation of what these "non-school events" are, how often they would occur, or what limits or other restrictions would apply, including traffic control, parking management, and community security. This complete lack of analysis leaves significant uncertainty about the scale and nature of potential uses. I21-3

Even giving the District the benefit of the doubt, and taking the project scope at face value, the cost-benefit analysis does not appear to justify the installation of permanent stadium lights and loudspeakers for only five or six home football games a year. The resulting permanent disruptions, neighborhood impacts, and unnecessary costs to taxpayers cannot be justified by the limited and short-term benefits this project would provide. I21-4

I strongly urge the Board to drop this project or, at minimum, reject the current flawed Draft EIR and require a full redo of the EIR process to correct its fundamental deficiencies, including meaningful consultation with nearby residential communities and a genuine analysis of the true impacts on surrounding neighborhoods. I21-5

Thank you for your reconsideration.

Kate Lin

Kathleen Gil

From: Jing Yang [redacted]
Sent: Monday, November 3, 2025 9:07 PM
To: Kathleen Gil
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Opposition to Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Speakers Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms Gil and Members of the Board

I am a resident of Orchard Hills and am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Northwood High School Field Lighting and Loud PA Speakers Project. I believe this project would create significant and long-lasting negative impacts on our community that outweigh its potential benefits. I22-1

The proposed installation of 70-foot light poles and loudspeaker systems would permanently change the character of our neighborhood. The Draft EIR fails to adequately assess critical issues such as: I22-2

- The true extent of nighttime light pollution and glare affecting nearby homes.
- The cumulative noise impact from amplified sound, crowd activity, and marching band practices. I22-3
- Increased traffic, illegal parking, and trespassing during evening events. I22-4
- Safety risks, reduced quality of life, and potential decline in property values for residents living near the school. I22-5

Furthermore, the Draft EIR does not address ongoing problems our community already faces, including student parking on private property, damage to HOA-maintained landscaping, and congestion at The Reserve's entrance. Allowing expanded nighttime and non-school use of the facility would only intensify these problems. I22-6

I respectfully urge IUSD to reconsider this proposal and either significantly revise the plan or deny approval until a more thorough and accurate Environmental Impact Report is completed. A balanced approach that respects both students' needs and residents' rights is essential for maintaining trust and harmony between the District and the community.

Thank you for your attention and for considering the serious concerns of the Orchard Hills residents. I22-7

Yours Sincerely

Lucy Yang

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]
Sent: Monday, November 3, 2025 10:01 PM
To: Katie Mcewen; Jeff Kim; Lauren Brooks; Connie Stone; Cyril Yu; Eric Keith; Kathleen Gil; Jazzelle Nava; 'District 1 – Melinda Liu –'
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Objection to Northwood Field Lighting and Speakers Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents and registered voters of the Lanesend community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School's football field on the south side of Portola Parkway. My house is located off of Winslow Ln, which is within close proximity across the street from the football field of NHS. I23-1

My family has been disturbed/woken up by early morning marching band music over the years. The proposed project will cause even more severe problems for us in (late) evenings as well. We cannot imagine what life will become when IUSD and NON-IUSD events take place until 10PM! We have seniors living in the house who already have sleeping issues and rely on sleeping pills. Speakers and loud noises will severely damage life quality and health for our residents, including senior residents. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built? I23-2

The IUSD Board made a wise and considered decision in 1999, when Northwood High School was constructed, not to include lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating. Why change course now, when over 4,000 additional homes have since been built in the surrounding neighborhoods? This proposal appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's long-standing master planning principles, which emphasize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the distinct character of each village. Introducing additional noise, lighting, and traffic impacts would inevitably disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, diminish property values, and increase HOA costs over time. I23-3

Even more concerning, the project scope explicitly allows for non-school related activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no description of what these events are, how often they would occur, or what restrictions or controls would apply. The lack of definition and analysis in the Draft EIR raises serious questions about whether the full scope and impacts of the project have been properly evaluated. I23-4

We find this proposal deeply disturbing in many ways, as it conflicts with the principles of good neighborliness and responsible community planning. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw this project entirely and uphold the sound precedent set by your predecessors in 1999. They made the right decision then, and we urge the Board to show the same careful consideration in deciding this matter now. I23-5

We look forward to seeing these concerns registered in the draft EIR comments.

Sincerely,

I23-6

Michael

Kathleen Gil

From: Peter Tan [redacted]
Sent: Monday, November 3, 2025 6:54 PM
To: Katie Mcewen; Jeff Kim; Lauren Brooks; Connie Stone; Cyril Yu; Cassie Parham; Kathleen Gil; Eric Keith; [redacted]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Objections to Draft EIR for Lights and Loud Speakers Installation Project at Northwood High

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen, Members of the IUSD Board of Education, Mayor Agran, and District 1 Council Member Liu,

As a **resident of Orchard Hills**, I am writing to express significant concerns regarding the recently proposed Northwood High School field lighting and Public Address (PA) speaker project, specifically in relation to the **Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)**. I24-1

It is profoundly troubling that the immediate adjacent residential neighborhoods were neither directly informed nor consulted during the preparation of the Draft EIR. This document exhibits fundamental deficiencies by failing to adequately address critical impacts on the surrounding residential communities in several key areas: I24-2

- **Traffic and Parking:** The report overlooks existing daily issues and does not analyze the substantial increase in **traffic congestion** or **overflow parking** into private communities, particularly during peak, high-attendance game-day conditions. I24-3
- **Noise and Light Spill:** A thorough analysis of peak-event **noise levels** and **light spillage** onto residential properties is absent. I24-4
- **Public Transportation:** The Draft EIR incorrectly assumes attendee reliance on public transportation, despite the absence of an **OCTA bus route** along Portola Parkway, undermining the viability of this mitigation measure. I24-5
- **Security and Public Safety:** The document lacks any cohesive plan for **security protocols** or coordination with the Irvine Police Department to manage potential increases in illegal parking, trespassing, and loitering, which directly compromise residents' **quiet enjoyment** of their properties. I24-6

Furthermore, the project scope and disclosure filings repeatedly affirm that the purpose of the proposed lights and PA speakers includes hosting **non-school related events**. However, the Draft EIR provides no explanation detailing the nature or frequency of these "non-school events," nor does it outline any limits, restrictions, or required mitigation measures concerning traffic control, parking management, or community security. This complete omission of analysis creates significant ambiguity regarding the true scale and potential impact of future uses. I24-7

Even accepting the project's stated educational purpose at face value, the current **cost-benefit analysis** appears to be disproportionate. The installation of permanent stadium infrastructure, resulting in enduring community disruptions and neighborhood impacts, cannot be justified by the limited and short-term benefits derived from hosting an estimated five to six home football games per year. The resulting **unnecessary costs to taxpayers** and the scale of permanent disruption are difficult to reconcile with the project's limited utility. I24-8

I strongly urge the Board to **discontinue this project** entirely. At minimum, I request the **rejection of the current flawed Draft EIR** and the mandated initiation of a complete re-do of the EIR process. This revised process must fundamentally correct all deficiencies, include **meaningful consultation** with nearby residential I24-9

communities, and incorporate a genuine, comprehensive analysis of the true impacts on surrounding neighborhoods.

I24-9 cont

Thank you for your careful consideration of these serious matters.

Peter Tan

Comment Letter I25

Kathleen Gil

From: Rebecca Dai | Isaac and Rebecca Photography [redacted]
Sent: Monday, November 3, 2025 7:33 PM
To: Katie Mcewen; Jeff Kim; Lauren Brooks; Connie Stone; Cyril Yu; Cassie Parham; Kathleen Gil; Eric Keith
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] OBJECTION! RE DRAFT EIR for Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Speakers Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents of the Lanes End community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School. We have serious concerns regarding the proposed stadium project and the insufficient Draft EIR. I15-1

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate the project's most significant impacts on our community: increased overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light spillage. As a community that existed before the high school, we question why these critical quality-of-life issues were overlooked. I25-2

The Board's 1999 decision to build Northwood High without lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating was a prudent one. Reversing this decision now, after the addition of thousands of new homes, contradicts Irvine's commitment to quality of life and neighborhood integrity. The resulting disruption, potential devaluation of our properties, and increased HOA costs are unacceptable. I25-3

Additionally, the allowance for undefined "non-school related activities" in the project scope, without any analysis in the EIR, is a major oversight. It suggests the project's true impacts have not been properly considered. 125-4

We believe this project is ill-advised and urge you to withdraw it entirely, upholding the wise precedent set by your predecessors. We request that these concerns be fully documented in the EIR comments. I25-5

Sincerely,

Rebecca, Residents of the Lanes End Community

Comment Letter I26

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Objections to Draft EIR for Lights and Loud Speakers Installation Project at Northwood High

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen, Members of the IUSD Board of Education, Mayor Agran, and District 1 Council Member Liu,

I26-1

I am a resident of Orchard Hills and recently became aware of the proposed Northwood High School field lighting and PA speakers project.

It is extremely concerning that the immediate adjacent neighborhoods were not informed or consulted during the preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The Draft EIR fails to address critical residential neighborhood impacts in several key areas. For example, it overlooks traffic and overflow parking into our communities, which is already a daily problem, and does not analyze peak game-day conditions for noise, traffic, or lighting spillage. The Draft EIR also incorrectly assumes that attendees would use public transportation, even though there is no OCTA bus route along Portola Parkway. It further lacks any plan for security or coordination with the Irvine Police Department to manage illegal parking, trespassing, and loitering in our private neighborhoods, which directly affects residents' quiet enjoyment.

I26-2

While the project scope and disclosure filings with the State clearly and repeatedly state that the purpose of the proposed lights and PA speakers includes hosting non-school related events, the Draft EIR provides no explanation of what these "non-school events" are, how often they would occur, or what limits or other restrictions would apply, including traffic control, parking management, and community security. This complete lack of analysis leaves significant uncertainty about the scale and nature of potential uses.

I26-3

Even giving the District the benefit of the doubt, and taking the project scope at face value, the cost-benefit analysis does not appear to justify the installation of permanent stadium lights and loudspeakers for only five or six home football games a year. The resulting permanent disruptions, neighborhood impacts, and unnecessary costs to taxpayers cannot be justified by the limited and short-term benefits this project would provide.

I26-4

I strongly urge the Board to drop this project or, at minimum, reject the current flawed Draft EIR and require a full redo of the EIR process to correct its fundamental deficiencies, including meaningful consultation with nearby residential communities and a genuine analysis of the true impacts on surrounding neighborhoods.

