

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE CALIFORNIA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF – RIVERSIDE: ATHLETIC COMPLEX REPLACEMENT AND EXPANSION PROJECT

PROJECT TITLE: California School for the Deaf – Riverside: Athletic Complex Replacement and Expansion Project

PROJECT LOCATION: The proposed project is located within the California School for the Deaf, Riverside campus located at 3044 Horace Street in the City of Riverside, California. The approximately 16-acre project site is comprised of one parcel (Assessor's Parcel Number [APN] 235-233-028).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: As the Lead Agency, the California Department of Education (CDE) has prepared an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the proposed improvements to the existing original athletic fields and related infrastructure at the California School for the Deaf – Riverside (CSDR) campus. The IS/MND has been prepared to provide the public, responsible agencies, and trustee agencies with information about the potential environmental effects of construction and operation of the Athletic Complex Replacement and Expansion Project (Project).

The Project includes improvements to the existing original athletic fields and related infrastructure at the CSDR campus, to ensure the safety of participants and spectators, maximize use of the fields for the campus' needs, and meet Title IX requirements. Improvements include the replacement of existing grass sports fields with new football, soccer, baseball, and softball fields. The Project also includes replacement of the existing decomposed granite track with a new all-weather 8-lane track. Existing athletic equipment, fencing, bleachers, and a storage shed would be demolished and replaced with new lighting, bleachers, dugouts, batting/pitching cages, shot put, long jump, high jump, discus, drinking fountains, electronic messaging, flagpoles, scoreboards, press booth, and a scorekeeper's booth. The Project includes the construction of a canopy of photovoltaic panels over the bleachers, new practice field, and support facilities including restrooms, security features, a concession stand, ticket booth building, and equipment storage. New pathways, vehicle parking, fencing, and renovated landscaping and irrigation systems are also proposed.

The CDE has prepared this IS/MND to examine the potential environmental impacts of the proposed improvements to the existing athletic facilities and related infrastructure. This document explains why the Project is being proposed, how the existing environment could be affected by the Project, the potential impacts of each proposed activity, and the proposed avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: June 30, 2025, to July 30, 2025

WHO TO CONTACT FOR INFORMATION: For additional information, please contact Stephanie Coleman, Senior Environmental Planner, at (916) 376-1602.

(Continued on back)

HOW TO REVIEW AND COMMENT: The Draft IS/MND is available for viewing or downloading on CEQAnet Web Portal (<https://ceqanet.lci.ca.gov/>; search California School for the Deaf – Riverside). Written comments on the Draft IS/MND must be received no later than July 30, 2025, at 5:00 pm. (a 30-day public review period). Please send written comments to:

Department of General Services
ATTN: Stephanie Coleman, Senior Environmental Planner
107 3rd Street, 4th Floor
West Sacramento, California 95605
Or: environmental@dgs.ca.gov

Please include “California School for the Deaf – Riverside: Athletic Complex Replacement and Expansion Project IS/MND Comments” in the subject line.