



# MELROSE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY MODERNIZATION

## COMMUNITY INPUT SESSION

**OCTOBER 1, 2024**

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Community Input Session for the Melrose Leadership Academy project was held on October 1, 2024.

During the session, the OUSD Project Team and HKIT Architects shared updates on the near completion of the Schematic Design phase, reviewed the Fall/Winter 2024 engagement calendar, and provided a recap of Spring 2024 engagements.

The architect team shared that the location of the middle school building would be in the upper yard, intending to maximize elementary play space and minimize disruption during construction. They answered questions on the layout and design during the session.

The architect team presented the design intent for a new building, highlighting its visibility from the street, classrooms facing the street, and a sloped roof for photovoltaic installation. They also mentioned the inclusion of sun shading for classrooms and the location of mechanical equipment. The building will be all-electric and feature a prominent location for a mural. The existing building will also see modernized administrative spaces, new electric heat pumps, plumbing upgrades, and security enhancements.

Participants raised concerns about future upper yard development, cafeteria improvements, and the need for a gym. There was a discussion about plans for court striping with potential collaboration with OUSD partners to develop the upper yard. Planned cafeteria upgrades were also highlighted. Participants asked about a gym and were told it was considered, but the middle school building was prioritized based on earlier feedback. They also requested a list of planned upgrades, which the project team agreed to provide in future meetings.

The project team aims to submit final plans to the Division of State Architecture by Spring 2025, with construction expected to start in early 2026.

In the upcoming Design phase, the architect team will further refine the plans and development of colors and materials to be discussed further in the Design phase.

## **BUDGET**

The total budget for the project is \$36.5M. A notable allocation of \$2M was dedicated to constructing an ADA-compliant ramp from the upper yard to the lower yard, enhancing accessibility. The construction budget itself is set at \$22.2M, with an additional \$12.3M earmarked for mandatory soft costs.

This portion of the soft cost budget encompasses various essential elements such as professional contracts, permits, and inspections, ensuring the comprehensive success and compliance of the project.

## **NEXT STEPS**

- *November/December, 2024:* Staff and student engagement focused on Design Development Progress (Detailed Design, Interior & Exterior Color Schemes) & Pre-Construction Status.
- *December 10, 2024:* Community Engagement focused on Design Development Progress (Detailed Design, Interior & Exterior Color Schemes) & Pre-Construction Status.
- *Spring, 2025:* The community-at-large receive presentations about the final design of the school.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

### **General Inquiries & Feedback**

[oaklandbuilt@ousd.org](mailto:oaklandbuilt@ousd.org)

### **Project Feedback & Questions**

Ray Bermudez

Community Engagement Specialist

Facilities Planning & Management

[ray.bermudez@ousd.org](mailto:ray.bermudez@ousd.org)