

# FINAL SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

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## RANCHO MIRAGE HIGH SCHOOL FIELD LIGHTING PROJECT

PALM SPRINGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCH No: 2006011095

**Prepared for:**

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# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

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## 1.1 PURPOSE

This Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) has been prepared for the Palm Springs Unified School District (“PSUSD” or “District”) Rancho Mirage High School Field Lighting Project (Project) in accordance with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)<sup>1</sup> and the State CEQA Guidelines, Sections 15070 to 15075.<sup>2</sup>

PSUSD is acting as the Lead Agency, as defined by CEQA, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA; California Public Resources Code, Section 21000, et seq.) and in accordance with the *Guidelines for the Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act* (CEQA Guidelines; California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15000, et seq.). The CEQA Guidelines require the District to prepare an EIR for any project that includes a request for approval of discretionary actions that may result in significant effects on the environment. Upon preliminary review, the District determined the Project may have significant effects on the environment and the District prepared a Revised Draft SEIR.

The Final and Revised Draft Supplemental EIR is a supplement to the original EIR completed by the District in 2006. The original EIR, Environmental Impact Report for the Palm Springs Unified School District Comprehensive High School No. 4 and Elementary School (SCH 2006011095), dated September 2006, is incorporated by reference.

This Final SEIR has been prepared pursuant to Section 15089 of the CEQA Guidelines and incorporates the October 2023 Revised Draft SEIR by reference; comments on the Revised Draft SEIR received during the 45-day public comment period; written responses to these comments; and corresponding revisions to the text of the Revised Draft SEIR.

## 1.2 ORGANIZATION OF FINAL EIR

As required by the CEQA Guidelines Section 15132, this Final SEIR includes the following components:

- A list of persons, organizations, and public agencies commenting on the Revised Draft SEIR (see **Section 2.0: Comment Letters and Responses to Comments**);
- Comments and recommendations received on the Revised Draft SEIR (see **Section 2.0**);
- Responses to significant environmental points raised in the review and consultation process (see **Section 2.0**);
- The Mitigation Monitoring Plan (**Section 3.0**);
- Corrections to the Revised Draft SEIR (**Section 4.0: Corrections to the Revised Draft SEIR**), and

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1 California Code of Regulations. Sec. 21000 et seq.

2 California Code of Regulations. State CEQA Guidelines Sec. 15070-15075.

- The Revised Draft SEIR (provided as **Appendix D** under separate cover) to the Final SEIR.

The Final and Revised Draft SEIR are available for review at the following locations:

PSUSD Facilities Planning Division  
150 District Center Drive  
Palm Springs, CA 92264

In addition, the Final and Revised Draft SEIR are available on the District's website at:

- <https://www.psusd.us/>

### 1.3 PROJECT OVERVIEW

The proposed Project was prompted by the passage of Senate Bill (SB) 328, which requires high schools to start no earlier than 8:30 A.M. However, with the later start time, schools will also end later, which will affect activities unless the high school fields are lit for evening use. The proposed lights would safely allow use of the high school fields into the evening hours and the design meets the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) recommended lighting levels for baseball and softball fields. Each high school lighting improvement includes varsity baseball and softball fields, junior varsity baseball and softball fields, tennis courts, soccer, and practice fields.

The Project proposes to install new pole mounted lighting fixtures around the perimeter of the sport fields within the Rancho Mirage High School (RMHS) campus in order to provide illumination for outdoor instructional and activity areas before and after school hours.

The proposed lighting would consist of light fixtures/poles for all fields around the perimeter of each field. Lighting poles would be located around the perimeter of the practice field South on the west side of the campus and would extend 50 feet high, and located around the perimeter of the JV baseball, varsity baseball, JV softball, and varsity softball fields on the northwest side of the campus and would be 60 feet to 100 feet high. The remaining lighting poles would be located around the practice field North, soccer field 1, and soccer field 2 in the northeast corner of the campus, adjacent to Rattler Road to the east and would be 70 feet high. Each pole would be on a pre-cast concrete base approximately 10 feet below ground.

The Project includes requests for approval of the follow actions by the District:

- Certification of the EIR, and
- Adoption of the Mitigation Monitoring Plan.

### 1.4 ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

The District is the Lead Agency responsible for preparation of this Final SEIR because it has the principal responsibility for approving and implementing the Project.

