



LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT Board of Education Resolution

RESOLUTION OF THE LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION ADOPTING THE NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE FAIRFAX HIGH SCHOOL MAJOR MODERNIZATION PROJECT

Whereas, on November 3, 2020, voters in Los Angeles Unified School District (Los Angeles Unified or District) passed Measure RR (School Upgrades and Safety Measure) as a funding mechanism to help address the significant and unfunded needs of LAUSD public school facilities; and

Whereas, under Measure RR and in conjunction with other, ongoing LAUSD Facilities programs, the District is proposing to upgrade, modernize, and replace aging and deteriorating District school facilities; update technology; and address District school facilities inequities to provide students with physically and environmentally safe, secure, and updated school facilities that support 21st century learning at hundreds of neighborhood schools District-wide; and

Whereas, on October 12, 2021, the Board approved project definition for the due diligence, planning, and feasibility activities necessary to propose scope recommendations, budget, and schedule for the proposed Project. Subsequently, on January 14, 2025, the Board approved the Design-Build Contract Award; and

Whereas, the proposed Project is located on a 23.63-acre school campus at 7850 Melrose Avenue within the City of Los Angeles (Board District 4, Region West). Fairfax High School (School) originally opened in 1924. All existing buildings were constructed between 1923 and 2011. As of the 2024-2025 Electronic Capacity Assessment Review (E-CAR), the school served approximately 1,500 students in grades 9 through 12; and

Whereas, proposed Project includes the construction of a new gymnasium, five specialty classrooms, outdoor physical education courts, and maintenance and operations (M&O) facilities. The new two-story gymnasium building includes team rooms and locker rooms; a public entrance and lobby providing access to the building from the west parking area along Fairfax Avenue; and five new classrooms that will host Ceramics, Drama, Instrumental Music, Sports Medicine, and Dance classes. The outdoor physical education courts will be comprised of basketball/volleyball courts, adjacent areas with trees and seating; and

Whereas, demolition activities will include the removal of the Shop Building, Gymnasium, M&O Building, Ticket Office, and Relocatable Sanitary Building, including foundations and below-grade and above-grade utility infrastructure associated with these buildings and structures. Interim facilities will be installed to allow the School to remain operational and minimize impacts during construction; and

Whereas, additional improvements encompass exterior painting of all remaining buildings to provide a uniform appearance; associated landscape, hardscape, parking improvements, and related infrastructure upgrades including a new electrical transformer; and

Whereas, the site is not on any hazardous waste lists under Section 65962.5 of the Government Code. A Preliminary Environmental Assessment-Equivalent (PEA-E) was prepared for the proposed Project in



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accordance with Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) guidelines. The PEA-E did not identify any hazardous substances in the soil and No Further Action was recommended for the site assessment investigation. However, the site is in a designated City of Los Angeles Methane Zone and a methane assessment has been performed. Methane monitoring and mitigation components, as required by the City of Los Angeles, will be incorporated as a part of the project design.

Whereas, the District's Office of Environmental Health & Safety (OEHS) evaluated the proposed Project to determine its potential impacts on the environment in accordance with CEQA, Public Resources Code §21000, et seq., and State CEQA Guidelines, Title 14 California Code of Regulations §15000 et seq.; and

Whereas, environmental review of the proposed Project as documented in the Initial Study (IS), resulted in the preparation of a Negative Declaration (ND)(State Clearinghouse Number 2025050380), which found that the Project would have no significant effects on the environment as a result of construction and operation of the Project with the implementation of LAUSD's Standard Conditions of Approval; and

Whereas, on May 7, 2025, the District filed the Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration (NOI) pursuant to the requirements of CEQA, Public Resources Code §21000, et seq., and State CEQA Guidelines, Title 14 California Code of Regulations §15000 et seq.; and

Whereas, from May 7, 2025, to June 6, 2025, the District circulated the IS/ND and PEA-E for public review with electronic copies on the OEHS and State Clearinghouse websites and printed copies at the OEHS District Headquarters and at Fairfax High School; and

Whereas, the District responded to written and verbal comments received during the public review period and at a community meeting in the Responses to Comments; and

Whereas, the District is the "Lead Agency" as defined in State CEQA Guidelines §§15050-15053, and the Board shall review and consider the ND and its supporting documents and comments.

Resolved, that the Board finds that:

The Project may not have an adverse effect on fish and wildlife, as referenced in §711.2 of the Fish and Game Code; and

The presumption of adverse effect set forth in California Code of Regulations, Title 14, §753.5(d) does not apply; and be it

Resolved further, that the Board hereby:

1. Finds that the ND was completed in compliance with CEQA and State CEQA Guidelines, as amended; and
2. Finds that the ND reflects the District's independent judgment and analysis; and



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3. Finds that the Board reviewed and considered the information in the ND before making a decision to approve the Project; and
4. Adopts the ND; and be it

Resolved further, that the Board specifies that the record of proceedings on which the Board's decision is based is located at the Los Angeles Unified School District, Office of Environmental Health and Safety, 333 South Beaudry Avenue, 21st Floor, Los Angeles, California, and the custodian of the record of proceedings is the Office of Environmental Health and Safety.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 16th day of September 2025, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Michael McLean
Executive Officer of the Board of Education

Date