



NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR A REMOVAL ACTION WORKPLAN

TO: Agencies, Organizations and Interested Parties

PROJECT TITLE: Sherman Oaks Center for Enriched Studies (SOCES) Comprehensive Modernization Project

SUBJECT: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report in Compliance with Title 14, Section 15082(a), 15103, and 15375 of the California Code of Regulations and Notice of Public Comment Period for Removal Action Workplan

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in the preparation of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Project identified below. The Lead Agency has prepared this Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the EIR, Preliminary Environmental Assessment-Equivalent (PEA-E) and Removal Action Workplan (RAW) to provide the widest exposure and opportunity for input from public agencies, stakeholders, organizations, and individuals on the scope of the environmental analysis addressing the potential effects of the proposed Project.

PROJECT LOCATION: The 21.5-acre SOCES campus is located at 18605 Erwin Street in the Community of Reseda, City of Los Angeles, CA 91335 (Assessor Parcel Number [APN] 2127-012-900) in the west San Fernando Valley. The school is on the southeast corner of Victory Boulevard and Yolanda Avenue. The Project site is not on any list of sites enumerated under Section 65962.5 of the Government Code (Cortese List).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed Project encompasses most of the SOCES school campus and consists of the comprehensive modernization of the school, including demolition, construction, and renovation activities. The Project includes demolition of the gymnasium, lunch shelter, and four classroom buildings; removal of 12 classrooms in relocatable buildings; construction of two classroom buildings, gymnasium, and lunch shelter; remodel and modernization of the auditorium, administration and counseling buildings, and buildings D (Sanitary), E (Arts & Crafts), K (Classroom), and L (Classroom). Other improvements include upgrades to plumbing, electrical and storm drain systems, compliance with the American with Disabilities Act, landscape, hardscape, and exterior paint.

During construction of the new facilities, the District proposes to remove approximately 1,192 cubic yards of soil with elevated concentrations of arsenic and/or lead from the campus and dispose of it off-site in accordance with the conditions that are presented in the RAW.

POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS: Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15060(d), and based on the environmental analysis in the Initial Study, the District has determined that an EIR is the appropriate level of environmental documentation for the Project. Environmental factors that will be analyzed in the EIR are: Cultural Resources (Historic).

The PEA-E and RAW present the findings of the environmental site investigations performed for this Project and outline the proposed process for the removal and off-site disposal of the impacted soil.

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: LAUSD will make this NOP and the Initial Study (pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15082(b)) and RAW available for public review and comment from **November 3, 2017 to December 3, 2017**.

RESPONSES AND COMMENTS: Please indicate a contact person for your agency or organization and send your comments to:
(Please include "SOCES Comp Mod" in the subject line).

CEQA Questions and Comments

Los Angeles Unified School District
Office of Environmental Health and Safety
Attention: Linda Wilde, CEQA Project Manager
333 South Beaudry Avenue, 21st Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Email: CEQA-comments@lausd.net

PEA-E and RAW Questions and Comments

Los Angeles Unified School District
Office of Environmental Health and Safety
Attention: Mr. Andrew Modugno, Site Assessment Project Manager
333 South Beaudry Avenue, 21st Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Email: andrew.modugno@lausd.net

SCOPING MEETING: LAUSD will hold a scoping meeting on **Wednesday, November 8, 2017 at 6:30 PM** in Glenn Hall at SOCES, 18605 Erwin Street, Reseda, CA 91335. All agencies, organizations, and interested parties are encouraged to attend.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY: The Initial Study and RAW are available for public review during regular business hours at the locations listed below.

- LAUSD Office of Environmental Health and Safety, 333 South Beaudry Avenue, 21st Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017
- SOCES School Library, 18605 Erwin Street, Reseda, CA 91335
- West Valley Regional Branch Library, 19036 Vanowen Street, Reseda, CA 91335
- Office of Environmental Health and Safety Website:
 - CEQA Initial Study <http://achieve.lausd.net/CEQA>
 - PEA-E and RAW <http://achieve.lausd.net/siteassessment>