I26-5

Thank you for your reconsideration.

Sabina Lin

Comment Letter I27

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]

School Field Lighting and PA Speakers Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents of the Lanes End community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School. We have serious concerns regarding the proposed stadium project and the insufficient Draft EIR. I27-1

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate the project's most significant impacts on our community: increased overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light spillage. As a community that existed before the high school, we question why these critical quality-of-life issues were overlooked. I27-2

The Board's 1999 decision to build Northwood High without lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating was a prudent one. Reversing this decision now, after the addition of thousands of new homes, contradicts Irvine's commitment to quality of life and neighborhood integrity. The resulting disruption, potential devaluation of our properties, and increased HOA costs are unacceptable. I27-3

Additionally, the allowance for undefined "non-school related activities" in the project scope, without any analysis in the EIR, is a major oversight. It suggests the project's true impacts have not been properly considered. I27-4

We believe this project is ill-advised and urge you to withdraw it entirely, upholding the wise precedent set by your predecessors. We request that these concerns be fully documented in the EIR comments. I27-5

Sincerely,

Xiao Dai, Residents of the Lanes End Community

Comment Letter I28

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments RE DRAFT EIR for Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Speakers Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are writing as residents of the Lanes End community in Northwood Pointe, located directly across from Northwood High School's football field. I28-1

While our neighborhood already contends with student parking issues, this proposed project would significantly exacerbate these challenges. The Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) fails to adequately assess the impacts of overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light pollution on our community. It is troubling that these critical quality-of-life factors were not evaluated for a neighborhood that predates the high school itself. I28-2

We note that in 1999, during the construction of Northwood High School, the IUSD Board wisely and deliberately chose to forgo stadium lights, loudspeakers, and expanded seating. This considered decision has served our community well. Reversing this precedent now is particularly concerning given the substantial growth—over 4,000 additional homes—in the surrounding area. The proposed project appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's core planning principles, which prioritize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the unique character of each village. The introduction of increased noise, light, and traffic would disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, potentially diminish property values, and raise long-term HOA costs. I28-3

Furthermore, we are deeply concerned that the project scope explicitly allows for non-school activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no details on the nature, frequency, or operational controls for such events. This lack of definition and analysis raises serious doubts about whether the project's full impacts have been properly evaluated. I28-4

This proposal conflicts with the principles of responsible planning and being a good neighbor. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw it and uphold the sound precedent established in 1999. That decision reflected careful consideration for the community, and we ask you to demonstrate the same foresight today. I28-5

We trust that our significant concerns will be formally entered into the public record for the Draft EIR. I28-6

Sincerely,

Xiao, Resident of the Lanes End Community

I28-6 cont

Kathleen Gil

From: Y Wang [redacted]
Sent: Monday, November 3, 2025 9:39 PM
To: Katie Mcewen; Jeff Kim; Lauren Brooks; Connie Stone; Cyril Yu; Eric Keith; Kathleen Gil; Jazzelle Nava; District 1 – Melinda Liu –
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Objection to Northwood Field Lighting and Speakers Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents and registered voters of the Lanesend community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School's football field on the south side of Portola Parkway. My house is located off of Winslow Ln, which is within close proximity across the street from the football field of NHS. I29-1

My family has been disturbed/woken up by early morning marching band music over the years. The proposed project will cause even more severe problems for us in (late) evenings as well. We cannot imagine what life will become when IUSD and NON-IUSD events take place until 10PM! We have seniors living in the house who already have sleeping issues and rely on sleeping pills. Speakers and loud noises will severely damage life quality and health for our residents, including senior residents. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built? I29-2

The IUSD Board made a wise and considered decision in 1999, when Northwood High School was constructed, not to include lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating. Why change course now, when over 4,000 additional homes have since been built in the surrounding neighborhoods? This proposal appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's long-standing master planning principles, which emphasize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the distinct character of each village. Introducing additional noise, lighting, and traffic impacts would inevitably disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, diminish property values, and increase HOA costs over time. I29-3

Even more concerning, the project scope explicitly allows for non-school related activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no description of what these events are, how often they would occur, or what restrictions or controls would apply. The lack of definition and analysis in the Draft EIR raises serious questions about whether the full scope and impacts of the project have been properly evaluated. I29-4

We find this proposal deeply disturbing in many ways, as it conflicts with the principles of good neighborliness and responsible community planning. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw this project entirely and uphold the sound precedent set by your predecessors in 1999. They made the right decision then, and we urge the Board to show the same careful consideration in deciding this matter now. I29-5

We look forward to seeing these concerns registered in the draft EIR comments.

Sincerely, I29-6

Yu (resident in LanesEnd)

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]Jeff Kim; Connie Stone; Cassie Parham; Lauren Brooks; Eric Keith; Kathleen Gil; Cyril Yu

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Orchard Hill Community Serious Concerns - Draft EIR for Lights and Loud Speakers Installation at Northwood HS

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines §§15126 and 15143, I respectfully submit the following comments regarding the adequacy and completeness of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project. The issues outlined below identify areas where the DEIR fails to adequately evaluate environmental, safety, accessibility, and community impacts as required under CEQA. I30-1

1. Parking and Traffic Analysis

The DEIR's parking analysis substantially underestimates attendance and vehicle generation for athletic events. The analysis does not account for peak-attendance scenarios, such as homecoming or playoff football games, which can attract well over 500–700 vehicles based on data from onsite parking attendance on the October 17 Northwood homecoming game held at Irvine High School. The DEIR's assumption of 250 attendees is implausible given that the marching band alone exceeds 250–300 members, excluding athletes, cheer teams, visiting teams, and spectators. The DEIR must disclose how parking demand was calculated and provide a contingency plan for overflow parking, crowd management, and prevention of illegal parking or trespassing in surrounding neighborhoods. I30-2

2. Noise and Lighting Impact Analysis

The DEIR measured both noise and lighting impacts only at the athletic field and along Portola Parkway, omitting residential areas where true environmental effects will occur. CEQA requires that the analysis include real-world operational conditions, including public address (PA) system use, marching band activity, spectator noise, and vehicular noise. Lighting impacts must also consider nearby communities such as Northwood Pointe and the Corte Bella neighborhood of Orchard Hills, where residents are likely to experience significant light spill and glare. I30-3

3. Existing Ambient Noise Conditions

Residents already experience elevated background noise from daily campus operations, including bells, whistles from swimming classes, and student activities. Audible chatter from the swimming pool area can be heard from the Stallion cul-de-sac, indicating that baseline noise levels are already high. Any additional nighttime use amplified by lighting and PA systems will cause a cumulative and measurable increase in noise levels for nearby homes I30-4

4. Undefined Non-School Events

I30-5

I30-5 cont

The DEIR fails to define or analyze potential non-school-related uses of the proposed lighted field. Without specifying the types and frequency of non-school activities, the DEIR cannot accurately assess cumulative or after-hours impacts related to parking, lighting, noise, or security. This omission is a material deficiency under CEQA Guidelines §15126.2(a).

5. Community Impact Considerations

The DEIR lacks meaningful evaluation of impacts to the residential community. The omission of a localized analysis suggests that surrounding neighborhoods were not considered in the modeling of operational impacts. The EIR should be revised to include real-world conditions representative of community exposure, residential noise receptors, and nighttime illumination patterns. I30-6

6. Omission of Local Fire Authority (LFA) Review and California Building Code (CBC) Accessibility Compliance

The Draft EIR (DEIR) does not demonstrate that the proposed project has been reviewed or approved by the Local Fire Authority (City of Irvine Fire Department). The DEIR (Section 2.7.1 and Table 2-3) indicates that no local agency approval would be needed and only lists the Division of the State Architect (DSA) as a responsible agency. This omission is inconsistent with standard practice and requirements under the California Fire Code (Title 24, Part 9), which mandates Fire Department review for public-assembly areas, electrical installations, and emergency vehicle access. The absence of LFA consultation or permit verification raises concerns about compliance with Public Resources Code §21080.3(a), which requires coordination with responsible agencies having jurisdiction by law over public safety. I30-7

In addition, while the DEIR references the California Building Code (CBC) in the context of seismic safety (Section 3.4, Geology and Soils), it fails to address disability access compliance under CBC Chapter 11B and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The DEIR does not identify whether the proposed bleachers, pathways, or spectator areas meet DSA accessibility standards or whether the DSA has issued preliminary approval of the access design. Omission of this analysis represents a substantive deficiency under CEQA Guidelines §15126.2(a), which requires the EIR to evaluate potentially significant physical impacts related to safety and accessibility. I30-8

7. Recommendation – Defer Project Approval Pending LFA and DSA Certification

IUSD should defer project approval until the Local Fire Authority (LFA) and Division of the State Architect (DSA) issue written approvals confirming compliance with fire-safety and accessibility standards. Proceeding otherwise would constitute a procedural defect under CEQA §§15090–15091. I30-9

8. ADA Safety and Emergency Evacuation Preparedness for Game and Non-School Events

The DEIR fails to evaluate ADA life-safety conditions and emergency evacuation procedures under event scenarios involving large crowds during both school-sponsored and non-school events.

I30-10

i. ADA Safety During Events – The DEIR does not show how accessible egress routes, wheelchair seating, and emergency access aisles will be maintained during large gatherings. No diagrams or references to CBC Chapter 11B §§11B-403.5 and 11B-1008 are provided. There is no evidence of audible/visual emergency notification systems for individuals with disabilities.

ii. Non-School Event Oversight – The DEIR fails to establish management and oversight standards for non-school events. Without a responsible entity identified for safety and ADA compliance, the project risks violating Title II of the ADA concerning program accessibility in public facilities. I30-11

ii. Emergency Evacuation and Lighting Failure Scenarios – The DEIR omits any analysis of emergency evacuation in the event of lighting failure or earthquake during night events. It should evaluate whether backup power, egress I30-12

illumination, and PA system override capabilities are in place to enable safe evacuation. The absence of an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) coordinated with the Local Fire Authority and Orange County Emergency Management Division is a major safety oversight. I30-12cont

iv. Requested Revisions – The Final EIR must include a comprehensive ADA Safety and Emergency Evacuation Plan that:

- Identifies accessible evacuation routes and assembly points for all event types;
- Specifies backup power and lighting provisions compliant with CBC §1008.3;
- Requires written approval from the LFA and DSA before occupancy. I30-13

Until these measures are addressed, the DEIR fails to ensure equitable evacuation and safety for all attendees in compliance with CEQA §15126.2(a) and CBC Chapters 10 and 11B.

