FINAL INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
Polytechnic High School Transformation Project
Long Beach, California

Prepared for:

Long Beach Unified School District
2425 Webster Avenue
Long Beach, CA 90810

Prepared by:

CHAMBERS GROUP, INC.
3151 Airway Ave., Suite F208,
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
(949) 261-5414

April 2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

SECTION 1.0 – INTRODUCTION 1
1.1 MEASURE E AND Q BOND PROJECT PURPOSE 1
1.2 AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NAGATIVE DECLARATION (IS/MND), NOI, AND IS/MND 1

SECTION 2.0 – PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND ENVRIONMENTAL SETTING 2
2.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND 2
2.2 PROJECT LOCATION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS 2
2.2.1 Location 2
2.2.2 General Plan Plan/Zoning 2
2.2.3 Surrounding Land Uses and Project Setting 3
2.3 PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES 3
2.4 PROJECT DESCRIPTION 5
2.5 CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE 9

SECTION 3.0 – FINDINGS 10

SECTION 4.0 – MITIGATION MEASURES 11

SECTION 5.0 – CIRCULATION 14

SECTION 6.0 – RESPONSE TO COMMENTS 15

SECTION 7.0 – MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION 16

SECTION 1.0 – INTRODUCTION

1.1 MEASURE E AND Q BOND PROJECT PURPOSE

Measure E bonds were approved on June 23, 2016, to support upgrades to aging schools within the Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD, District). The $1.5 billion school repair and safety bond measure include repairs; technology improvements; heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC); and school safety improvements. Specific improvements may include but are not limited to:

- Improve plumbing system
- Maintain safe drinking water
- Upgrade schools to meet accessibility and earthquake safety standards
- Other health and safety improvements
- Renovation of libraries, science & computer labs
- Fund construction of new career education spaces
- New or renovated athletic facilities
- New air conditioning systems at aging campuses

Measure Q bonds were approved November 2022 in the amount of $1.7 billion. The bond includes upgrades to District facilities associated with health, safety and student achievement. Proceeds from the bond will improve plumbing systems, maintain safe drinking water and upgrade schools to meet accessibility and earthquake safety standards, among other health and safety improvements. The bond will also renovate libraries, science and computer labs and fund the construction of new career education spaces. Additional Measure Q improvements will include new or renovated athletic facilities and new air conditioning systems at aging campuses that did not need air conditioning under the previous Measure E program but now have systems approaching end of life. Specific improvements may include but are not limited to:

- Facility Enhancements
- Wellness and Green Spaces
- Sustainability
- Health and Fitness
- Safe Campuses
- Instruction Technology
- Career and Technical Education
- Media Centers

1.2 AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NAGATIVE DECLARATION (IS/MND), NOI, AND IS/MND

The Draft MND was available for public review during regular business hours at the locations listed below.

- Long Beach Main Library: (101 Pacific Avenue, Long Beach, CA, 90822)
- Polytechnic High School: (1600 Atlantic Avenue, Long Beach, California 90813)
- LBUSD Facilities: (2425 Webster Avenue, Long Beach, CA, 90810)

The NOI and the IS/MND were available for review online at the District's website:

- https://www.lbschoolbonds.net/environmental-reviews

Public Review Period: The 30-day public review period for the Draft MND was from February 24th, 2025 through March 25th, 2025. An elective additional review period was from April 4, 2025 through April 18, 2025.

SECTION 2.0 – PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND ENVRIONMENTAL SETTING

2.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

The District serves nearly 74,000 students in 84 public schools and is the third largest school district in California. On June 2016, Measure E bonds, and in November 2022 Measure Q bonds, were approved to implement District-wide school upgrade projects over the next 8 to 10 years, respectively. The Poly High School Project will be funded by measure E and measure Q bond funds.

