Los Angeles Unified School District

Office of Environmental Health and Safety

AUSTIN BEUTNER
Superintendent of Schools

CARLOS A. TORRES
Director, Environmental Health and Safety

JENNIFER FLORES
Deputy Director, Environmental Health and Safety

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

2026 023209

FILED
Jan 30 2026

Dean C. Logan, Registrar – Recorder/County Clerk

Electronically signed by MAYA HEAD

THIS NOTICE WAS POSTED

ON January 30 2026

UNTIL March 02 2026

REGISTRAR – RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK

To: County Clerk and Registrar-Recorder
County of Los Angeles
12400 Imperial Highway
Norwalk, CA 90650

From: LAUSD OEHS
333 South Beaudry Avenue
21st Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Project Title:
102nd Street Early Education Center Marquee Project

Project Location – Specific:
The 102nd Street Early Education Center Marquee Project (Project) will occur on the 0.5-acre 102nd Street Early Education Center Campus (Campus). The Campus is located at 1925 East 102nd Street in the City of Los Angeles. The Campus is situated in an urban area, across the street from Florence Griffith Joyer Elementary School, and surrounded by single-family residential homes, and public facilities.

Project Location – City:
Los Angeles

Project Location – County:
Los Angeles

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:
The Project will install a new free-standing electronic marquee in front of the school at the corner of East 102nd Street and Anzac Avenue. The new marquee will be a 5' x 8' x 7.6', single-sided full color display LED display. The Project will also provide a new concrete footing and electricity for the standing marquee. The Board of Education (BOE) approved the Project's budget of $98,975 on August 14, 2025.

The Project will be implemented pursuant to all applicable State, federal, and local regulations and all applicable Los Angeles Unified School District (LA Unified or District) specifications, standards, and/or guidelines, including those in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the updated Standard Conditions of Approval for District Construction, Upgrade, and Improvements Projects (SC) as adopted by the Board of Education on December 2023.[1] LAUSD's SCs, design guidelines, and best management practices are designed to be incorporated into the Project design in order to avoid or limit potential adverse impacts associated with the District's projects. The beneficiaries of this

[1] LA Unified OEHS, "Standard Conditions of Approval for District, Construction, Upgrade, and Improvements Projects," Adopted by the Board of Education of December 12, 2023.

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Project are the 102nd Street EEC students, faculty, staff, families, school supporters, and the community at large who may request access to the facilities and grounds of the Campus pursuant to the Civic Center act (CA Ed. Code Sections 38130-38139).

Name of Public Agency Approving the Project:
Los Angeles Unified School District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:
Los Angeles Unified School District

Exempt Status: (check one below)

- ☐ Ministerial [Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 21080(b)(1); CEQA Guidelines Section 15268[2]]:
- ☐ Declared Emergency [PRC Section 21080(b)(3); CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(a)]:
- ☐ Emergency Project [PRC Section 21080(b)(4); CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(b)(c)]:
- ☒ Categorical Exemption (PRC Section 21084; CEQA Guidelines Sections 15300 -15333):
  - *CEQA Guidelines Section 15303 – New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures*
  - *CEQA Guidelines Section 15311 – Accessory Structures*
- ☐ Statutory Exemption:

Reasons why project is exempt:

Section 15303 -New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures

Class 3 consists of construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and the conversion of existing small structures from one use to another where only minor modifications are made in the exterior of the structure. The numbers of structures described in this section are the maximum allowable on any legal parcel.

The Project will install a new free-standing electronic marquee in the front of the school, along with associated concrete footing and electricity. These upgrades will not present a new or expanded use of the Campus. Therefore, the Project fulfills the requirements of CEQA Guidelines Section 15303.

Section 15311 – Accessory Structures

Class 11 consists of construction, or placement of minor structures accessory to (appurtenant to) existing commercial, industrial, or institutional facilities.

The Project will install a new free-standing electronic marquee in the front of the school, along with associated concrete footing and electricity. The Project will place a minor structure accessory to an existing institutional facility. Therefore, the Project fulfills the requirements of CEQA Guidelines Section 15311.

Section 15300.2 - Exceptions

Section 15300.2 of the CEQA Guidelines, Exceptions, provides conditions under which categorical exemptions are inapplicable. Review of the Project indicates that it will not violate any of the exceptions described below.

[2] CEQA Guidelines can be found at California Code of Regulations Title 14, Chapter 3, Section 15000 – Section 15387.

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1. *The project would occur in certain specified sensitive environments or locations;*

The Project will be located on a fully developed campus. The Campus has not been designated as a sensitive or biological site and no sensitive or biological resources have been identified on the Campus that will be impacted by the Project.[3] The Project will consist of in-kind construction to previously disturbed areas on an existing campus that is not on or within the immediate proximity of any sensitive environment. The nearest significant ecological area (SEA) consist of the El Segundo Dunes, located approximately 11.3 miles west of the Project site.[4] The nearest critical habitat is the Coastal California gnatcatcher habitat located approximately 9.6 miles northeast of the Project site.[5,6] As such, the Project will not impact sensitive environments or locations.

2. *Cumulative impacts would be considerable because successive projects of the same type would occur at the same place over time;*

The Campus is an active school site and there will likely be ongoing maintenance activities and minor projects on the Campus to keep the school operational. There are currently no known successive projects of the same type or scale planned for the Campus. As the Project would not result in any lasting impacts once construction of the Project is complete, the Project would not contribute to cumulative impacts when considered with expected successive projects. Therefore, no cumulative impacts will result from the Project and successive projects of the same type and at the same place over time.

