



Yana Garcia
Secretary for
Environmental Protection



Department of Toxic Substances Control

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Gavin Newsom
Governor

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

July 8, 2026

Jarod Caylor
Superintendent
Tehama County Department of Education
1135 Lincoln Street
Red Bluff, CA 96080
jcaylor@tehamaschools.org

RE: MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE JACKSON STREET PROJECT
DATED JULY 3, 2026, STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER [2026070136](#)

Dear Jarod Caylor,

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) reviewed the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Jackson Street Project (Project). The Project consists of construction of a multi-purpose school campus site for the Tehama County Department of Education (TCDE). The new campus will have classrooms for several different uses including four preschool classrooms totaling 9,500 square feet with an associated playground area, one Community Day School (CDS) classroom and one Tehama Adult Learning Center (TALC) classroom totaling 3,500 square feet each. There will also be 20,000 square feet of office space constructed for family support services, a multi-purpose facility for shared use between TALC and CDS programs, and a playground area for CDS students. Finally, there will be a secure parking area developed for the TCDE vehicle fleet and associated parking, fire lane access, and drop-off lanes serving all facilities at the site. DTSC recommends and requests consideration of the following comments:

1. If the TCDE plans to use California Department of Education (CDE) State funds for the Project, then the District shall comply with the requirements of Education Codes [§17210](#), [§17213.1](#), and [§17213.2](#), unless otherwise specifically exempted under [§17268](#). If TCDE is not using CDE State funds for the Project or is otherwise specifically exempt under [§17268](#), DTSC recommends the District continue to investigate and clean up the site under the oversight of Tehama County and in concurrence with all applicable DTSC guidance documents, if necessary. For more information on the CDE State funding, please visit the [Office of Public-School Construction](#) webpage. A local education agency may also voluntarily request the CDE site/plan approval for locally funded site acquisitions and new construction projects. In these cases, CDE will require DTSC to review and approve prior to its final approval, except when exempt under section 17268.
2. DTSC recommends all imported soil/fill material be tested to ensure all COCs meet screening levels as outlined in [DTSC's PEA Guidance Manual](#). Furthermore, DTSC advises referencing the [DTSC Information Advisory Clean Imported Fill Material Fact Sheet](#) if importing fill is necessary. To minimize the possibility of introducing contaminated soil/fill material there should be documentation of the origins of the soil/fill material and, if applicable, sampling be conducted to ensure that the imported soil/fill material are suitable for the intended land use. The soil sampling should include analysis based on the source of the soil/fill and knowledge of prior land use.

DTSC would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on the MND for the Jackson Street Project. Thank you for your assistance in protecting California's people and environment from the harmful effects of toxic substances.

If you would like to proceed with DTSC's school environmental review process, please visit [DTSC's Evaluating & Clean-up School 3-Step Process to begin a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment](#). If you have any questions or would like clarification on DTSC's comments, please respond to this letter or via our [CEQA Review email](#) for additional guidance.

Jarod Caylor
July 8, 2026
Page 3

Sincerely,



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cc: (via email)

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