Thank you for considering these comments. The DEIR must be revised to include realistic, data-supported analysis that fully reflects community, life-safety, and accessibility requirements.

Sincerely,

Raymond

[redacted]

Kathleen Gil

Comment Letter I31

From: Suzanne Wong [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 4:50 PM
To: Katie Mcewen; Lauren Brooks; Connie Stone; Cyril Yu; Cassie Parham; Kathleen Gil; Jeff Kim
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Community Concerns - Draft EIR for Lights and Loud Speaker Installation at Northwood HS

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents of Orchard Hills writing to express our deep concerns regarding IUSD's proposal to install stadium lights and loud PA speakers at Northwood High School. I31-1

As nearby residents who will be impacted by this project, we were not properly informed about this project, and the Draft EIR does not take into account the impacts on nearby residential communities. Our understanding is that Northwood High School did not request these lights or speakers. It is one matter to accommodate after-school practices, but we are greatly concerned about the District's stated intent to allow non-school related activities, as cited in the project scope. I31-2

Our communities already face ongoing issues such as illegal student drop-offs and pick-ups that block our private streets, as well as trespassing and damage to community-maintained landscaping. Night events, particularly those unrelated to school activities, would only exacerbate these existing problems. I31-3

Many of us purchased our homes in Orchard Hills for the quiet enjoyment and the quality of life the community offers. Nighttime activities would bring additional noise, lighting, traffic, and overflow parking into our neighborhoods, permanently altering that balance and character of our community. I31-4

Although we are unable to attend the November 4 IUSD Board meeting, please register our objections to the current Draft EIR for the reasons outlined above. We support the educational mission of Northwood High School and IUSD, but strongly urge the District to consider the ongoing burdens this project would impose on nearby residents who have invested our life's savings to live in this quiet community. I31-5

We respectfully request that IUSD withdraw the current project or, at minimum, revise the Draft EIR to fully evaluate its impacts on surrounding residential neighborhoods. Please take into consideration the consequences of your decision-making on residents and voters in our Orchard Hills and Northwood Pointe communities. I31-6

Sincerely,

Suzanne Wong

Comment Letter I132

Kathleen Gil

From: John Cui [redacted]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments RE Draft EIR for Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Speakers Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents and registered voters of the Lanes End community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School's football field on the south side of Portola Parkway. I32-1

Setting aside existing problems with student parking in our neighborhood, this project would create even greater challenges for our community, including overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light spillage, all of which the Draft EIR fails to evaluate from our side of the street. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built? I32-2

The IUSD Board made a wise and considered decision in 1999, when Northwood High School was constructed, not to include lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating. Why change course now, when over 4,000 additional homes have since been built in the surrounding neighborhoods? This proposal appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's long-standing master planning principles, which emphasize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the distinct character of each village. Introducing additional noise, lighting, and traffic impacts would inevitably disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, diminish property values, and increase HOA costs over time. I32-3

Even more concerning, the project scope explicitly allows for non-school related activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no description of what these events are, how often they would occur, or what restrictions or controls would apply. The lack of definition and analysis in the Draft EIR raises serious questions about whether the full scope and impacts of the project have been properly evaluated. I32-4

We find this proposal troubling, as it conflicts with the principles of good neighborliness and responsible community planning. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw this project entirely and uphold the sound precedent set by your predecessors in 1999. They made the I32-5

I32-5 cont

right decision then, and we urge the Board to show the same careful consideration in deciding this matter now.

We look forward to seeing these concerns registered in the draft EIR comments.

I32-6

Sincerely,

Name: JUN CUI

[redacted]

[redacted]

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 11:48 AM
To: Katie Mcewen
Cc: Jeff Kim; Lauren Brooks; Connie Stone; Cyril Yu; Cassie Parham; Kathleen Gil; Eric Keith; [redacted]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Draft Environmental Impact Report

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

I am a resident of Orchard Hills and recently became aware of the proposed Northwood High School field lighting and PA speakers project. I33-1

I am deeply concerned as to why the immediately adjacent neighborhoods were not informed or consulted during the preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The Draft EIR fails to address critical residential neighborhood impacts in several key areas. For example, it overlooks traffic and overflow parking into our communities, which is already a daily problem, and does not analyze peak game-day conditions for noise, traffic, or lighting spillage. The Draft EIR also incorrectly assumes that attendees would use public transportation, even though there is no OCTA bus route along Portola Parkway. It further lacks any plan for security or coordination with the Irvine Police Department to manage illegal parking, trespassing, and loitering in our private neighborhoods, which directly affects residents' quiet enjoyment. I33-2

While the project scope and disclosure filings with the State clearly and repeatedly state that the purpose of the proposed lights and PA speakers includes hosting non-school related events, the Draft EIR provides no explanation of what these "non-school events" are, how often they would occur, or what limits or other restrictions would apply, including traffic control, parking management, and community security. This complete lack of analysis leaves significant uncertainty about the scale and nature of potential uses. I33-3

Even giving the District the benefit of the doubt, and taking the project scope at face value, the cost-benefit analysis does not appear to justify the installation of permanent stadium lights and loudspeakers for only five or six home football games a year. The resulting permanent disruptions, neighborhood impacts, and unnecessary costs to taxpayers cannot be justified by the limited and short-term benefits this project would provide. I33-4

I strongly urge the Board to drop this project or, at minimum, reject the current flawed Draft EIR and require a full redo of the EIR process to correct its fundamental deficiencies, including meaningful consultation with nearby residential communities and a genuine analysis of the true impacts on surrounding neighborhoods. I33-5

Thank you for your reconsideration.

Elizabeth Mancuso
[redacted]

I33-5 cont

Kathleen Gil

From: James Mancuso [redacted]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Objections to Draft EIR for Lights and Loud Speakers Installation Project at Northwood High

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

I am a resident of Orchard Hills and recently became aware of the proposed Northwood High School field lighting and PA speakers project. I34-1

I am deeply concerned as to why the immediately adjacent neighborhoods were not informed or consulted during the preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The Draft EIR fails to address critical residential neighborhood impacts in several key areas. For example, it overlooks traffic and overflow parking into our communities, which is already a daily problem, and does not analyze peak game-day conditions for noise, traffic, or lighting spillage. The Draft EIR also incorrectly assumes that attendees would use public transportation, even though there is no OCTA bus route along Portola Parkway. It further lacks any plan for security or coordination with the Irvine Police Department to manage illegal parking, trespassing, and loitering in our private neighborhoods, which directly affects residents' quiet enjoyment. I34-2

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I strongly urge the Board to drop this project or, at minimum, reject the current flawed Draft EIR and require a full redo of the EIR process to correct its fundamental deficiencies, including meaningful consultation with nearby residential communities and a genuine analysis of the true impacts on surrounding neighborhoods. I34-5

Thank you for your reconsideration.

Sincerely,
James Mancuso
[redacted]

From: [redacted] re: NHS Stadium light, noise pollution and traffic concerns
Date: Sunday, October 19, 2025 9:26:34 PM
Attachments: Outlook-eou3ez55.png
Outlook-zdhozr3z.png

Fyi

Katie McEwen
Board of Education
Irvine Unified School District

IRVINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

[redacted]
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Concerns re: NHS Stadium light, noise pollution and traffic concerns

Your quick reply is much appreciated, Katie.

I'd love to understand what we gain in adding lights and a PA system. I know it would increase the times available for events to be held. It seems we have enough facilities including Uni to accommodate those needs. I35-1

Thank you,

Corinne

Sent from my iPhone

> On Oct 19, 2025, at 4:15 PM, Katie Mcewen <KatieMcEwen@iusd.org> wrote:
>
> Dear Corinne,
>
> Thank you for taking the time to share your concerns regarding the proposed lighting project at Northwood High School. The Board of Education values the

engagement of our community members, and we appreciate you taking the time to share your perspective.

Please know that all members of the IUSD Board of Education have received your message. However, in keeping with the Brown Act, which governs how elected boards may communicate outside of public meetings, I am responding on behalf of the Board in my capacity as Board President.

As with all facility-related projects, the Board carefully considers the needs of our students, staff, and surrounding community. We take into account the full range of perspectives, including concerns shared by residents, as we make decisions that best support equitable access to programs and facilities across all of our schools.

We understand that change can bring questions and concerns, and we are committed to ensuring that any improvements made to our campuses, such as the proposed addition of athletic field lighting, are implemented thoughtfully and with consideration for both our students and our neighboring communities.

Thank you again for your engagement and for being an active member of the Irvine Unified community.

Best,

Katie McEwen
Board of Education
Irvine Unified School District

IRVINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

[redacted] light, noise pollution and traffic concerns

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Greetings to our city leaders!

I am a resident of the Orchard Hills 2 community in Irvine, directly adjacent to NHS.

We are concerned about your upcoming stadium lights and speaker project that may have the following impact on my community.

We have had all our kids in athletics on the wonderful track and field at Northwood, but feel Irvine has enough stadiums at Irvine High, Portola and Crean Lutheran for evening and large events.
Irvine, our quiet hills and wildlife don't need more noise and light pollution.

We may also experience significantly increased traffic potentially racing through our residential streets. We already have problems with speeding and issues with safety for walkers, joggers, bikers, strollers, skating. This may add to the issue. Students and parents already use our private, residential streets as a thoroughfare.

1. **Traffic:** Night games will bring heavy evening traffic through our streets.
2. **Parking:** As the only non-gated community in Orchard Hills, OHVII will absorb event overflow
parking—adding to the illegal student parking already occurring daily.
3. **Trespassing and Property Damage:** Students frequently cross through our landscaped areas, causing nearly $100,000 in repairs and security costs. Night events will invite more property damage and costs, which could increase HOA assessment dues.
4. **Light Pollution:** Stadium lights will be visible across OHVII and as far as Corte Bella.
5. **Noise:** Night events will bring amplified announcements, cheering, and two marching bands (home and away
teams) disrupting evening quiet.
6. **Lack of Transparency:** When Northwood was built in 1999, IUSD chose not to install lights to protect nearby homes. Now, with over 4,000 homes in Orchard Hills—including 809 in OHVII—IUSD has failed to extend that same consideration to our community.

I urge you to reconsider the breadth of the project and put in mitigating measures to address the concerns noted above which are shared by my fellow community residents.

