

From: Alameda Unified School District – Construction Department

Date: November 7, 2024

To: Alameda High School Staff, Students, Families, and Community

We're writing today to provide an update on the Alameda High School Swim Center construction project. This project is part of the Measure B bond program that was approved by the citizens of Alameda in 2022. The new swimming pools at Alameda High School will serve both our school and the wider Alameda community for years to come.

Construction and demolition of the old pools began in June 2024. During excavation, however, we discovered areas of lead-impacted soil beneath the concrete pool deck and the tennis court. This type of finding, while unfortunate, is not unusual in projects in older urban locations that have a history of many uses and imported fill materials.

We have partnered with environmental experts to help us determine sustainable strategies for removing the impacted soil on the site. Those strategies include dust control measures, such as wetting down the soil surface with an ecologically and environmentally safe fluid and covering existing stockpiles of dirt with plastic sheeting. These will minimize dust emissions and control potential wind erosion.

In addition, an independent environmental consultant(s) will develop comprehensive plans for the excavation and removal of the impacted soil. These plans will include the required soil testing, oversight, and air monitoring required by Cal OSHA regulations.

Once the plan is complete, we will hire a certified environmental construction firm to remove the lead impacted soil to an appropriate landfill. To protect the workers, we will monitor the air in the area continually and provide them with the appropriate respiratory and clothing protection. Environmental experts have told us that staff and students, who will not have contact with the impacted soil, are not at risk.

The removal process of soil will begin approximately mid-November. The completion timeline of this work is being determined. We will provide the school and community with regular updates on our progress.

If you have any questions, please contact the AUSD Construction Department at (510) 337-7020 or by email at [construction@alamedaunified.org](mailto:construction@alamedaunified.org).