3. *There is a reasonable possibility that the activity would have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstance;*

There are no known unusual circumstances that would have a significant effect on the environment. The Project does not include removal of trees. Should the Project be altered to include the removal of trees, LAUSD's Office of Environmental Health & Safety (OEHS) must be notified immediately. District policy requires consultation with an arborist to determine if the trees are a protected native species. All tree trimming and removal conducted on District property is required to adhere to the procedures described in the LAUSD OEHS Tree Trimming and Removal Procedure.[7] Additionally, written approval from the school principal will be required before any trees can be removed. If tree removal is scheduled to occur between February 1 and August 31, a nesting bird survey would be performed prior to removal activities, per standard condition (SC) of approval SC-BIO-3.[8]

The Project will include minor ground-disturbing activities. These activities are not considered unusual circumstances for the classes of projects under which an exemption is claimed. Nevertheless, consideration must be given to the management of pavement removal and excavated soils associated with earthwork activities for the Project. As the Project involves the removal of pavement, soil sampling and testing for characterization is required prior to demolition and removal of the paving materials. If construction or earthmoving activities require import or export of soils and materials, OEHS must be notified to provide oversight to ensure that these activities are conducted in compliance with the requirements of District Specification 01 4524, relevant provisions of South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule 1466, and other applicable environmental agency rules and

[3] City of Los Angeles. ZIMAS. Available at: http://zimas.lacity.org. Accessed December 2025.
[4] United States Fish and Wildlife Service Critical Habitat Portal, https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/report/table/critical-habitat.html accessed January 2026.
[5] United States Fish and Wildlife Service Critical Habitat Portal, https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/report/table/critical-habitat.html accessed January 2026.
[6] Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning, http://gis.planning.lacounty.gov/GIS-NET3_Public/Viewer.html, accessed January 2026.
[7] LAUSD OEHS, "Tree Trimming and Removal Procedure," https://www.lausd.org/ceqa
[8] LAUSD OEHS, "School Upgrade Program Final Subsequent Environmental Impact Report," https://www.lausd.org/CEQA, Adopted by the Board of Education on December 12, 2023.

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requirements.[9] Furthermore, as set forth in SC-CUL-6, SC-CUL-7, SC-CUL-10, and SC-GEO-2, construction activities must be stopped immediately and OEHS notified upon discovery of subsurface features, such as buried resources (i.e., paleontological resources, archaeological resources), tanks or seepage pits, or stained/odoriferous soils.[10] Lastly, any construction and demolition waste shall be recycled to the maximum extent feasible per SC-USS-1.[11] Therefore, the Project will not have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.

4. *The project may result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources within a highway officially designated as a scenic highway;*

The closest designated state scenic highway to the Project site is the Topanga Canyon State Scenic Highway, a 0.5-mile portion of State Route 27 (SR-27), which is located approximately 21-mile northwest of the Campus.[12] The Project will not result in the removal of historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or other scenic resources. Therefore, the Project will not result in damage to scenic resources or similar resources within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway.

5. *The project is located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code; or*

The Campus associated with the Project is not included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.[13] Therefore, the Project will not be expected to result in impacts related to being located on a hazardous waste site.

6. *The project may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historic resource.*

102nd Street EEC is over 45 years old, meeting LA Unified's threshold for review as a potential historic resource and requiring evaluation for historic eligibility. LA Unified has identified 102nd Street EEC as eligible for listing as a historic resource per Section 18955 of the California State Historical Building Code (CHBC).[14] The scope of the Project is focused on adding a marquee to the school that is not character-defining. The Project will not alter or affect the historic resources on the campus. Therefore, OEHS' Historic Preservation Specialist has determined that the Project will not materially impair the significance of the historic resource and therefore will not cause a substantial adverse historic impact.

Should the scope of the Project activities be altered from the components that are described above, standard District procedure requires that OEHS must be notified immediately to ensure that these activities are conducted in compliance with the Secretary's Standards and would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

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[9] LAUSD OEHS, "Section 01 4524 Environmental Import/Export Materials Testing", http://www.laschools.org/documents/file?file_id=219798234&show_all_versions_p=t

[10] LAUSD OEHS, "School Upgrade Program Final Subsequent Environmental Impact Report," https://www.lausd.org/CEQA. Adopted by the Board of Education on December 12, 2023.

[11] *Ibid.*

[12] Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning, http://gis.planning.lacounty.gov/GIS-NET3_Public/Viewer.html, accessed January 2026.

[13] California Department of Toxic Substances Control. DTSC Databases. Available at: http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/database/index.cfm. Accessed December 2025.

[14] State of California. 2003. State Historical Building Code, Health and Safety Code, Division 13, Part 2.7, Section 18955. Available at: http://www.dgs.ca.gov/dsa/AboutUs/shbsb/shbsb_health_safety.aspx. Also see California Building Standards Commission. 2014. California Code of Regulations, Title 24, California Historical Building Code, Section 8-101.2. Washington, DC. p. 4.

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Prepared By:

Zulema Renteria
Environmental Planning Specialist

Phone and Email:

(213) 241-3432
zulema.renteria@LAUSD.net

Signed by:

Date:

1/23/26

Carlos A. Torres,
CEQA Officer of the Los Angeles Unified School District

Attachment: Exhibit A – Site Plan

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EXHIBIT A – SITE PLAN (not to scale)

PROJECT SITE