Thank you for representing us on the City Council. Irvine is a master planned community priding itself on peaceful green spaces for relaxation, health and well-being. Let’s preserve that in as many of our neighborhoods as possible.

Corinne Giesemann

Sent from my iPhone

From: [redacted] Re: Concerns re: NHS Stadium light, noise pollution and traffic concerns
Date: Monday, October 20, 2025 9:15:00 PM
Attachments: Outlook-vyj0xyw4.png

fyi

Katie McEwen
Board of Education
Irvine Unified School District

IRVINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

From: [redacted]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Concerns re: NHS Stadium light, noise pollution and traffic concerns

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Thank you, Kathleen, for the meeting this evening.

Melinda, Jeff, Katie and IUSD Board members, I'd like to point out some additional concerns:

1) Fiscal responsible allocation of tax payer dollars. There is not a pressing need for extended time on the athletic fields at this time. The 4 lighted fields (IHS, PHS, UHS, Crean Lutheran + Beckman HS) provide adequate facilities.

2) Parking concerns: Back-to-School might already produces significant overflow traffic into the surrounding community requiring shuttles. This will be reproduced many times over with large events. The HOA has spent a great deal of money with trash all over our community from students trespassing into our community. We will continue to foot the cost for the littering and damage to landscaping.

3) We hear normal noises (band in the AM, bells) already, which is nice in the daytime. We

hear fireworks from Anaheim. They echo through our hills. The wildlife in the preserved hills will No Doubtedly be affected. Animals and residents NEED a quiet place to retreat to at night.
All biological beings NEED a dark, quiet place at night. We know that to keep our circadian rhythm on track and cortisol levels healthy. This is important for the well-being of our students.

4) The current EIR study takes into consideration only “athletic” noise. It DOES NOT take into account BAND, MUSIC, PA system noise. It also does not take into account traffic and speeding which already occurs on Orchard Hills Drive. When other high school students “discover” this street to speed on, it will be detrimental. It curves and is poorly lighted. Irvine Traffic and Irvine Conservancy should be involved and comment as well.
There will certainly be more traffic accidents and violations.

5) What is the background of the person making conclusions on the environmental impact of this project? Common sense knows it will create a significant amount of disruptive noise.

6) The other Irvine stadiums are located in more urban areas. NHS is nestled in the hills. It WILL affect the ecosystem and disturb the wildlife. My request is to have the Irvine Conservancy weigh in on this project.

7) Risk management of the increased traffic and potential accidents, traffic and parking violations, etc. Orchard Hills Drive is a curved, lowly lit road with a dangerous blind spot on the corner of Big Sycamore and Orchard Hills Drive. We urge that the City of Irvine Traffic conduct their own study.

8) EIR does not take into account projection of impact in years and just impact within the first few months.

We strongly urge you to take each of these concerns very seriously and respect the **thousands** of residents to be affected.

Lastly, we did not receive notice on this, so we are disadvantaged in lead time to respond adequately.

Thank you,

Corinne

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 18, 2025, at 11:03 AM, P G [redacted] wrote:

Greetings to our city leaders!

I am a resident of the Orchard Hills 2 community in Irvine, directly adjacent to

NHS.

We are concerned about your upcoming stadium lights and speaker project that may have the following impact on my community.

We have had all our kids in athletics on the wonderful track and field at Northwood, but feel Irvine has enough stadiums at Irvine High, Portola and Crean Lutheran for evening and large events.
Irvine, our quiet hills and wildlife don't need more noise and light pollution.

We may also experience significantly increased traffic potentially racing through our residential streets. We already have problems with speeding and issues with safety for walkers, joggers, bikers, strollers, skating. This may add to the issue. Students and parents already use our private, residential streets as a thoroughfare.

1. **Traffic:** Night games will bring heavy evening traffic through our streets.
2. **Parking:** As the only non-gated community in Orchard Hills, OHVII will absorb event overflow
parking—adding to the illegal student parking already occurring daily.
3. **Trespassing and Property Damage:** Students frequently cross through our landscaped areas, causing nearly $100,000 in repairs and security costs. Night events will invite more property damage and costs, which could increase HOA assessment dues.
4. **Light Pollution:** Stadium lights will be visible across OHVII and as far as Corte Bella.
5. **Noise:** Night events will bring amplified announcements, cheering, and two marching bands (home and away
teams) disrupting evening quiet.
6. **Lack of Transparency:** When Northwood was built in 1999, IUSD chose not to install lights to protect nearby homes. Now, with over 4,000 homes in Orchard Hills—including 809 in OHVII—IUSD has failed to extend that same consideration to our community.

I urge you to reconsider the breadth of the project and put in mitigating measures to address the concerns noted above which are shared by my fellow community residents.

Thank you for representing us on the City Council. Irvine is a master planned community priding itself on peaceful green spaces for relaxation, health and well-being. Let’s preserve that in as many of our neighborhoods as possible.

Corinne Giesemann

Sent from my iPhone

From: [redacted]
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Opposition – Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Improvement Project (Draft Environmental Impact Report)
Date: Thursday, October 23, 2025 1:49:10 PM
Attachments: Outlook-d5tyaxsr.png

Dear Sarah,

The IUSD Board has received your email and letter and will take into consideration your feedback. As Board President, I am responding for the Board in order to comply with The Brown Act, which governs how elected boards may communicate outside of public meetings.

Thank you for taking the time to share your concerns and we appreciate your sharing your perspective.

Best,

Katie McEwen
Board of Education
Irvine Unified School District

IRVINE UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT

From: Sarah [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2025 5:50 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Opposition – Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Improvement Project (Draft Environmental Impact Report)

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen, Members of the IUSD Board, and City Leaders,

I am writing as a concerned resident of The Groves at Orchard Hills to respectfully oppose the proposed field lighting and loudspeaker project at Northwood High School. This project is unnecessary, unwanted, and deeply disruptive to our surrounding neighborhoods of more than 4,000 homes. I36-1

Northwood High School did not request this project. The Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) is deeply flawed, overlooking the real impacts of noise, lighting, traffic, and parking on I36-2

nearby communities such as Orchard Hills and Northwood Pointe. Our neighborhoods already face ongoing issues with Northwood students' illegal parking, student drop-offs, trespassing onto landscaped areas, and property damage, which have cost residents thousands of dollars in repairs, re-landscaping, fencing, and security. I36-2 cont

This project is a wasteful use of taxpayer money. Existing problems remain unresolved by the District, and this proposed project would only make them worse. It would further diminish the quality of life and reduce property values for hundreds of families who live closest to the school. We elect our leaders to solve community issues, not to create new ones. I36-3

I respectfully urge the Board to withdraw the DEIR and to work collaboratively with our community to find solutions that both support students and respect the rights of residents who live here.

Sincerely, I36-4

Best regards,
Sarah Le

From: [redacted]
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Objection to the stadium lights built at NHS.
Date: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 8:02:41 PM
Attachments: Outlook-uq31q3gq.png

fyi

Katie McEwen
Board of Education
Irvine Unified School District

IRVINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

From: Sierra Xie [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 7:53 PM
To: Katie Mcewen [redacted]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Objection to the stadium lights built at NHS.

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Katie ,

I am a resident at Orchard Hill II. The reason I am writing this email to you is to let you know that I do not like the idea of building stadium lights at NHS. It is not necessary and will ruin the quality of life we enjoy here at Orchard Hills. There is no parking, and will promote more trespassing on our properties. Strong objections from me and my family. I37-1

Best regards,

Feng XIE

From: [redacted]
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: IUSD"s proposal to install stadium lights and loud stadium speakersystems at the Northwood High School sports fields
Date: Thursday, October 30, 2025 1:55:18 PM
Attachments: image001.png

I don't know if you received this - I actually didn't even though my name is on the email
Melinda liu sent it to me
Lauren Brooks
Board of Education,
Irvine Unified School District

Sent from my iPhone.
Please excuse all typos.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Melinda Liu Web [redacted]
Date: October 30, 2025 at 12:38:08 PM PDT
To: Lauren Brooks [redacted]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: IUSD's proposal to install stadium lights and loud stadium speakersystems at the Northwood High School sports fields

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Melinda Liu | Councilmember, District 1
City of Irvine City Council
[redacted]

From: Shu Liping [redacted]

[redacted]

Subject: lUSD's proposal to install stadium lights and loud stadium speakersystems at the Northwood High School sports fields

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL

Dear all,

My name is Liping Shu, and I live in Lanes End in Northwood Pointe, right next to Portola Parkway. I recently heard about the IUSD proposal to install stadium lights and loud stadium speaker systems at the Northwood High School sports fields, and this has made me very anxious and worried. I38-1

I live with my 80-year-old mother, who is very sensitive to noise and already suffers from severe sleep and rest issues. The installation of high-volume sound equipment so close to our home would have a significant negative impact on her health and well-being. I38-2

I sincerely hope that the district will seek more input from nearby residents and handle this matter with great care. Thank you very much for your willingness to listen to the concerns of the community.

Best regards,

Liping Shu I38-3

[redacted]

[redacted]

殳丽萍
Annie Liping Shu

From: [redacted]
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Installation of stadium lights and speakers at the Northwood High School
Date: Friday, October 31, 2025 8:00:15 AM
Attachments: Outlook-3utw1gdv.png

Dear Cindy,

The IUSD Board has received your email and letter and will take into consideration your feedback. As Board President, I am responding for the Board in order to comply with The Brown Act, which governs how elected boards may communicate outside of public meetings.

Thank you for taking the time to share your concerns and we appreciate your sharing your perspective.

Best,

Katie McEwen
Board of Education
Irvine Unified School District

IRVINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

[redacted]

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Repected Board Members of the IUSD,

We would like to express our concerns regarding the proposal of putting in additional stadium lights and speakers at the Northwood High School. I39-1

As residents on Mustang of Corte Bella, we hear the school sport activities (and the coaches' commands) with the current sound system. We are afraid that with the I39-2

proposed additional broadcasts and lightings system, our peace and quiet will be much more affected. In addition, we do not want to see more invalid parking of cars on the neighborhood streets due to increased school sports. I39-2 cont

We appreciate your kind attention to this matter. Thank you.

Cindy and Don Bai I39-3

[redacted]

Kathleen Gil

From: Jesse Barron
Sent: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 8:15 AM
To: Kathleen Gil
Cc: Kelvin Okino
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Comments RE Draft EIR for Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Speakers Project

Hi Kathleen,
Please add the below email if you have not already received for the Northwood HS Field Lighting Project.