2.2 PROJECT LOCATION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

2.2.1 Location

Polytechnic High School is an existing 26-acre school site located at 1600 Atlantic Avenue, Long Beach, California 90813, accommodating high school students (9-12). Single-family residences on all sides border the site. In addition, Roosevelt Elementary School is located on the southwest side of the site, and several commercial buildings are to the east side of the campus. Polytechnic High School was originally built in the 1930's with additions and buildings added in the 1950's through the 1980's. Poly High School consists of 401,436 square feet of permanent buildings and 9,600 square feet of portable buildings and associated playing fields.

2.2.2 General Plan Plan/Zoning

The Proposed Project site is located within an area designated by the City of Long Beach General Plan as Institutional, which allows educational land uses. The zoning for the Proposed Project site is Institutional, which also allows public and private educational land use by right (without a Conditional Use Permit). Land use designations adjacent to the Proposed Project site include Moderate and High Density Residential. In the November 2017 Draft General Plan Update, designations for zoning and land use will be referred to as 'Placetype' designations which will illustrate major physical planning concepts for the City.

2.2.3 Surrounding Land Uses and Project Setting

The 26-acre campus is bounded by Atlantic Street to the west, Jackrabbit Lane to the north, Martin Luther King Jr Avenue to the east, and 15th street to the south. The existing land uses surrounding the campus and the church site are residential uses to the south; mixed uses to the southwest, an elementary school and residential uses to the west; Mixed uses, residential uses, and commercial uses to the north; commercial uses, residential uses, and park uses to the east.

2.3 PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Goals and objectives under Measure E address four key areas consisting of repairs, technology, air conditioning, and safety within the HVAC Modernization project and the new CTE classroom building project. Objectives under Measure Q include supporting health, wellness, and safety; enhancing building performance; celebrating history, school identity and student achievement through thermal comfort and 21st century learning; and the construction of the new buildings within the Transformation project. Specific improvements include the following:

Repairs

- Due to several District campuses being built 60 to 80 years ago, the outdated buildings require repairs to meet American with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility requirements; meet fire and life safety standards; and improve on-site building conditions and utilities such as leaking roofs, damaged ceilings, restroom replacement, electrical and plumbing upgrades, lighting improvements, and security upgrades.

Technology

- Improvements will include audio-visual integration upgrades for classrooms, libraries, auditoriums, and multi-purpose rooms.

Air Conditioning

- Air-conditioning equipment will be upgraded with modern, energy efficient systems to improve classroom conditions and prevent class cancellations due to overheated classrooms.

Safety

- Improvements to indoor and outdoor areas include upgrades to the fire alarm system and improvements to recreational areas such as the sports field and gym to provide students with access to safe, supervised activities apart from the daily classroom schedule.

Facility Enhancements

- Replace outdated and low performing building systems with energy efficient and carbon neutral upgrades to reduce operating costs and support a sustainable future. Modernizations of aging school facilities will occur. Improvements may include energy efficient lighting, replacement of

interior finishes, exterior finish upgrades, play area apparatus replacement, hardscape and landscape repairs and improvements.

Wellness and Green Spaces

- Remove aging and used portables, creating new opportunities where outdoor learning and outdoor green play areas can occur. Generate drought-tolerant green spaces that offer a variety of natural spaces for play, learning, pollinator gardens, student gardens, and tree planting that supports a science and nature curriculum. Asphalt paved play areas will incorporate reflective paint to reduce solar heat gain and urban heat island effect, providing an improved experience for students while at play.

Sustainability

- Reduce energy and water consumption, maximizing the use of renewable and clean energy technologies. Decarbonize machinery and equipment in all end-use energy sectors, including heating, ventilation, air conditioning (HVAC), water heating, laundry and landscape maintenance.

Health & Fitness

- Provide parity across all district high schools, with all high school students having equal access to gymnasium and outdoor athletic facilities, including recreational exercise.

Safe Campuses

- Develop and implement a separate vehicular traffic from pedestrian routes. Increase camera surveillance at all campuses.

Instructional Technology

- Provide outdoor wireless access at new FMP outdoor learning environments. Provide improved technology support for project-based learning classrooms with multi-wall classroom teaching technology.

