

RESOLUTION #21-22:18

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE AZUSA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT CERTIFYING THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT, ADOPTING FINDINGS OF FACT AND ADOPTING MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT FOR THE OLD SCHOOLHOUSE REMOVAL PROJECT; APPROVING THE PROJECT; AND DELEGATING AUTHORITY TO STAFF TO PREPARE, EXECUTE AND FILE A NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

WHEREAS, the Azusa Unified School District (“District”) owns certain property located at 403 North Angeleno Avenue, in the City of Azusa, on the southeast corner of Slauson Middle School, more commonly known as the Old Schoolhouse (“Property”); and

WHEREAS, on October 4, 2005, the Board of Education for the District (“Board”) adopted Resolution #05-06:30, which established a process for removal of the Property by either demolition or transfer of ownership to an interested government or nonprofit agency; and

WHEREAS, the District now proposes to relocate the Property, remove the chain-link fence around the Property, cap utility systems connected to the Property, and improve the footprint of the Property (collectively, the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, the Project would relocate the Property to the Veterans Freedom Park, located at 213 East Foothill Boulevard, in the City of Azusa; and

WHEREAS, California Public Resources Code Section 21000 *et seq.* sets forth the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”), and regulations set forth at Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 15000) of the California Code of Regulations constitute the “State Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act” (“State CEQA Guidelines”); and

WHEREAS, the District analyzed the proposed Project under CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines, and determined that an environmental impact report would be required for the Project; and

WHEREAS, on April 30, 2018, the District’s environmental consultant prepared a Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (“Draft EIR”) and Initial Study (“I/S”); and

WHEREAS, the District posted copies of the Notice of Preparation of the Draft EIR and the I/S at: (1) Slauson Middle School, Administrative Office, 340 West Fifth Street, Azusa, CA 91702; (2) Main District Administrative Office, 546 South Citrus Avenue, Azusa, CA 91702; and (3) the District’s website at <http://ausd-ca.schoolloop.com/business>; and

WHEREAS, the Notice of Preparation indicated that the District would accept written comments regarding the scope of the Draft EIR beginning April 30, 2018, through May 29, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the District made the Draft EIR available for a 45-day public review period from June 12, 2019, through July 26, 2019 (“Public Comment Period”); and

WHEREAS, written comments on the Draft EIR were received from (1) the Azusa Historical Society, Board of Directors; (2) the City of Azusa, Economic and Community Development Director; and (3) the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse; and the District responded to the written comments and has considered the written comments; and

WHEREAS, on February 10, 2022, the District issued the full Final EIR containing all written responses to the comments received during the Public Comment Period on its website;

WHEREAS, the written responses to the comments on the Draft EIR are incorporated into the body of the Final EIR; and

WHEREAS, on February 3, 2022, the District emailed written responses to public agencies’ comment letters at least ten (10) days prior to certification of the Final Environmental Impact Report (“Final EIR”); and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that, based on the whole record before it (including, but not limited to, the Draft EIR, the Final EIR, the public comments received, responses to such comments, the CEQA Findings of Fact for the Final EIR, and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (collectively, the “CEQA Documents”)), the Project would have less than significant impacts or less than significant impacts with the incorporation of mitigation measures identified and summarized in the “CEQA Findings of Fact Regarding the Final Environmental Impact Report for the Removal of Old Schoolhouse, State Clearinghouse No. 2018041074” (“Findings of Fact”), which are hereby incorporated herein by this reference, prepared pursuant to Sections 15091 and 15093 of the State CEQA Guidelines and Section 21081 of the Public Resources Code; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Findings of Fact, the District prepared a “Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program” (“Monitoring Program”) that is incorporated herein by this reference, which sets forth mitigation and monitoring procedures to ensure compliance with and enforcement of CEQA during the Project implementation; and

WHEREAS, the District is not required to prepare a “Statement of Overriding Considerations,” as its environmental review did not identify any significant and unavoidable adverse impacts in the Final EIR that would result from the implementation of the Project, and therefore, the adoption of a Statement of Overriding Considerations is not necessary; and

WHEREAS, the findings in this Resolution and the CEQA Documents reflect the Board’s independent judgment and analysis; and

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed and considered the environmental information contained in the Final EIR and the CEQA Documents, and has determined that together they are adequate, complete, and have been prepared in accordance with CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, copies of all of the CEQA Documents set forth herein, including, but not limited to, the Final EIR, are on file with Ms. Latasha Jamal, the District's CEQA officer and Assistant Superintendent Business Services, at the District's Office, located at 546 S. Citrus Ave, Azusa, CA 91702.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE AZUSA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT DOES HEREBY RESOLVE, DETERMINE AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. All of the above-listed recitals and attachments are incorporated herein by this reference and shall hereinafter be deemed to be the findings of the Board.

Section 2. The Board has reviewed all of the CEQA Documents before it relative to the proposed Project, including, but not limited to, the Draft EIR, the Final EIR and all related documents, public testimony and comments made to the Board relative to the Project, and all responses to any public testimony and comments.

Section 3. The Board certifies that (1) the Final EIR was presented to and considered by the Board; (2) the Board has reviewed and considered the information contained within the Final EIR, including public comments and responses to such comments; (3) the Final EIR has been completed in compliance with CEQA and State CEQA Guidelines; and (4) the Final EIR reflects the Board's independent judgment and analysis of the Project.

Section 4. The Board has considered all public comments received regarding the Project and the CEQA Documents.

Section 5. The Board hereby approves, adopts, and certifies the Final EIR and the CEQA Documents, including, but not limited to, the Findings of Fact and the Mitigation Program.

Section 6. The Board hereby approves the Project.

Section 7. The Board hereby delegates authority to Ms. Latasha Jamal, the District's CEQA officer, or to her designee, to cause a Notice of Determination to be prepared and filed in accordance with State CEQA Guidelines section 15075.

Section 8. The Board hereby approves a delegation of authority and appoints the Superintendent, or Superintendent's designee(s), who is/are hereby authorized and directed to take any other action to comply with the terms or intent of this Resolution.

ADOPTED, SIGNED AND APPROVED this 15th day of February, 2022.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE AZUSA
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

By: _____
President of the Board of Education of the
Azusa Unified School District

ATTEST:

By: _____
Clerk of the Board of Education of the
Azusa Unified School District

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES)

I, Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez, Clerk, Board of Education of the Azusa Unified School District, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution #21-22:18 was duly adopted by the Board of Education of the Azusa Unified School District at a meeting thereof held on February 15, 2022, at which meeting a quorum of such Board was present and acting throughout and for which notice and an agenda was prepared and posted as required by law, and that such Resolution was so adopted by the following rollcall vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Clerk, Board of Education of the Azusa Unified School District

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES)

I, Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez, Clerk of the Board of Education of the Azusa Unified School District, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of Resolution #21-22:18 of such Board and that the same has not been amended, rescinded, or repealed.

Dated this 15th day of February 2022.

Clerk, Board of Education of the Azusa Unified School District