

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT INITIAL STUDY / MITIGATED NEGATIVE
DECLARATION FOR THE RIO HONDO COMMUNITY COLLEGE LOW-INCOME STUDENT
HOUSING PROJECT**

MARCH 13, 2026

OFFICIAL NOTICE is hereby given of the completion and availability of a Draft Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the proposed Low-Income Student Housing Project (Project) located on the Rio Hondo College campus. The Draft IS/MND has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION/LOCATION: The Project involves the construction and operation of a new, low-income student housing facility on the Rio Hondo College campus. The Project includes partial redevelopment of Parking Lots 1 and 2 with an approximately 90,000 gross square feet, four-story residential building with an average maximum height of 48 feet. The proposed student housing facility would help address the growing demand for affordable on-campus housing options for the existing, unsheltered and/or at-risk student population (e.g., students sleeping in vehicles). The Project would not result in an increase in student enrollment.

The proposed residential building would provide up to 400 beds through traditional dormitory, apartment-style, and/or family-oriented housing. The residential building would offer a mix of shared amenities designed to address students' basic needs and promote positive learning experiences. These amenities include dedicated study areas, food service areas, communal kitchens, common bathrooms, laundry facilities, and an outdoor courtyard.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ANALYZED: The Draft IS/MND evaluates the potential environmental impacts of the proposed Project involving all resource areas identified in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines. Based on this analysis, the Initial Study determined all resource areas would either experience no significant impacts from the proposed Project or could experience potentially significant impacts that would be reduced to less-than-significant levels through the implementation of mitigation measures. The resource areas analyzed included: Aesthetics, Agriculture and Forestry Resources, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Energy, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Mineral Resources, Noise and Vibration, Population and Housing, Public Services, Recreation, Transportation, Tribal Cultural Resources, Utilities and Service Systems, and Wildfires.

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: In accordance with CEQA, a 30-day public review period will be provided for all interested persons to submit comments on the adequacy of the Draft IS/MND. The comment period will start on March 13, 2026, and end on April 13, 2026. Comments may be submitted via email to kelly.nishimura@wsp.com or by mail to:

WSP USA Inc., Attn.: Kelly Nishimura, AICP
104 W Anapamu Street, Suite 204A
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION: The Draft IS/MND may be viewed online at: <https://www.riohondo.edu/administration/finance-business/building-program/>