

# Los Angeles Unified School District

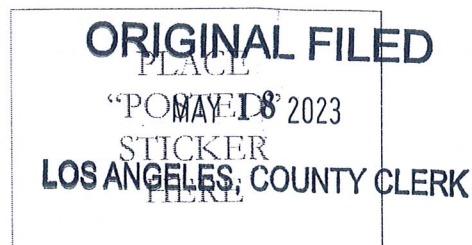
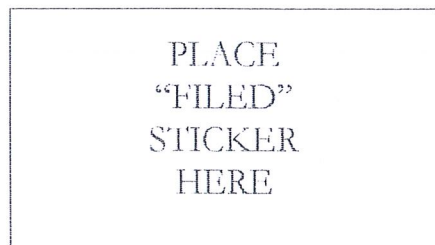
## Office of Environmental Health and Safety

ALBERTO M. CARVALHO  
*Superintendent of Schools*

CARLOS A. TORRES  
*Director, Environmental Health and Safety*

JENNIFER FLORES  
*Deputy Director, Environmental Health and Safety*

### NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



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

**From:** LAUSD OEHS  
333 S. Beaudry Avenue  
21<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

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**Project Title:**

El Camino Real Charter High School – Sitewide Water Pipe Replacement

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**Project Location – Specific:**

The Project will be located at the Los Angeles Unified School District's (LAUSD or District) El Camino Real Charter High School, located at 5440 Valley Circle Boulevard, Woodland Hills in Los Angeles County. The campus is approximately 27.97 acres in size and is located in an urbanized, residential community with properties zoned RE11-1 (Residential Estate) to the north, south, east and west. The Campus is located approximately 0.7 miles north of State Route 101 (SR-101), and is bounded by Burbank Boulevard to the north, Valley Circle Boulevard to the west, Manton Avenue to the east, and Mariano Street to the south.

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**Project Location – City:**

Los Angeles

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**Project Location – County:**

Los Angeles

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**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:**

The proposed Project consists of replacement of the existing deteriorated hot water/steam and chilled water pipes, above and below ground, with new single wall pipes, fittings and valves. Approximately 5,016 square feet of asphalt, and 1,068 square feet of concrete will be trenched for the new piping.

The Project will be implemented per all applicable local and State regulations, as well as all District Standards and Specifications; such as those provided in LAUSD's Program Environmental Impact Report for the School Upgrade Program (Program EIR). The primary purpose of the Project is to replace deteriorated hot- and cold-water lines and replace the existing storm drains within the campus.

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333 South Beaudry Avenue, 21<sup>st</sup> Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017 • Telephone (213) 241-3199 • Fax (213) 241-6816

*Our Mission: To ensure a safe and healthy environment for students to learn, teachers to teach, and employees to work.*

*Our Vision: To eliminate all environmental health and safety risks at schools.*

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The installation of the new hot- and cold-water piping will replace the deteriorated existing water piping system. The Project will not change the location or the purpose of the campus, nor would it increase the intensity of uses or student capacity. Therefore, the Project satisfies the requirements of CEQA Guidelines Section 15302.

#### Section 15304 – Minor Alterations to Land

Class 4 consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry and agricultural purposes. Projects that involve minor trenching and backfill are included in this class of exemptions.

The Project will result in a replacement water piping system being installed. As part of the installation activities, approximately 5,016 square feet of asphalt, and 1,068 square feet of concrete will be trenched in order to remove the old pipes and install the new pipes. Upon completion of the installation, the disturbed areas will be backfilled and resurfaced. There will be no removal of trees or any other vegetation. Therefore, the Project fulfills the requirements of CEQA Guidelines Section 15304.

#### 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 construction and implementation would not violate any of the exceptions, as described below.

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

The Project site is a fully developed high school campus within an urbanized community.<sup>2</sup> The Project site is not designated as biologically sensitive location and does not contain sensitive resources or habitat that will be impacted by the Project. The nearest threatened or endangered species is the California red-legged frog located approximately 1.7 miles northwest of the Project site. The nearest sensitive environment to the Project site is the Santa Monica Mountains, located approximately 1.3 miles to the south of the Project site.<sup>3,4</sup> 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 Project site is an active high school campus and there will likely be ongoing maintenance activities and minor projects on the site to keep the campus operational. As the Project will not result in any lasting impacts once construction of the Project is complete, the Project will not contribute to cumulative impacts when considered with expected successive projects.

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

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<sup>2</sup> City of Los Angeles Planning Department, *Zoning and Information Management System*, <http://zimas.lacity.org/>, accessed April 2023.

<sup>3</sup> United States Fish and Wildlife Service Critical Habitat Portal, <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/report/table/critical-habitat.html> accessed April 2023.

<sup>4</sup> Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning, [http://gis.planning.lacounty.gov/GIS-NET3\\_Public/Viewer.html](http://gis.planning.lacounty.gov/GIS-NET3_Public/Viewer.html), accessed LAUSD 2023.



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Originally opened in 1969, the El Camino Real Charter High School campus meets the 45-year age criterion for consideration as a historic resource. However, the campus is not listed on either the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and/or the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). The proposed Project would not involve the demolition or modification of any of the campus' buildings or features. The replacement piping would be located in generally the same location as the existing deteriorated piping, and therefore, no impact to historic resources would occur.

Prepared By:

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Signed by:



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

Date:

5/4/23