Career & Technical Education

- Design and build CTE facilities to support new CTE programs on existing high school campuses. Pathway spaces to include a real-world patient care lab classroom, computer lab, healthcare administration lab, mental health and wellness lab, as well as group collaboration areas. Also included are integrated special education and support space

Media Centers

- Reconfigure high school library and media center by creating reimagined and expanded access to resources, including physical book inventory, digital resource spaces, social spaces, collaboration

spaces, resource and digital media rooms, access to maker lab tools (3D printing), as well as community conference space and multi-class flex collaboration space.

2.4 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Proposed Project would be constructed over two phases. The first phase will see the construction of a new three-story CTE classroom building, along with HVAC and technology modernization in seven existing buildings. The second phase will see the demolition of eight existing buildings, the removal of temporary portable buildings, the construction of five new buildings, the reconstruction of the baseball field/multi-purpose field and the reconstruction of Jack Rabbit Lane. Below are detailed descriptions of each Project phase:

Phase 1:

The new three-story CTE classroom building will be constructed over the softball field located adjacent to 15th street. Along with the new building there will be a Southern California Edison service upgrade in preparation for the subsequent project phases. This building will house the medical pathway program, the automotive pathway program, a new state of the art makerspace classroom as support for the various programs as well as other support spaces and classrooms like computer labs general education and special education. The construction of the new CTE building will include outdoor learning environments, outdoor seating with associated site landscape.

The HVAC Modernization portion of the project will consist of adding HVAC to the following existing buildings 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, and 600. The following buildings will receive HVAC upgrades: 25 and 250. Building 30 will get fire alarm upgrades. These buildings will also get a variety of modernization upgrades which include, but are not limited to the following:

- ADA – Accessibility upgrades
- Restroom upgrades
- Campus Wide Fire Alarm upgrades
- Ceiling mounted overhead projectors
- Marker boards and tack boards
- Ceiling and wall repair
- Interior lights
- Interior and exterior painting
- Some windows replacements or repairs and window shades
- Signage (campus-wide)
- New finishes

Phase 2:

The Transformation project will see the construction of a single story drama/band building (building 150) which will house the Poly Playhouse where there will be a new black box classroom along with a new band room classroom; a two-story classroom building which will have 15 classrooms which will house a new dance studio with associated changing area, special educations classrooms, general educations classrooms with an outdoor amphitheater style seating and a collaboration space; a two-

story gymnasium building which will house a 3,563 spectator bleacher, an smaller axillary gym and associated locker rooms and team rooms, ticketing and concessions for all of Poly's sports teams including a wrestling room and weight room; an aquatic center with an Olympic size pool and associated sports lighting, new 500 seat pool spectator bleachers and sports lighting and a single story pool support facilities building, a two-story administration/classroom/wellness building that will also house the college and career center along with a collaboration space, the reconstruction of the baseball field/multi-purpose field with the reconstruction of sports lighting and a new reconfigured Jack Rabbit Lane with reconfigured parking and a new student pick up and drop off area. This project will also see the demolition of eight existing buildings and their associated surrounding landscape areas. The buildings to be demolished are as follows: 150 and associated second story exterior walk ways, 550, 700, 750, 800, 850, 950, and the Gymnasium. Included in the demolition will be the removal of fifty-four interim housing portables that are located over the existing baseball field.

Project Schedule

The Proposed Project is expected to occur over a 6-year period, from approximately Summer 2025 to Summer 2031. Construction will occur in two phases. Phase 1 is expected to occur from Summer 2025 through Winter 2027. Phase 2 is expected to occur Winter 2027 through Summer 2031. Construction activities would take place between the hours of 7:00 am to 4:00 pm Mondays through Fridays.

Construction Activities

Once the Proposed Project has been approved by the District's Board of Education, Proposed Project construction activities would begin in June 2025 after the school year has ended. The construction would begin after Division of the State Architect (DSA) approval of plans and specifications is obtained and the contract for construction is awarded.