Thank you,

Jesse Barron
Coordinator, Facilities Planning | Irvine Unified School District
[redacted]

IRVINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

From: [redacted]
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Comments RE Draft EIR for Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Speakers Project

From: Cassie Parham [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 4:46 AM
To: Raianna Chavez [redacted]>
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Comments RE Draft EIR for Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Speakers Project

Get Outlook for iOS

From: [redacted]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments RE Draft EIR for Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Speakers Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Cassie,

We are residents and registered voters of the Lanes End community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School's football field on the south side of Portola Parkway. I40-1

Setting aside existing problems with student parking in our neighborhood, this project would create even greater challenges for our community, including overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light spillage, all of which the Draft EIR fails to evaluate from our side of the street. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built? I40-2

The IUSD Board made a wise and considered decision in 1999, when Northwood High School was constructed, not to include lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating. Why change course now, when over 4,000 additional homes have since been built in the surrounding neighborhoods? This proposal appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's long-standing master planning principles, which emphasize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the distinct character of each village. Introducing additional noise, lighting, and traffic impacts would inevitably disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, diminish property values, and increase HOA costs over time. I40-3

Even more concerning, the project scope explicitly allows for non-school related activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no description of what these events are, how often they would occur, or what restrictions or controls would apply. The lack of definition and analysis in the Draft EIR raises serious questions about whether the full scope and impacts of the project have been properly evaluated. I40-4

We find this proposal troubling, as it conflicts with the principles of good neighborliness and responsible community planning. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw this project entirely and uphold the sound precedent set by your predecessors in 1999. They made the right decision then, and we urge the Board to show the same careful consideration in deciding this matter now. I40-5

We look forward to seeing these concerns registered in the draft EIR comments.

Sincerely,

Dr. Wenkai Qin I40-6

[redacted]

Comment Letter I41

Kathleen Gil

From: KK Chen [redacted]

[redacted]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Concern regarding Northwood High Lighting Projects

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Members of the Board,

I am writing to express my concerns of the proposed Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project. As a long-time resident of the Northwood neighborhood, I am deeply concerned that this project will irreversibly damage the quiet and semi-rural character of our community. I41-1

Our neighborhood is a peaceful residential area surrounded by orchard groves and open space, where residents value quite environment, dark night skies, minimal noise, and light evening traffic. The introduction of four 70-foot light poles, an amplified public-address system, and expanded nighttime athletic events beyond Northwood High school uses will bring new and ongoing light, noise, and vehicle impacts into an area not designed for this level of activity. I41-2

Although the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) concludes that these impacts are “less than significant,” that finding does not reflect the reality our community will experience. The DEIR identifies no mitigation measures to address increased lighting, noise, or traffic. Instead, it relies on technical assumptions that underestimate the actual day-to-day disruption these facilities will cause. Without enforceable restrictions on event frequency, hours of operation, or sound levels, there are no real protections for nearby residents. I41-3

Furthermore, the public outreach for this project was inadequate. Many affected homeowners were unaware of the proposed project. One scoping notice and limited online postings do not constitute meaningful engagement for a project with citywide implications. I41-4

With the installation of permanent lighting and a PA system, Northwood High School would effectively become a regional event facility serving the entire City of Irvine, rather than a neighborhood school. The DEIR even acknowledges that the fields would be available for outside user groups under the Civic Center Act. This means our quiet residential area would host large-scale community or city events at night — bringing in additional traffic, parking congestion, and noise far beyond what is appropriate for a neighborhood setting. I41-5

Once these changes are made, the peaceful character of our community cannot be restored. For these reasons, I urge the Irvine Unified School District and the board to reject this project and instead select the No Project Alternative outlined in the DEIR. Northwood High can continue to provide outstanding educational opportunities without imposing citywide event impacts on its surrounding neighborhoods. I41-6

Thank you for considering my comments.

Best Regards, I41-7

Katie Chen

Comment Letter I42

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Objections to Draft EIR for Lights and Loud Speakers Installation Project at Northwood High

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

I42-1

I am a resident of Orchard Hills and recently became aware of the proposed Northwood High School field lighting and PA speakers project.

I am deeply concerned as to why the immediately adjacent neighborhoods were not informed or consulted during the preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The Draft EIR fails to address critical residential neighborhood impacts in several key areas. For example, it overlooks traffic and overflow parking into our communities, which is already a daily problem, and does not analyze peak game-day conditions for noise, traffic, or lighting spillage. The Draft EIR also incorrectly assumes that attendees would use public transportation, even though there is no OCTA bus route along Portola Parkway. It further lacks any plan for security or coordination with the Irvine Police Department to manage illegal parking, trespassing, and loitering in our private neighborhoods, which directly affects residents' quiet enjoyment.

I42-2

While the project scope and disclosure filings with the State clearly and repeatedly state that the purpose of the proposed lights and PA speakers includes hosting non-school related events, the Draft EIR provides no explanation of what these "non-school events" are, how often they would occur, or what limits or other restrictions would apply, including traffic control, parking management, and community security. This complete lack of analysis leaves significant uncertainty about the scale and nature of potential uses.

I42-3

Even giving the District the benefit of the doubt, and taking the project scope at face value, the cost-benefit analysis does not appear to justify the installation of permanent stadium lights and loudspeakers for only five or six home football games a year. The resulting permanent disruptions, neighborhood impacts, and unnecessary costs to taxpayers cannot be justified by the limited and short-term benefits this project would provide.

I42-4

I strongly urge the Board to reject the current flawed Draft EIR and require a full redo of the EIR process to correct its fundamental deficiencies, including meaningful consultation with nearby residential communities and a genuine analysis of the true impacts on surrounding neighborhoods.

142-5

Thank you for your reconsideration.

Sincerely,
Grace Ouy

Kathleen Gil

From: Nancy Valuch [redacted]
Sent: Monday, November 10, 2025 4:21 PM
To: Jeff Kim; Lauren Brooks; Cyril Yu; Cassie Parham; Kathleen Gil; Eric Keith
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Concern Regarding Northwood High School Stadium Lights and PA System
Attachments: schoollitesboard.pdf

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Please see attached letter. We are original owners of the LanesEnd community and are very concerned about the proposed Northwood High School Lights and PA System, especially the impact on parking in our community. We have parking available ONLY on one side of each street. The other side is designated as a FIRE LANE with towing as a solution throughout the community. I43-1

Subject: Comments RE Draft EIR for Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Speakers Project

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents and registered voters of the Lanesend community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School's football field on the south side of Portola Parkway. I43-2

Setting aside existing problems with student parking in our neighborhood, this project would create even greater challenges for our community, including overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light spillage, all of which the Draft EIR fails to evaluate from our side of the street. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built? I43-3

The IUSD Board made a wise and considered decision in 1999, when Northwood High School was constructed, not to include lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating. Why change course now, when over 4,000 additional homes have since been built in the surrounding neighborhoods? This proposal appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's long-standing master planning principles, which emphasize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the distinct character of each village. Introducing additional noise, lighting, and traffic impacts would inevitably disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, diminish property values, and increase HOA costs over time. I43-4

Even more concerning, the project scope explicitly allows for non-school related activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no description of what these events are, how often they would occur, or what restrictions or controls would apply. The lack of definition and analysis in the Draft EIR raises serious questions about whether the full scope and impacts of the project have been properly evaluated. I43-5

We find this proposal troubling, as it conflicts with the principles of good neighborliness and responsible community planning. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw this project entirely and uphold the sound precedent set by your predecessors in 1999. They made the right decision then, and we urge the Board to show the same careful consideration in deciding this matter now. I43-6

We look forward to seeing these concerns registered in the draft EIR comments. I43-7



Comment Letter I44

Kathleen Gil

From: Jacquelyn Chiong [redacted]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments Re: Draft EIR for Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Speakers Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents and registered voters of the Lanesend community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School's football field on the south side of Portola Parkway. I44-1

Setting aside existing problems with student parking in our neighborhood, this project would create even greater challenges for our community, including overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light spillage, all of which the Draft EIR fails to evaluate from our side of the street. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built? I44-2

The IUSD Board made a wise and considered decision in 1999, when Northwood High School was constructed, not to include lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating. Why change course now, when over 4,000 additional homes have since been built in the surrounding neighborhoods? This proposal appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's long-standing master planning principles, which emphasize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the distinct character of each village. Introducing additional noise, lighting, and traffic impacts would inevitably disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, diminish property values, and increase HOA costs over time. I44-3

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We find this proposal troubling, as it conflicts with the principles of good neighborliness and responsible community planning. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw this project entirely and uphold the sound precedent set by your predecessors in 1999. They made the right decision then, and we urge the Board to show the same careful consideration in deciding this matter now. I44-5

We look forward to seeing these concerns registered in the draft EIR comments. I44-6

Sincerely,
Jacquelyn Chiong

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, November 11, 2025 7:16 PM
To: Katie Mcewen; Jeff Kim; Lauren Brooks; Connie Stone; Cyril Yu; Cassie Parham; Kathleen Gil; Eric Keith
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments Re: Draft EIR for Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Speakers Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents and registered voters of the Lanesend community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School's football field on the south side of Portola Parkway. I45-1

Setting aside existing problems with student parking in our neighborhood, this project would create even greater challenges for our community, including overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light spillage, all of which the Draft EIR fails to evaluate from our side of the street. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built? I45-2

The IUSD Board made a wise and considered decision in 1999, when Northwood High School was constructed, not to include lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating. Why change course now, when over 4,000 additional homes have since been built in the surrounding neighborhoods? This proposal appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's long-standing master planning principles, which emphasize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the distinct character of each village. Introducing additional noise, lighting, and traffic impacts would inevitably disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, diminish property values, and increase HOA costs over time. I45-3

Even more concerning, the project scope explicitly allows for non-school related activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no description of what these events are, how often they would occur, or what restrictions or controls would apply. The lack of definition and analysis in the Draft EIR raises serious questions about whether the full scope and impacts of the project have been properly evaluated. I45-4

We find this proposal troubling, as it conflicts with the principles of good neighborliness and responsible community planning. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw this project entirely and uphold the sound precedent set by your predecessors in 1999. They made the right decision then, and we urge the Board to show the same careful consideration in deciding this matter now. I45-5

We look forward to seeing these concerns registered in the draft EIR comments. I45-6

Sincerely,
Brian Gerstein

Kathleen Gil

From: Shu Liping [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, November 11, 2025 9:07 PM
To: Katie Mcewen; Jeff Kim; Lauren Brooks; Connie Stone; Cyril Yu; Eric Keith; Kathleen Gil; Jazzelle Nava; District 1 – Melinda Liu –
Cc: John Duong (OHVII)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 回复: IUSD's proposal to install stadium lights and loud stadium speakersystems at the Northwood High School sports fields
Attachments: Lanes End Signature 11072025.pdf

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear all,

Following my attendance at the recent district meeting, I took the opportunity to speak with several of my neighbors. To my surprise, almost none of them were aware of the district's plan to install loudspeakers and lighting equipment at Northwood High School. After I shared the information, many expressed deep concern that such installations could disrupt the peace and quiet of our neighborhood.

