



Eureka City Schools

2100 J Street, Eureka, CA 95501 / Tel: 707-441-2400

Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Report

Date: June 1, 2017
To: State Clearinghouse, Responsible Agencies, Federal Agencies,
Interested Parties and Organizations
Project: Jay Willard Gymnasium Replacement Project
Lead Agency: Eureka City Schools
Contact: Micalyn Harris, Executive Assistant:
harrismicalyn@eurekacityschools.org
Public Review Period: June 1, 2017 to July 15, 2017

Purpose of the Notice

The intent of this notice of availability (NOA) is to inform agencies and interested parties that Eureka City Schools has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Jay Willard Gymnasium Replacement Project in accordance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, Section 15087. This NOA provides information about the project and its environmental effects, and requests that comments be provided on the content of the Draft EIR.

The Draft EIR has been completed and is available for viewing online at:
<http://www.eurekacityschools.org/bond>.

Project Location

Eureka High School - 1915 J Street Eureka, California 95501

Background

Eureka City Schools is proposing to construct a replacement gymnasium on the Eureka High School campus to address concerns regarding the aging state of the existing Jay Willard Gymnasium. The existing gymnasium was constructed in 1948 and retains its 70-year old plumbing system and outdated electrical system breaker boxes. It does not meet current state standards for earthquake safety or American with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility requirements.

Project Description

The proposed project would replace and modernize an existing school gymnasium. It would involve the demolition of the existing gymnasium and construction of a replacement gymnasium to the west of the existing gymnasium. To accommodate the siting of the new gymnasium and facilitate safe

student access, new concrete walkways would also be constructed, and the existing bus lane and parking areas on the project site would be reconfigured. The replacement gymnasium would serve the same student population and accommodate the same uses as the existing gymnasium (i.e., physical education classes, sports events). However, the proposed facility would be smaller in size than the existing facility—approximately 29,940 square feet, rather than 40,075 square feet— as it would not provide an indoor pool facility; the pool in the existing gymnasium has been permanently drained and closed since 2009.

Potential Environmental Effects

An Initial Study was prepared for the proposed project and found that the proposed project would have a less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated for all resource areas evaluated under CEQA, except for impacts to historic resources and tribal cultural resources. These two resource areas were evaluated in the Draft EIR. The project was found to have a less than significant impact to tribal cultural resources and would not have a significant impact to a historic resource.

Providing Comments

Eureka City Schools is soliciting comments on the Draft EIR. Comments provided will be considered in the Final EIR in accordance with CEQA Guidelines, Section 15088. Because of time limits mandated by state law, comments should be provided no later than **July 15, by 5:00 p.m.**, which ends the 45-day comment period. You may submit comments in two ways: (1) by U.S. mail, or (2) by electronic mail (email).

If sending by mail, send comments to:

Micalyn Harris, Executive Assistant
Eureka City Schools
District Office
2100 J Street
Eureka, CA 95501

If sending by email, send comments to:

harrismicalyn@eurekacityschools.org

Please include “NOA Comments-Jay Willard Gymnasium Replacement Project” in the subject line, and the name and physical address of the commenter in the body of the email.

The NOA, Draft EIR, and other public review documents for this project (if applicable) are available online at <http://www.eurekacityschools.org/bond>.

Please contact Micalyn Harris if you have any questions about the environmental review process at the contact information provided at the beginning of this document.



Fred Van Vleck
Superintendent, Eureka City Schools