Prior to construction activities, any existing asbestos and lead-based paint, or asbestos- and lead containing materials, would be abated in accordance with all applicable requirements, including South. Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Rule 1403 and disposed of properly. As recommended in the Hazardous Materials Building Survey prepared by Terraphase for the school, the following activities will be included as part of the pre-construction and construction activities:

Asbestos / Asbestos Containing Materials:

- The identified Asbestos Containing Materials (ACM) should not be disturbed. Prior to renovation activities which would disturb identified ACMs and Assumed ACMs, a licensed abatement removal contractor should remove the ACMs. The licensed abatement contractor must maintain current licenses as required by applicable state or local jurisdictions for the removal, transporting, disposal, or other regulated activities.
- Applicable laws and regulations should be followed, including those provisions requiring notification to regulatory agencies, building occupants, renovation contractors, and workers of the presence of asbestos.
- Asbestos abatement monitoring consulting services should be performed by a third-party environmental consultant, to include oversight of abatement contractor activities to be performed in accordance with the abatement specifications, daily air monitoring, clearances,

verification of complete removal of hazardous materials, and preparation of a closeout report summarizing the abatement activities.

Lead / Lead-Containing Surfaces:

- The identified Lead-Containing Surfaces (LCS) should not be disturbed. All disturbances and removal activities should be performed by a licensed abatement contractor with certified lead personnel. Any painted LCSs in a non-intact condition should be stabilized and the substrate should be encapsulated. All lead-related removal activities should be performed in accordance with the DOSH Lead in Construction Standard, Title 8 California Code of Regulations (CCR) 1532.1.

- Proper LCS waste stream categorization is required. Prior to any renovation activities, a composite sample of the representative LCS material should be analyzed for total lead for comparison with the Total Threshold Limit Concentration in accordance with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) reference method SW-846. If the concentration of total lead is greater than or equal to 1,000 mg/kg, the LCS waste material must be disposed of at a landfill which can receive such waste. If the concentration is less than 50 mg/kg, the sample may be disposed of as construction debris, if it is to remain in California. If the total lead result is greater than or equal to 50 mg/kg and less than 1,000 mg/kg, the sample must be further analyzed for soluble lead by the Waste Extraction Test for comparison with the Soluble Threshold Limit Concentration (STLC) as described in Title 22 CCR 66261.24a. Additionally, if the result is greater than or equal to 100 mg/kg, the sample must be further analyzed for leachable lead by the Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) for comparison with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) limits. Based on the results of the soluble and leachable analysis, the waste material may require disposal as RCRA-Hazardous waste or non-RCRA- (California) Hazardous waste.

- Lead abatement monitoring consulting services should be performed by a third-party environmental consultant, to include oversight of abatement contractor activities to be performed in accordance with the abatement specifications, daily air monitoring, clearances, verification of complete removal of hazardous materials, and preparation of a closeout report summarizing the abatement activities.

<u>Universal Wastes</u>

- Universal waste discussed in this report (Table 4), should be removed, and properly recycled or disposed of by the licensed abatement contractor prior to renovation activities. The contractor should provide proper manifesting for all hazardous materials removed and recycled to prove the disposal of all materials was completed in accordance with local, state, and federal requirements.

- The water-stained ceiling tiles found to be present in Buildings B, D, and E will need additional investigation to define the extent of water damage and if potential mold growth exists and develop recommendations for remediation as needed.

- Monitoring consulting services should be performed by a third-party environmental consultant, to ensure the appropriate removal of the hazardous materials prior to building demolition activities.

- Uncontaminated materials would be recycled to the extent feasible; and the remaining debris, existing vegetation, and other structures would be removed and disposed of at an appropriate landfill.