Our community includes a significant number of elderly residents who live alone and tend to retire early in the evening. The potential noise from the loudspeakers, in particular, could have a serious impact on their rest and overall well-being.

I am forwarding to you a petition signed by these concerned residents. We respectfully ask that the district carefully consider the impact of this project on the quality of life of those living nearby before proceeding with any installation. I plan to continue collecting signatures from our neighborhood and will share them with you as soon as they are available.

Thank you very much for your understanding and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

殳丽萍
Annie Liping Shu

[redacted]

主题: IUSD's proposal to install stadium lights and loud stadium speakersystems at the Northwood High School sports fields

Dear all,

My name is Liping Shu, and I live in Lanes End in Northwood Pointe, right next to Portola Parkway. I recently heard about the IUSD proposal to install stadium lights and loud stadium speaker systems at the Northwood High School sports fields, and this has made me very anxious and worried.

I live with my 80-year-old mother, who is very sensitive to noise and already suffers from severe sleep and rest issues. The installation of high-volume sound equipment so close to our home would have a significant negative impact on her health and well-being.

I sincerely hope that the district will seek more input from nearby residents and handle this matter with great care. Thank you very much for your willingness to listen to the concerns of the community.

Best regards,

Liping Shu

[redacted]

[redacted]

及丽萍
Annie Liping Shu

Subject: Comments RE Draft EIR for Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Speakers Project

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents and registered voters of the Lanes End community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School's football field on the south side of Portola Parkway.

Setting aside existing problems with student parking in our neighborhood, this project would create even greater challenges for our community, including overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light spillage, all of which the Draft EIR fails to evaluate from our side of the street. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built?

The IUSD Board made a wise and considered decision in 1999, when Northwood High School was constructed, not to include lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating. Why change course now, when over 4,000 additional homes have since been built in the surrounding neighborhoods? This proposal appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's long-standing master planning principles, which emphasize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the distinct character of each village. Introducing additional noise, lighting, and traffic impacts would inevitably disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, diminish property values, and increase HOA costs over time.

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We find this proposal troubling, as it conflicts with the principles of good neighborliness and responsible community planning. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw this project entirely and uphold the sound precedent set by your predecessors in 1999. They made the right decision then, and we urge the Board to show the same careful consideration in deciding this matter now.

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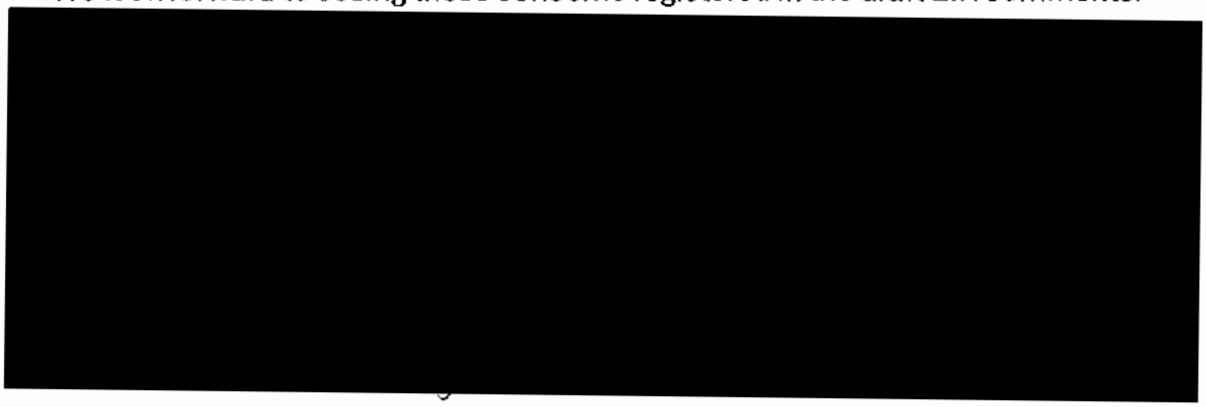
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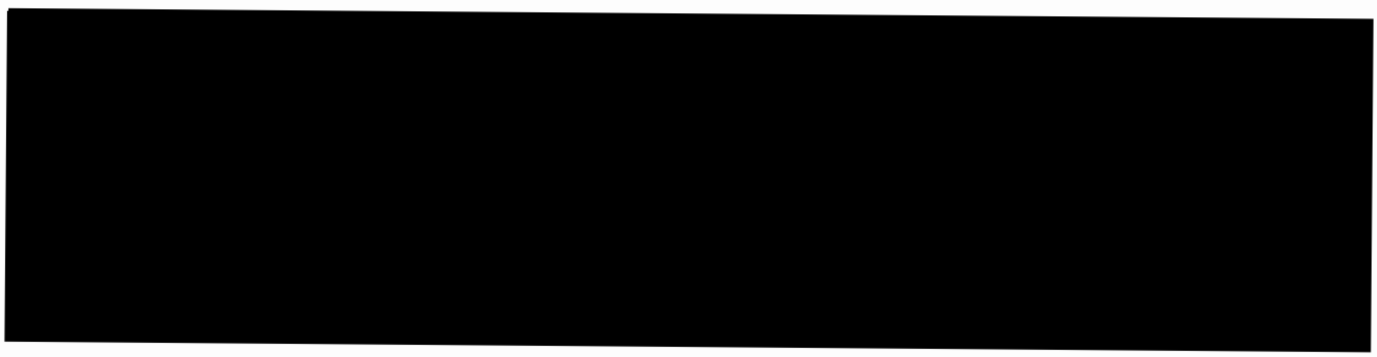
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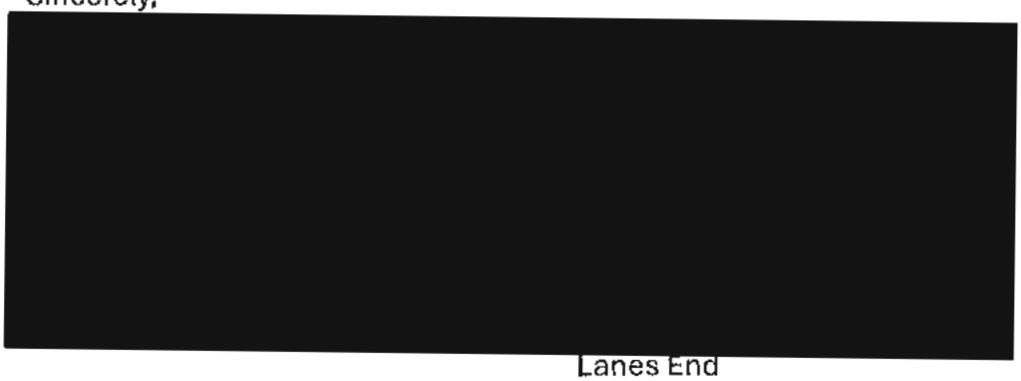
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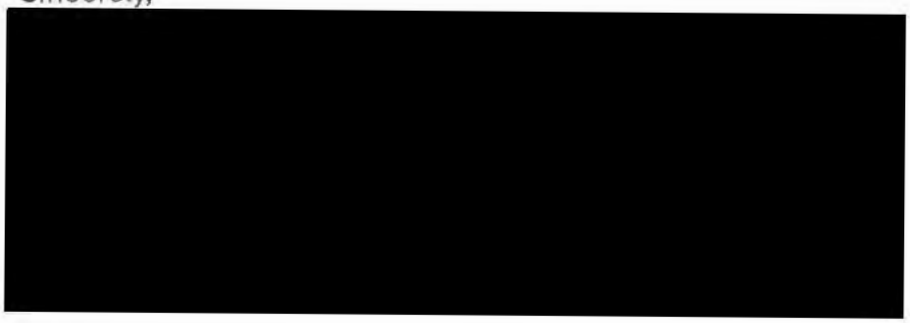
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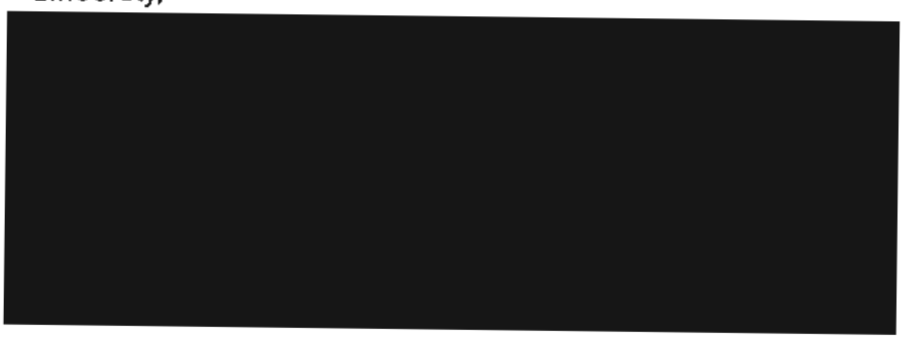
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Comment Letter I47

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Community Concerns - Draft EIR for Lights and Loud Speakers Installation at Northwood High School

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

I47-1

We, residents of Orchard Hills, are writing to express our deep concerns regarding IUSD's proposal to install stadium lights and a loud PA system at Northwood High School.

