



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

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July 27, 2023

Steven Sparks
Beaverton School District
1260 NW Waterhouse Ave.
Beaverton, OR 97006

RE: SHPO Case No. 23-0880, Beaverton School District, Oak Hills Elementary School Fence, Install vinyl coated chain link fence, 2625 NW 153rd Avenue, Beaverton, Washington County

Dear Steven Sparks:

Thank you for submitting information regarding the undertaking referenced above. In 2013, Oak Hills Elementary School was listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as a contributing building to the Oak Hills Historic District. At this time, Oak Hills Elementary School is still listed in the NRHP and is treated as such during consultation with the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) under Oregon Revised State (ORS) 358.653. Based on the information provided to our office, we concur that there will be no adverse effects to historic properties for this undertaking. As such, our office recommends that no mitigation of adverse effects is necessary before the project moves forward. This response is for your consideration in compliance with ORS 358.653.

The undertaking proposes a six-foot-tall, black vinyl-coated chain link fence that will be installed along the property line of Oak Hill Elementary School, enclosing the rear of the school to include the fields, playground, covered play areas, and portable classroom structures to provide a secure perimeter for students. A portion of this new fence will replace an existing chain link fence at the northern edge of the school. The proposed fence does not represent a substantial alteration of the school, nor the Oak Hill Historic District; the black vinyl coating of the fence will ease any visual impact the fence may have, and additionally, should needs change in the future, the chain link fence can be removed without lasting impact to the historic district or to the school itself. While open space within the historic district is identified as a character-defining feature, there is precedent throughout the district for various styles of fencing around private residences, tennis courts, and the community pool for the functional purposes of privacy and safety. The existing privacy and safety fences have not negatively impacted the overall eligibility of the Oak Hills Historic District, and were not identified as concerns regarding historic integrity in the NRHP nomination. Additionally, the NRHP nomination identifies the main recreation space as being centered on the Oak Hills Recreational Center east of NW 153rd Ave.; this area and its larger, more uninterrupted open space will remain unchanged as a result of this project. The installation of the chain link fence will not hinder the overall historic integrity of the school, nor the historic district and the "harmonious overall design that is intact and clearly identifiable" (National Register of Historic Places, Oak Hills Historic District, Beaverton, Washington County, Oregon, National Register #13000482) will still be readily interpreted as such.

This letter refers to built environment resources only. If applicable, comments pursuant to a review for archaeological resources may be sent separately. If you have not already done so, be sure to consult with all appropriate Native American Tribes and interested parties regarding the proposed undertaking. Please be aware that local regulations, if any, still apply and review under local ordinances may be required.

If there are no changes to the project, this concludes consultation with our office under ORS 358.653 for built environment resources. If, however, the proposed project changes in design, scope, or impact or if additional potentially historic properties are identified, further consultation with our office will be necessary before proceeding with the undertaking. In order to help us track the undertaking accurately, please reference the SHPO case number above in all correspondence. Any additional consultation regarding this case must be sent using the Go Digital submittal guidelines.

Please contact our office if you have any questions, comments, or need additional assistance.

Sincerely,

Jessica Gabriel
Architectural Historian, Compliance Specialist