

**State Center Community College District  
Fresno City College Parking and Facilities Expansion Project**

**NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**

**Date:** April 11, 2019

<b>To:</b> Responsible, Trustee, and Other Agencies	<b>From:</b> State Center Community College District 1525 E. Weldon Avenue Fresno, CA 93704
Property Owners, Residents, and Interested Citizens	George Cummings District Director of Facilities Planning Telephone: (559) 243-7191 Email: george.cummings@scccd.edu

**Environmental Impact Report:** Notice is hereby given that State Center Community College District (SCCCD) will be the Lead Agency and will prepare an environmental impact report (EIR) for the proposed Parking and Facilities Expansion Project at the Fresno City College (FCC) campus.

The EIR will be prepared under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the State CEQA Guidelines and will describe and analyze the significant environmental effects of the project and discuss ways to mitigate or avoid the effects.

**Notice of Preparation:** The purpose of this Notice of Preparation (NOP) is to solicit guidance from agencies and individuals as to the scope and content of the environmental information to be included in the EIR.

Responsible, trustee and other agencies should provide SCCCDD with input on the scope and content of environmental information related to the agency's area of responsibility that should be included in the draft EIR.

If you are a property owner or resident, we invite your comments on the impacts that the project may have upon your property or upon the environment.

**Response Deadline:** Due to time limits mandated by State law, please send your response to the NOP to George Cummings at the contact information provided above no later than Monday, May 13, 2019, or 30 days after the receipt of this notice, whichever is later.

**Project Location:** The project is located on and adjacent to the northeast portion of the existing Fresno City College campus in the City of Fresno. Figure 1, following the text of this NOP, identifies the regional location of the project. Figure 2 identifies the specific locations of the project components described below.

**Project Description:** The following facilities and activities are planned as part of the project. Development of the facilities would occur over the next five years.

- Construction of a parking structure on the south side of Cambridge Avenue west of Blackstone Avenue located north of the existing district office building. The proposed parking structure would have capacity for up to 1,000 parking spaces, include up to five levels of parking, and include ingress/egress points at Weldon Avenue and potentially Cambridge Avenue.

- Construction of a three-story Science Building (approximately 95,000 square feet) located near the southwest corner of Blackstone and Weldon Avenues. The new Science Building is proposed to include 6 biology labs, 3 anatomy and physiology labs, 5 chemistry labs, 2 physics labs, 2 engineering labs, a computer lab, 3 general educational classrooms, 4 Design Science (Middle College) classrooms, welcome center, tutorial space, and 34 faculty offices. Surface parking would also be added adjacent to the building. Existing Maintenance & Operations facilities located in this area would be removed and relocated to a different area of the campus (see below).
- Replacement of the existing one-story, 5,255 square-foot Child Development Center with a new one-story, 16,480 square-foot Child Development Center at its current location.
- Construction of a one-story, 10,000 square-foot Maintenance & Operations building plus a parking and storage area on the west side of San Pablo Avenue northwest of the existing Health Sciences Building.
- Repurposing of the existing District administration building located on the north side of Weldon Avenue to accommodate the SCCC Police Department.