Construction Equipment

The Proposed Project will utilize the following construction equipment during replacement and installation of the proposed upgrades:

- Loaders
- Pickup trucks
- Backhoe
- Water truck
- Asphalt paver
- Crane
- Excavators

Demolition and Excavation

Proposed demolition work will occur as follows:

Phase 1: Demolition of the existing softball field will occur and will be replaced with the new CTE building. The selective demolition for the HVAC Modernization portion of the Project will primarily occur within the existing buildings and rooftops. The proposed demolition activities will include the removal of window HVAC units, flooring, ceiling tile, plumbing fixtures, ceiling fans, window coverings and treatments, light fixtures, conduits, and other mechanical and electrical equipment. Concrete slabs outside buildings will be removed in specific areas for the construction of ADA ramps or reconstruction of ADA walkways. Types of excavation will include concrete, asphalt, and earth excavations for installation of units, electrical wiring, plumbing, and ramps. Universal waste and other discarded materials such as HVAC units, piping, fixtures, vegetation, and other eligible materials will be transported for recycling or be properly disposed.

Phase 2: Demolition of the eight existing buildings 150 and associated second story exterior walk ways, 550, 700, 750, 800, 850, 950, and the Gymnasium. Included in the demolition will be the removal of fifty-four interim housing portables that are located over the existing baseball field. Associated landscape and concrete slabs outside these existing buildings will be removed for the construction of ADA ramps and walkways. Types of excavation will include concrete, asphalt, and earth excavations for the installation of the necessary underground utilities to serve the new facilities. Universal waste and other discarded materials such as HVAC units, piping, fixtures, vegetation, and other eligible materials will be transported for recycling or be properly disposed.

Fencing

Temporary fence enclosures with lockable gates would be added to staging areas and around all construction sites. Screens would be added to the perimeter fence to control dust. Signage would be added to the fence to designate the area as a construction site. A security guard would be present during non-work hours.

Staging Areas

Construction trailers and staging areas will be located within the school property. Hauling trucks, cranes, and other construction vehicles will be located in the staging areas. Temporary fence enclosures with lockable gates will be added to the staging areas.

2.5 CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

The Proposed Project is expected to occur over a 6-year period, from approximately Summer 2025 to Summer 2031. Construction will occur in two phases. Phase 1 is expected to occur from Summer 2025 through Winter 2027. Phase 2 is expected to occur Winter 2027 through Summer 2031. Construction activities would take place between the hours of 7:00 am to 4:00 pm Mondays through Fridays.

SECTION 3.0 – FINDINGS

An Initial Study has been prepared to assess the Proposed Project's potential impacts on the environment and the significance of those impacts. The findings were incorporated in the Draft MND. Based on this Initial Study, it has been determined that the Proposed Project would not have any significant impacts on the environment once all proposed mitigation measures have been implemented. This conclusion is supported by the following findings:

- No potential was found for adverse impacts on Agricultural & Forestry Resources, Biological Resources, Land Use and Planning, Mineral Resources, Population and Housing, Recreation, and Wildfire.

- Potential adverse impacts resulting from the Proposed Project were found to be less than significant in the following areas: Aesthetics, Air Quality, Energy, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Public Services, Transportation, and Utilities and Service Systems.

- Full implementation of the proposed mitigation measures included in this MND would reduce potential project-related adverse impact on Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Noise, and Tribal Cultural Resources

SECTION 4.0 – MITIGATION MEASURES

The following mitigation measures have been incorporated into the scope of work for the Proposed Project and will be fully implemented by the City to avoid or minimize adverse environmental impacts identified in this MND. These mitigation measures will be included in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) prepared for this Project.

CUL-1: LBUSD shall retain the services of a qualified cultural resources consultant and require that all initial ground disturbing work be monitored by a cultural resources monitor. This includes all initial construction activities that will potentially expose or encounter intact subsurface sediments underlying the Project site. The cultural resources consultant shall provide a Qualified Archaeologist, meeting the Secretary of the Interior Standards (U.S. Department of the Interior, 2008), and require that all initial ground-disturbing work be monitored by cultural resources monitor (monitor) proficient in artifact and feature identification in monitoring contexts. The Consultant (Qualified Archaeologist and/or monitor) shall be present at the Project construction phase kickoff meeting.

