



GARDEN GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

10331 Stanford Avenue • Garden Grove, California 92840-6353
Phone: (714) 663-6000 • Fax: (714) 663-6100

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NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Subject: Notice of Intent (NOI) to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration
Project: **Sports Facilities Lighting Project at Garden Grove High School**
Lead Agency: Garden Grove Unified School District
Review Period: June 20, 2022 to July 19, 2022 (30 days)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Garden Grove Unified School District has prepared an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Sports Facilities Lighting at Garden Grove High School Project to address the potential environmental effects associated with implementation of the project. Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21165 and the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines (CEQA Guidelines) Section 15050, the Garden Grove Unified School District is the lead agency for the project. The purpose of this notice is to (1) serve as a Notice of Intent (NOI) to adopt a MND pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines Section 15087 and (2) advise and solicit comments regarding the content of the IS/MND.

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY: Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21083 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15087, the IS/MND will be available for a 30-day public review from **Monday, June 20, 2022, through Tuesday, July 19, 2022**. Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080.4, responsible and trustee agencies must submit any comments in response to this notice no later than 30 days after receipt.

Copies of the IS/MND are available for review at the following locations:

Garden Grove Unified School District
District Office
10331 Stanford Avenue
Garden Grove, CA 92840

Garden Grove High School
Front Desk
11271 Stanford Avenue
Garden Grove, CA 92841

Garden Grove USD
Facilities Department
11700 Knott Avenue
Garden Grove, California 92841

Lake Intermediate School
Front Desk
10801 Oranewood Avenue
Garden Grove, CA 92840

The document can also be accessed online at: <https://www.ggusd.us/departments/facilities>

WRITTEN COMMENTS: We ask that any person wishing to comment on the MND provide written comments by the end of the public review period at 5:00 p.m., **Tuesday, July 19, 2022**. You may send comments by email or mail to the addresses below:

**Subject: Garden Grove High School Sports
Lighting Project**

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Lighting Project**

By email: facilities@ggusd.us

Attn: Kevin Heerschap, Assistant Director
Garden Grove USD – Facilities Department
11700 Knott Avenue
Garden Grove, California 92841

PROJECT LOCATION: Garden Grove High School is located at 11271 Stanford Avenue in the City of Garden Grove. The proposed improvements would occur at Garden Grove High School's tennis courts, soccer field, and baseball and softball field. Lake Intermediate School is located at 10801 Orangetown Avenue, Garden Grove, CA 92840, where the District will install temporary lights for the softball field.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The District plans to add competitive sports lighting to the tennis courts, baseball field, softball field, and soccer field at Garden Grove High School. Additionally, the District plans to temporarily light the softball field at Lake Intermediate School as the Garden Grove High School softball team will travel to Lake Intermediate for practice and games during the construction phase of the project. Once the permanent lights at Garden Grove High School have been installed, the temporary lights at Lake Intermediate School will be removed.

The proposed lighting improvements are prompted by the passage of Senate Bill (SB) 328, which requires high schools to start no earlier than 8:30 a.m. Instituting a later start time is expected to reduce the negative impacts of sleep deprivation on adolescents and give them multiple, safety, and learning benefits. However, with the later start time, schools will also end later, which will affect sports activities unless the athletic fields and courts are lighted for evening use.

The proposed sports lighting project would allow extended use of the listed athletic facilities into evening hours for the benefit of existing students. No additional student sports programs would be added that could increase participants or spectators. The proposed project would require limited demolition of hardscape and softscape to install lighting poles at the existing sports facilities. No structural demolition would be required.

The lighting has been designed to meet the California Interscholastic Federation field lighting recommendations for competitive events. Sports lighting would consist of concrete bases with galvanized steel poles between 50 and 90 feet tall, with LED luminaires mounted at heights ranging from 16 feet to 80 feet. Construction of the sports lights is anticipated to take five months and is scheduled to start on March 1, 2023, and finish by August 30, 2023.

As with the existing conditions, the newly lit athletic facilities would be available for use by community groups after school hours when the facilities are not in use by students and during weekends, as provided by the District's use policy under the Civic Center Act.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES: While all potential impact categories are addressed in the Initial Study, the analysis is focused on aesthetics, cultural resources, light and glare, noise transportation and tribal cultural resources. The District has determined that with mitigation identified in the Initial Study, implementation of the proposed project would not result in any significant impacts.

Project Sponsor: Garden Grove Unified School District
Consulting Firm: PlaceWorks

Date: June 20, 2022

Signature: 

Kevin Heerschap, Assistant Director, Facilities Department, Garden Grove Unified School District