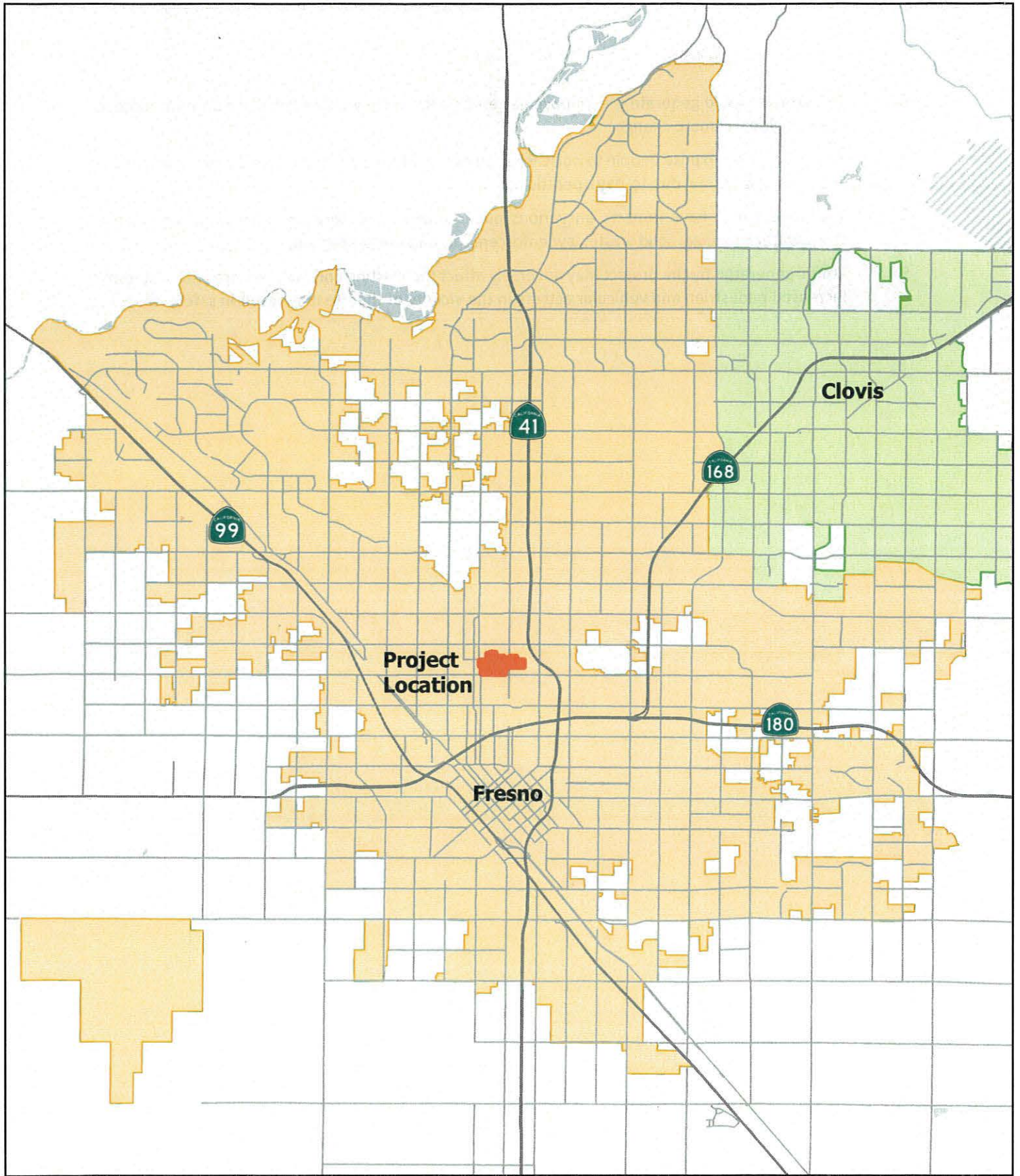
The proposed expansion area includes seven parcels adjacent to the north and east of the existing FCC campus, totaling approximately 2.18 acres. The additions to the campus land area to accommodate the project are described in more detail below and shown on Figure 2:

- Two parcels (1.20 acres total) on the west side of Blackstone Avenue between Weldon Avenue and University Avenue; planned as space for future educational facilities.
- Three parcels (0.63 acres total) on the south side of Cambridge Avenue between Blackstone Avenue and Calaveras Street; planned as space for a portion of the parking structure.
- Two parcels (0.35 acres total) on the north side of Yale Avenue between San Pablo Avenue and the BNSF railroad tracks; planned as parking and storage space for Maintenance & Operations.

**Probable Environmental Effects of the Project:** The potential environmental effects of the project are listed below. These effects have been identified on a preliminary basis, and may or may not be identified as potentially significant effects once evaluated in the Draft EIR. There may be other environmental effects identified in response to this Notice of Preparation, or during the preparation of the Draft EIR. The EIR will evaluate the probable environmental effects of the project on all resources and conditions listed in Appendix G of the State CEQA Guidelines.

1. The project could have aesthetic impacts due to project clearing and construction activities as well as changes in the urban form of the area, from both removal of existing structures and development of new structures and facilities.
2. Project-related air quality impacts would result from temporary construction emissions and from operational activities. Particulate emissions would be the pollutant of greatest concern during the project construction phase. Operational air emissions would result primarily from project-related transportation.
3. The project could adversely impact cultural resources located on the existing campus and surrounding vicinity.
4. The site preparation, construction, and operational phases of the project would use energy resources, including petroleum-based fuels and lubricants, electricity, and natural gas.
5. The potential for the project to expose persons to hazards and hazardous materials will be assessed in the EIR.

6. The project would generate greenhouse gas emissions, which would contribute on a cumulative basis to global climate change.
7. The project may expose people to noise levels in excess of adopted standards during construction activities and normal day-to-day operations.
8. The project may have impacts on various public utilities and services, such as sewer, water, stormwater drainage, solid waste, law enforcement, and fire protection.
9. Traffic generated by the project may adversely affect the existing and planned circulation system. Increased pedestrian and vehicular activity in the vicinity of the site may result in safety issues.