CUL-2: Prior to commencing construction activities and thus prior to any ground disturbance in the Proposed Project site, the Consultant shall conduct initial Worker Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) training to all construction personnel, including supervisors, present at the outset of the Project construction work phase, for which the lead contractor and all subcontractors shall make their personnel available. This WEAP training will educate construction personnel on how to work with monitors to identify and minimize impacts to cultural resources and maintain environmental compliance and be performed periodically for new personnel coming on to the Project as needed.

CUL-3: The contractor shall provide the Consultant with a schedule of initial potential ground disturbing activities. A minimum of 48-hours' notice will be provided to the archaeological consultant of commencement of any initial ground disturbing activities that have potential to expose or encounter intact subsurface sediments underlying the Project site. These activities may include grading, trenching, and mass excavation.

As detailed in the schedule provided, a monitor shall be present on-site at the commencement of ground-disturbing activities related to the Project. The Consultant shall observe initial ground disturbing activities and, as they proceed, adjust the monitoring approach as needed to provide adequate observation and oversight. All monitors will have stop-work authority to allow for recordation and evaluation of finds during construction. The monitor will maintain a daily record of observations as an ongoing reference resource and provide a resource for final reporting upon completion of the Project.

The Consultant, the lead contractor, and subcontractors shall maintain a line of communication regarding schedule and activity such that the Consultant is aware of all ground-disturbing activities in advance, in order to provide appropriate oversight.

CUL-4: If cultural resources are discovered, construction shall be halted within 50 feet of any cultural artifacts or features and within 100 feet of any potential human remains and shall not resume until the Qualified Archaeologist can determine the significance of the find and/or the find has been fully investigated, appropriately documented, and cleared.

CUL-5: At the completion of all ground disturbing activities, the Consultant shall prepare a Cultural Resources Monitoring Report summarizing all monitoring efforts and observations as performed, and any and all prehistoric or historic archaeological finds, as well as providing follow-up reports of any finds to the SCCIC, as required.

NOI-1: The District shall require that the paving contractor either operate vibratory rollers in static mode or limit the amplitude level of vibratory rollers to the lowest setting when operating within 20 feet of any offsite structure.

TCR-1: Retain a Native American Monitor/Consultant.

A. The Project Applicant shall be required to retain a Native American Monitor from or approved by the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians Kizh Nation. The monitor shall be retained prior to the commencement of any "ground-disturbing activity" for the subject project at all project locations (i.e., both on-site and any off-site locations that are included in the project description/definition and/or required in connection with the project, such as public improvement work). "Ground- disturbing activity" shall include, but is not limited to, demolition, pavement removal, potholing, auguring, grubbing, tree removal, boring, grading, excavation, drilling, and trenching.

B. A copy of the executed monitoring agreement shall be submitted to the lead agency prior to the early commencement of any ground-disturbing activity, or the issuance of any permit necessary to commence a ground-disturbing activity.

C. The monitor will complete daily monitoring logs that will provide descriptions of the relevant ground-disturbing activities, the type of construction activities performed, locations of ground-disturbing activities, soil types, cultural-related materials, and any other facts, conditions, materials, or discoveries of significance to the Tribe. Monitor logs will identify and describe any discovered TCRs, including but not limited to, Native American cultural and historical artifacts, remains, places of significance, etc., (collectively, tribal cultural resources, or "TCR"), as well as any discovered Native American (ancestral) human remains and burial goods. Copies of monitor logs will be provided to the project applicant/lead agency upon written request to the Tribe.

D. On-site tribal monitoring shall conclude upon the latter of the following (1) written confirmation to the Kizh from a designated point of contact for the project applicant/lead agency that all ground-disturbing activities and phases that may involve ground-disturbing activities on the project site or in connection with the project are complete; or (2) a determination and

written notification by the Kizh to the project applicant/lead agency that no future, planned construction activity and/or development/construction phase at the project site possesses the potential to impact Kizh TCRs.