As nearby residents who will be impacted by this project, we were not properly informed about it, and the Draft EIR does not adequately account for the impacts on nearby residential communities. Our understanding is that Northwood High School did not request these lights or speakers. It is one matter to accommodate after-school practices. Still, we are greatly concerned about the District's stated intention to permit non-school-related activities, as outlined in the project scope. I47-2

Our communities already face ongoing issues such as illegal student drop-offs and pick-ups that block our private streets, as well as trespassing and damage to community-maintained landscaping. Night events, particularly those unrelated to school activities, would only exacerbate these existing problems. I47-3

Many of us purchased our homes in Orchard Hills for the quiet enjoyment and the quality of life the community offers. Nighttime activities would bring additional noise, lighting, traffic, and overflow parking into our neighborhoods, permanently altering that balance and character of our community. I47-4

Although we are unable to attend the November 4 IUSD Board meeting, we would like to register our objections to the current Draft EIR for the reasons outlined above. We support the educational mission of Northwood High School and IUSD, but strongly urge the District to consider the ongoing burdens this project would impose on nearby residents who have invested their life's savings to live in this quiet community. I47-5

We respectfully request that IUSD withdraw the current project or, at a minimum, revise the Draft EIR to fully evaluate its impacts on surrounding residential neighborhoods. Please consider the consequences of your decision-making on residents and voters in our Orchard Hills and Northwood Pointe communities. I47-6

Sincerely,
Christina Shaw
[redacted]

Kathleen Gil

From: Kisung Kim [redacted]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. While we strongly support Northwood High School's mission and the education of its students, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, specifically regarding evening events that would result in permanent nighttime impacts on nearby neighborhoods. I48-1

We are already experiencing issues stemming from insufficient student parking during regular school days. Students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Since our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly bearing the cost of upkeep and repair for areas affected by this activity. I48-2

The proposed major nighttime events would significantly increase these existing problems for residents in Orchard Hills, Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding permanent nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by introducing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours. I48-3

Critically, the Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze the resulting noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, thereby ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures, such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community. I48-4

We support the goal of providing student-athletes with safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to the existing operating hours for the tennis courts and swimming pools. However, we oppose permitting large evening events that involve amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seating.

We respectfully urge the Irvine Unified School District (IUSD) to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. Additionally, the Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts. I48-5

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community.

Sincerely, I48-6

Kisung Kim
[redacted]

Comment Letter I49

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Project (Draft EIR)

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Subject: Comments on Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Project (Draft EIR)

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods. I49-1

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours. I49-2

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community. I49-3

We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts. I49-4

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community. I49-5

Sincerely,
Ivy Chang
[redacted]

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]

[redacted] Lighting and PA Project (Draft EIR)

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods. I50-1

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours. I50-2

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community. I50-3

We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts. I50-4

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community. I50-5

Sincerely,
Daphne Kent
Orchard Hills Resident

Kathleen Gil

From: Carlos Takbron [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2025 3:51 PM
To: Kathleen Gil
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Northwood HS Field Lighting and PA Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods. I51-1

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours. I51-2

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We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m.The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts. I51-4

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community. I51-5

Sincerely,
Carlos Bravo

Orchard Hills Resident

Comment Letter I52

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]

[redacted] Lighting and PA Project (Draft EIR)

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods. I52-1

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours. I52-2

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community. I52-3

We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts. I52-4

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community. 152-5

Sincerely,
Mingyu Joo
Orchard Hills Resident

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]

[redacted] and PA Project (Draft EIR)

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods. I53-1

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours. I53-2

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community. I53-3

We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts. I54-4

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community. I54-5

Sincerely,
Keumjoo Ahn
Orchard Hills Resident

Comment Letter I54

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods. I54-1

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours. I54-2

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community. I54-3

We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts. I54-4

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community. I54-5

Sincerely,

Matt Chow
Orchard Hills Resident

Comment Letter I55

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]

[redacted] Lighting and PA Project (Draft EIR)

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods. I55-1

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours. I55-2

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community. I55-3

We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts. I55-4

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community. I55-5

Jim

James P Calpin
Orchard Hills Property Owner

Comment Letter I56

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]

[redacted] Yu; Cassie Parham; Eric Keith; [redacted] Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We have been homeowners in Irvine for nearly 40 years and are voters of the Orchard Hills community. We recently became aware of the planned lights and public address system project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High (and many other IUSD schools) and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods. I56-1

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours. I56-2

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community. I56-3

We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts. I56-4

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community. I56-5

Sincerely,
Rack and Myung Hong
Orchard Hills Resident

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2025 4:14 PM
To: Kathleen Gil
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Subject: Comments on Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods. I57-1

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours. I57-2

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community. I57-3

We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts. I57-4

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community. I57-5

Sincerely,

Batool Peykarestan
Orchard Hills resident

Comment Letter I58

Kathleen Gil

From: Jean Chow [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2025 4:33 PM
To: Kathleen Gil
Cc: Jeff Kim
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Northwood

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods. I58-1

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours. I58-2

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community. I58-3

We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts. I58-4

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community. I58-5

Sincerely,
Jean Chow

Orchard Hills Resident

Comment Letter I59

Kathleen Gil

From: [redacted]

[redacted] Cassie Parham; Eric Keith; [redacted]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Subject: Comments on Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods. I59-1

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours. I59-2

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We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts. I59-4

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community. I59-5

Sincerely,
Hossein Zarei
Orchard Hills resident

Kathleen Gil

From: Dennis Lo <[redacted]
[redacted]
To: Kathleen Gil
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project
Attachments: Response to EIR.pdf

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms Gil,

Please see attached as response to the project's EIR.

Thanks.

November 12, 2025

Irvine Unified School District

Attn: Kathleen Gil, Facilities Planner

[redacted]

[redacted]

RE: Public Comment – Draft EIR for Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Improvement Project

Dear Ms. Gil,

As the resident of Orchard Hills Village III Community Association, also known as The Reserve, I write to share many residents' concerns regarding the proposed installation of stadium lighting and a public address system at Northwood High School. We appreciate the District's commitment to supporting student programs and athletics, and we recognize the importance of providing safe and equitable facilities. However, this project introduces significant burdens for the surrounding neighborhoods that deserve serious consideration. I60-1

Our community of more than 1,000 homes relies on Orchard Hills Drive as its main ingress and egress. We already experience daily traffic congestion from school-related activity, especially during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up periods. Vehicles frequently queue along Orchard Hills Drive and use our primary entrances as waiting areas, often restricting access and causing inconvenience for residents and friction with our on-site security personnel. These conditions exist today under normal daytime operations and would only worsen with evening events and amplified activities. I60-2

The Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is severely deficient in many areas and not technically sound in its analysis. It fails to present accurate or complete data regarding lighting, noise, and traffic impacts. No lighting or sound measurements were taken from nearby residential vantage points, and the EIR does not address the cumulative effects of event parking, on-street congestion, and the lack of adequate onsite parking. In addition, it fails to I60-3

evaluate peak-event impacts, when traffic volumes, lighting use, and noise levels would be at their highest, or to consider the need for parking and traffic controls, as well as appropriate security measures for both event attendees and nearby residents. These omissions render the report incomplete under the intent and standards of CEQA.

I60-3 cont

Our residents are not opposed to allowing student athletic practices, and it would be reasonable for such activities to continue until approximately 7:30 p.m., similar to existing use at the school's tennis courts and swimming pool. However, any expansion into "stadium-style" use carries the risk of incremental additions such as spectator seating and amplified events that could permanently alter the nature of the facility, and therefore have real negative impacts on our residential neighborhoods. We strongly urge the District to remove any intention of creating or evolving toward stadium-level use.

I60-4

Furthermore, the proposed inclusion of "non-school" related activities in the project scope is undefined and unexamined in the Draft EIR. There is no discussion of what these uses entail, how often they might occur, or what impacts they may have on nearby communities. To maintain transparency and public trust, the District must remove this provision entirely. Doing so would reassure residents that the project's intent is limited to legitimate school purposes and not open-ended community or commercial uses.

I60-5

We respectfully request that the District reconsider this project and revise the Draft EIR to include a complete, data-driven evaluation of lighting, noise, parking, traffic, and security impacts, including cumulative and peak-event conditions. We also ask that IUSD engage directly with affected homeowners' associations to ensure meaningful dialogue and collaborative problem-solving before any final determinations are made.

I60-6

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your continued service to our students and the Irvine community.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

Comment Letter I61

Kathleen Gil

From: Xiangli Liu [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2025 4:41 PM
To: Kathleen Gil
Subject: [EXTERNAL] concerns of the proposed Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

I am writing to express my concerns of the proposed Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project. As a long-time resident of the Northwood neighborhood, I am deeply concerned that this project will irreversibly damage the quiet and semi-rural character of our community. I61-1

Our neighborhood is a peaceful residential area surrounded by orchard groves and open space, where residents value quite environment, dark night skies, minimal noise, and light evening traffic. The introduction of four 70-foot light poles, an amplified public-address system, and expanded nighttime athletic events beyond Northwood High school uses will bring new and ongoing light, noise, and vehicle impacts into an area not designed for this level of activity. I61-2

Although the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) concludes that these impacts are “less than significant,” that finding does not reflect the reality our community will experience. The DEIR identifies no mitigation measures to address increased lighting, noise, or traffic. Instead, it relies on technical assumptions that underestimate the actual day-to-day disruption these facilities will cause. Without enforceable restrictions on event frequency, hours of operation, or sound levels, there are no real protections for nearby residents. I61-3

Furthermore, the public outreach for this project was inadequate. Many affected homeowners were unaware of the proposed project. One scoping notice and limited online postings do not constitute meaningful engagement for a project with citywide implications. I61-4

With the installation of permanent lighting and a PA system, Northwood High School would effectively become a regional event facility serving the entire City of Irvine, rather than a neighborhood school. The DEIR even acknowledges that the fields would be available for outside user groups under the Civic Center Act. This means our quiet residential area would host large-scale community or city events at night — bringing in additional traffic, parking congestion, and noise far beyond what is appropriate for a neighborhood setting. I61-5

Once these changes are made, the peaceful character of our community cannot be restored. For these reasons, I urge the Irvine Unified School District and the board to reject this project and instead select the No Project Alternative outlined in the DEIR. Northwood High can continue to provide outstanding educational opportunities without imposing citywide event impacts on its surrounding neighborhoods. I61-6

Thank you for considering my comments.

Kathleen Gil

From: Xiangli Liu [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2025 4:44 PM
To: Kathleen Gil
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Concerns of the proposed Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

I am writing to express my concerns of the proposed Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project. As a long-time resident of the Northwood neighborhood, I am deeply concerned that this project will irreversibly damage the quiet and semi-rural character of our community.

Our neighborhood is a peaceful residential area surrounded by orchard groves and open space, where residents value quite environment, dark night skies, minimal noise, and light evening traffic. The introduction of four 70-foot light poles, an amplified public-address system, and expanded nighttime athletic events beyond Northwood High school uses will bring new and ongoing light, noise, and vehicle impacts into an area not designed for this level of activity.