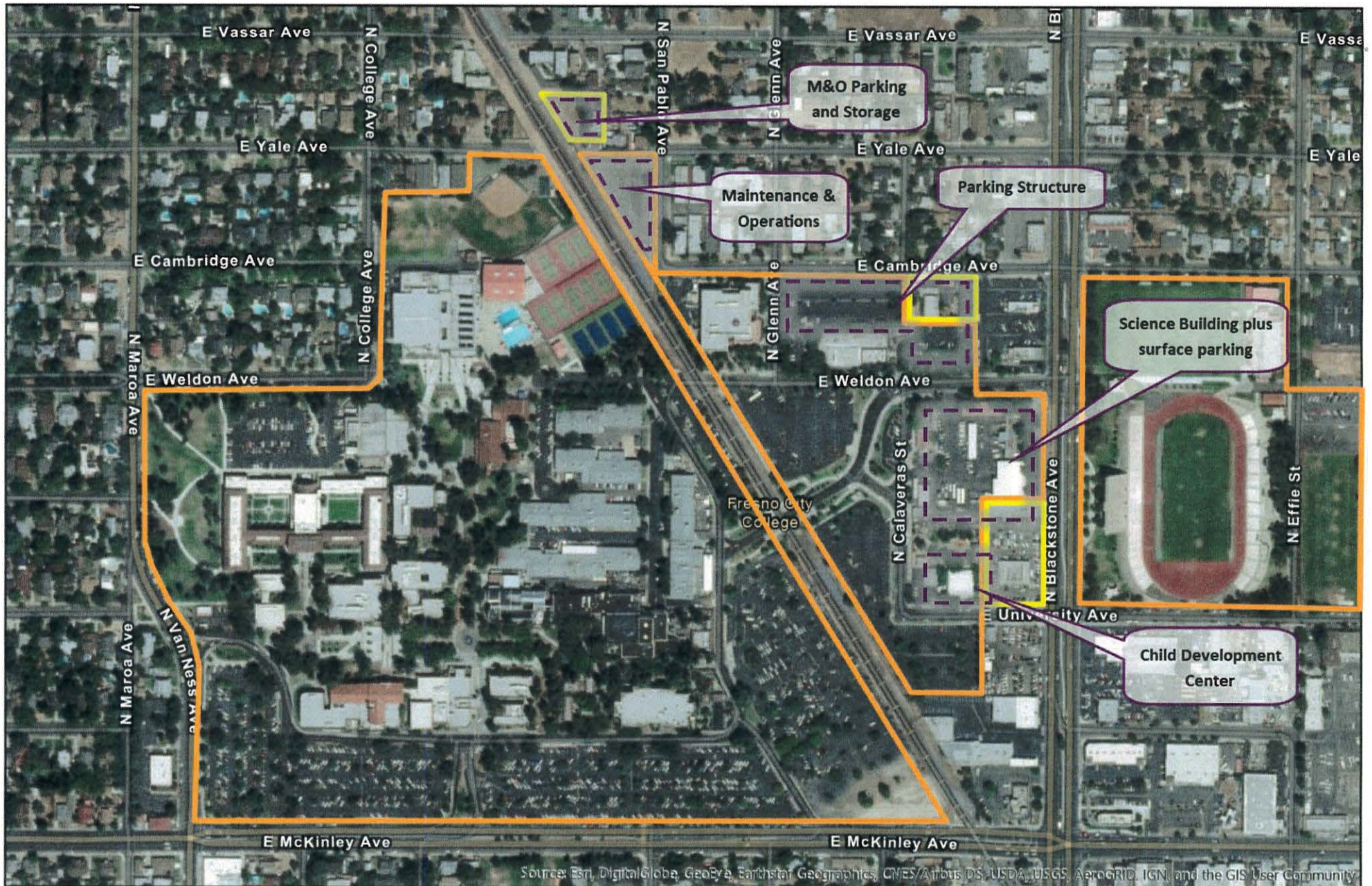
**Regional Location**

Fresno City College Parking and Facilities Expansion Project  
 State Center Community College District

**ODELL Planning & Research, Inc.**  
 Environmental Planning • School Facility Planning • Demographics

**Figure 1**





## Project Site

Fresno City College Parking and Facilities Expansion Project  
 State Center Community College District

ODELL *Planning*  *Research, Inc.*  
 Environmental Planning • School Facility Planning • Demographics

-  Existing Campus
-  Expansion Areas
-  Proposed Facilities Locations

0 125 250 500 Feet



**Figure 2**