TCR-2: Unanticipated Discovery of Tribal Cultural Resource Objects (Non-Funery/Non-Ceremonial).

A. Upon discovery of any TCRs, all construction activities in the immediate vicinity of the discovery shall cease (i.e., not less than the surrounding 50 feet) and shall not resume until the discovered TCR has been fully assessed by the Kizh monitor and/or Kizh archaeologist. The Kizh will recover and retain all discovered TCRs in the form and/or manner the Tribe deems appropriate, in the Tribe's sole discretion, and for any purpose the Tribe deems appropriate, including for educational, cultural, and/or historic purposes.

TCR-3: Unanticipated Discovery of Human Remains and Associated Funerary or Ceremonial Objects

A. Native American human remains are defined in PCR 5097.98 (d)(1) as an inhumation or cremation, and in any state of decomposition or skeletal completeness. Funerary objects, called associated grave goods in Public Resources Code Section 5097.98, are also to be treated according to this statute.

B. If Native American human remains and/or grave goods are discovered or recognized on the project site, then Public Resource code 5097.9 as well as Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 shall be followed

C. Human remains and grave/burial goods shall be treated alike per California Public Resources Code section 5097.98(d)(1) and (2).

D. Preservation in place (i.e., avoidance) is the preferred manner of treatment for discovered human remains and/or burial goods.

E. Any discovered human remains/burial goods shall be kept confidential to prevent further disturbance.

SECTION 5.0 – CIRCULATION

On February 24, 2025, the Long Beach Unified School District circulated a Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study to responsible agencies, trustee agencies, interest groups, and the general public. In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Section 21091 and State CEQA Guidelines Section 15073, a 30-day public review period for the IS/MND was provided from February 24, 2025 to March 25, 2025. The NOI was published online at the Districts website and the Mitigated Negative Declaration and supporting materials were made available for review at the City's office located at 1515 Hughes Way Long Beach, CA 90810 , and online on the District's website at: https://www.lbschoolbonds.net/environmental-reviews

SECTION 6.0 – RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

CEQA Guidelines Section 15204 (b) outlines parameters for submitting comments and reminds persons and public agencies that the focus of review and comment of negative declarations should be, "on the proposed finding that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment. If persons and public agencies believe that the project may have a significant effect, they should: (1) Identify the specific effect; (2) Explain why they believe the effect would occur, and; (3) Explain why they believe the effect would be significant."

CEQA Guidelines Section 15204 (c) further advises, "Reviewers should explain the basis for their comments, and should submit data or references offering facts, reasonable assumptions based on facts, or expert opinion supported by facts in support of the comments. Pursuant to Section 15064, an effect shall not be considered significant in the absence of substantial evidence." Section 15204 (d) also states, "Each responsible agency and trustee agency shall focus its comments on environmental information germane to that agency's statutory responsibility." Section 15204 (e) states, "This section shall not be used to restrict the ability of reviewers to comment on the general adequacy of a document or of the lead agency to reject comments not focused as recommended by this section."

In accordance with Public Resources Code 21092.5 (b) of the CEQA Guidelines, the lead agency shall notify any public agency which comments on a negative declaration of the public hearing or hearings, if any, on the project for which the negative declaration was prepared. If notice to the commenting public agency is provided pursuant to Section 21092, the notice shall satisfy the requirement of this subdivision.

No public comments were received on the Proposed Project.

SECTION 7.0 – MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

This document, along with the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration; Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program; and the Notice of Determination, constitute the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Citrus College 2020-2030 Educational and Facilities Master Plan.

Pursuant to Section 21082.1 of the California Environmental Quality Act, the Citrus Community College District has independently reviewed and analyzed the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Proposed Project and finds that these documents reflect the independent judgment of the District. The City, as lead agency, also confirms that the project mitigation measures detailed in these documents are feasible and will be implemented as stated in the MND and MMRP.

_____ _____

Signature