Although the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) concludes that these impacts are “less than significant,” that finding does not reflect the reality our community will experience. The DEIR identifies no mitigation measures to address increased lighting, noise, or traffic. Instead, it relies on technical assumptions that underestimate the actual day-to-day disruption these facilities will cause. Without enforceable restrictions on event frequency, hours of operation, or sound levels, there are no real protections for nearby residents.

Furthermore, the public outreach for this project was inadequate. Many affected homeowners were unaware of the proposed project. One scoping notice and limited online postings do not constitute meaningful engagement for a project with citywide implications.

With the installation of permanent lighting and a PA system, Northwood High School would effectively become a regional event facility serving the entire City of Irvine, rather than a neighborhood school. The DEIR even acknowledges that the fields would be available for outside user groups under the Civic Center Act. This means our quiet residential area would host large-scale community or city events at night — bringing in additional traffic, parking congestion, and noise far beyond what is appropriate for a neighborhood setting.

Once these changes are made, the peaceful character of our community cannot be restored. For these reasons, I urge the Irvine Unified School District and the board to reject this project and instead select the No Project Alternative outlined in the DEIR. Northwood High can continue to provide outstanding educational opportunities without imposing citywide event impacts on its surrounding neighborhoods.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Xiangli Liu

Comment Letter I62

Kathleen Gil

From: H C [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2025 4:38 PM
To: Kathleen Gil
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Project (Draft EIR)

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods. I62-1

As you may or may not know, there currently is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise pollution, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours. I62-2

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community. I62-3

We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts. I62-4

I urge you to put yourself in our shoes. We are the ones that are paying for costly repairs. We are the ones that will have our peaceful and serene living conditions disrupted. I62-5

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community.

I62-5 cont

Sincerely,
Henry Cheng, M.D.
Family Medicine Physician
Orchard Hills Resident

From: [redacted]
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: IUSD Northwood High Stadium Lighting Project
Date: Thursday, November 13, 2025 4:30:16 PM
Attachments: Outlook-2gcx4y0m.png

Dear Albert,

The IUSD Board has received your email and letter and will take into consideration your feedback. As Board President, I am responding for the Board in order to comply with The Brown Act, which governs how elected boards may communicate outside of public meetings.

Thank you for taking the time to share your concerns and we appreciate your sharing your perspective.

Best regards,

Katie McEwen
Board of Education
Irvine Unified School District

IRVINE UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT

[redacted] High Stadium Lighting Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We want to make you aware of the Irvine Unified School District's (IUSD) proposed project to install stadium lighting and a public address system at Northwood High School. The District has released a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR), and

I63-1

today is the final day to submit public comments. I63-1 cont

This project matters greatly to our community. It introduces permanent nighttime operations beyond the school's current use and will intensify ongoing traffic, parking, and noise issues that have already cost our association nearly $100,000 over the years in added fencing, security, landscape replacement, and parking-related expenses. Homes in Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza will be closest to the field and most directly affected by noise, light, traffic, and parking impacts. I63-2

The Draft EIR is severely deficient in its analysis. It fails to evaluate any residential impacts, including noise, light spillage, traffic congestion, overflow parking, security, or speeding concerns. Measurements were limited to the football field and Portola Parkway, ignoring surrounding neighborhoods entirely. I63-3

Thank you,
Albert Liu
Orchard Hill Resident

From: [redacted]
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Objections to Draft EIR for Lights and Loud Speakers Installation Project at Northwood High
Date: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 9:30:06 PM
Attachments: Outlook-u13uf3qm.png

Dear Daniel,

The IUSD Board has received your email and letter and will take into consideration your feedback. As Board President, I am responding for the Board in order to comply with The Brown Act, which governs how elected boards may communicate outside of public meetings.

Thank you for taking the time to share your concerns and we appreciate your sharing your perspective.

Best regards,

Katie McEwen
Board of Education
Irvine Unified School District

IRVINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

[redacted] cassieparham@iusd.org>; Kathleen Gil <kathleengil@iusd.org>; Eric Keith <erickeith@iusd.org>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Objections to Draft EIR for Lights and Loud Speakers Installation Project at Northwood High

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

I am a resident of Northwood Pointe and recently became aware of the proposed Northwood High School field lighting and PA speakers project. I64-1

I am deeply concerned as to why the immediately adjacent neighborhoods were not informed or consulted during the preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The Draft EIR fails to address critical residential neighborhood impacts in several key areas. For example, it overlooks traffic and overflow parking into our communities, which is already a daily problem, and does not analyze peak game-day conditions for noise, traffic, or lighting spillage. The Draft EIR also incorrectly assumes that attendees would use public transportation, even though there is no OCTA bus route along Portola Parkway. It further lacks any plan for security or coordination with the Irvine Police Department to manage illegal parking, trespassing, and loitering in our private neighborhoods, which directly affects residents' quiet enjoyment. I64-2

While the project scope and disclosure filings with the State clearly and repeatedly state that the purpose of the proposed lights and PA speakers includes hosting non-school related events, the Draft EIR provides no explanation of what these "non-school events" are, how often they would occur, or what limits or other restrictions would apply, including traffic control, parking management, and community security. This complete lack of analysis leaves significant uncertainty about the scale and nature of potential uses. I64-3

Even giving the District the benefit of the doubt, and taking the project scope at face value, the cost-benefit analysis does not appear to justify the installation of permanent stadium lights and loudspeakers for only five or six home football games a year. The resulting permanent disruptions, neighborhood impacts, and unnecessary costs to taxpayers cannot be justified by the limited and short-term benefits this project would provide. I64-4

I strongly urge the Board to drop this project or, at minimum, reject the current flawed Draft EIR and require a full redo of the EIR process to correct its fundamental deficiencies, including meaningful consultation with nearby residential communities and a genuine analysis of the true impacts on surrounding neighborhoods. I64-5

Thank you for your reconsideration.

Sincerely,
Daniel Yafei Guo

From: [redacted]
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Concern About Northwood High School Field Lighting Project
Date: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 1:00:07 PM
Attachments: Outlook-esdctrol.png

Dear Shiqi,

The IUSD Board has received your email and will take into consideration your feedback. As Board President, I am responding for the Board in order to comply with The Brown Act, which governs how elected boards may communicate outside of public meetings.

Thank you for taking the time to share your concerns and we appreciate your sharing your perspective.

Best regards,

Katie McEwen
Board of Education
Irvine Unified School District

IRVINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

[redacted]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Concern About Northwood High School Field Lighting Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Members of the Board,

I am writing to express my concerns of the proposed Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project. As a long-time resident of the Northwood neighborhood, I am deeply concerned that this project will irreversibly damage the quiet and semi-rural character of our I65-1

community. I65-1 cont

Our neighborhood is a peaceful residential area surrounded by orchard groves and open space, where residents value quite environment, dark night skies, minimal noise, and light evening traffic. The introduction of four 70-foot light poles, an amplified public-address system, and expanded nighttime athletic events beyond Northwood High school uses will bring new and ongoing light, noise, and vehicle impacts into an area not designed for this level of activity. I65-2

Although the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) concludes that these impacts are "less than significant," that finding does not reflect the reality our community will experience. The DEIR identifies no mitigation measures to address increased lighting, noise, or traffic. Instead, it relies on technical assumptions that underestimate the actual day-to-day disruption these facilities will cause. Without enforceable restrictions on event frequency, hours of operation, or sound levels, there are no real protections for nearby residents. I65-3

Furthermore, the public outreach for this project was inadequate. Many affected homeowners were unaware of the proposed project. One scoping notice and limited online postings do not constitute meaningful engagement for a project with citywide implications. I65-4

With the installation of permanent lighting and a PA system, Northwood High School would effectively become a regional event facility serving the entire City of Irvine, rather than a neighborhood school. The DEIR even acknowledges that the fields would be available for outside user groups under the Civic Center Act. This means our quiet residential area would host large-scale community or city events at night — bringing in additional traffic, parking congestion, and noise far beyond what is appropriate for a neighborhood setting. I65-5

Once these changes are made, the peaceful character of our community cannot be restored. For these reasons, I urge the Irvine Unified School District and the board to reject this project and instead select the No Project Alternative outlined in the DEIR. Northwood High can continue to provide outstanding educational opportunities without imposing citywide event impacts on its surrounding neighborhoods. I65-6

Thank you for considering my comments.

Best Regards,

Shiqi Chen [redacted]

COMMENT CARD
Community Meeting
Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project
October 20, 2025

Name: Maria Hensley
Affiliation: Orchard Hills Village II - Resident
Address: [redacted]
Comments:

- Noise along Portola from cars will be increased ⇒ this is not significant is a false statement. CC1-1
- Speeding - cars use Portola & Orchard Hills Rd as racetrack CC1-2
- Mitigation in the meeting discussed were just around the construction CC1-3
- where is money coming from to pay for this project when it is not needed. CC1-4

Comment Letter CC2

[redacted]

COMMENT CARD

Community Meeting

Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project
October 20, 2025

Name: Corinne Giesemann

Affiliation: Resident, Prior parent

Address: 92 Thoroughbred

Comments: ① Concern re: Financial Cost. Probably better to allocate ~~Allocation of our tax dollars.~~ funds to more pressing needs. CC2-1

our athletes have had plenty & adequate accommodation @ our 4+ Fields (lighted) in Irvine: UHS, IHS, PHS, Crean Lutheran, Beckman

② Affect on Ecosystem: Would like study on affect on wildlife with light, noise, traffic. CC2-2

③ Concern re: speeding along Orchard Hills Drive (occurs currently) CC2-3

Written comments must be received no later than November 12, 2025 at the following address:

Irvine Unified School District

[redacted]

Attention: Kathleen Gil, Facilities Planner

④ overflow parking Back to School Night traffic already overflows into → CC2-4

1) Find it hard to believe less-insignificant noise - we hear fireworks from Anaheim & other cities. — Not significant ; who?
- They echo through our hills.
- The wild life in The Orchard Hills preserves are most definitely to be impacted. — Noise
- This analysis only took into account construction noise. CC2-5
- Athletic noise would not have signif. impact, but the PA system would, ⊕ music / Band
- Traffic (speeding on the Orchard Hills Rd) can be heard already. It is likely to increase.

Thank you.

surrounding residential communities. CC2-4 cont.