## Agency and Community Outreach

On March 27, 2023, the District circulated a Notice of Preparation (NOP; State Clearinghouse [SCH] Number No. 2006011095) of a Supplemental EIR for this Project for review and comment by the public and by responsible and reviewing agencies. The 30-day NOP review period ended on April 26, 2023.

A copy of the NOP is provided in **Appendix A**. The distribution list for the NOP included local agencies and organizations, and residents living within one-quarter mile of the campus. Recipients were provided with a copy of the NOP, and the distribution list is provided in **Appendix B.1**.

A community information and scoping meeting was held on April 26, 2023, during the NOP review period, to provide an opportunity for comment on the potential environmental effects of the Project by the public and public agencies. The scoping meeting, held at Rancho Mirage High School (31001 Rattler Road, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270) included a presentation describing the proposed Project and the proposed scope of study for the Supplemental EIR as described in the NOP and a question-and-answer period. A copy of the notice of the scoping meeting was mailed by the District to local agencies and organizations, and residents living within one-quarter mile of the campus (see **Appendix B.2**).

During the 30-day NOP comment period, comment letters were received from the City of Rancho Mirage, California Department of Fish & Wildlife, Department of Toxic Substances Control, and the Native American Heritage Commission (see Appendix A of the Revised Draft SEIR). At the scoping meeting, residents of Tuscany Homeowners Association (HOA) provided verbal comments.

The District met with representative of the City of Rancho Mirage on August 22, 2023 and with members of the Tuscany HOA on September 12, 2023 prior to the release of the Revised Draft SEIR to solicit their comments and concerns.

After the release of the Revised Draft SEIR, the District held another community meeting at RMHS on November 6, 2023 to provide opportunity for the surrounding neighbors, including those within the Tuscany HOA, to provide comment and input. The distribution list for the meeting is provided as **Appendix B.3**; and the notice mailed to the public and the presentation for that meeting is provided as **Appendix C**.

In accordance with Assembly Bill (AB) 52, the District provided notification to California Native American Tribes of the Project and provided an opportunity to consult on the Project. Pursuant to the requirements of Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 21080.3.1 (AB 52), California Native American tribes have the right to consult on a proposed public or private project on the potential for the project to impact tribal cultural resources.

## AB 52 Tribal Notification

Two California Native American tribes have been historically associated with the broader Coachella Valley and Project area that have notified the District under Assembly Bill [AB] 52, as requesting to be

notified of projects. These include the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians (ACBCI) and Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla of Indians (TMDCI). Pursuant to AB 52, the District sent notification letters to both Tribes on March 22, 2023. As of March 27, 2023, a response has been received from only the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians.

The Tribe provided correspondence on November 7, 2023 that they concurred with the findings in the Revised Draft SEIR, and that the AB 52 consultation process was complete.

## Revised Draft SEIR Review

The District prepared the Revised Draft SEIR and released it for public review on October 4, 2023 for 45 days and ending on November 20, 2023.

The Revised Draft SEIR provided analysis of topics related to the potential environmental effects of the Project in accordance with CEQA. A Notice of Availability in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15087 was sent to the State Clearinghouse for circulation to State agencies, and local agencies and organizations, and residents living within one-quarter mile of the campus (see **Appendix C**).

The District submitted and circulated a Notice of Availability (NOA; SCH No. 2006011095) of the Revised Draft SEIR for review and comment by the public, responsible, and reviewing agencies.

The District released the previous Draft Supplemental EIR (SEIR) for the proposed Project from May 31, 2023 and ending July 17, 2023. After release of the previous Draft SEIR, the District received comments for state and local agencies that identified areas that the District should include in the SEIR; as a result, the District has decided to revise the previous Draft SEIR and incorporate additional information identified in the comments into the Revised Draft SEIR.

The State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15088.5. Re-circulation of an EIR prior to Certification, states:

- a) *A lead agency is required to recirculate an EIR when significant new information is added to the EIR after public notice is given of the availability of the draft EIR for public review under Section 15087 but before certification. As used in this section, the term “information” can include changes in the project or environmental setting as well as additional data or other information. New information added to an EIR is not “significant” unless the EIR is changed in a way that deprives the public of a meaningful opportunity to comment upon a substantial adverse environmental effect of the project or a feasible way to mitigate or avoid such an effect that the project’s proponents have declined to implement. “Significant new information” requiring recirculation include, for example, a disclosure showing that:*
  - (1) *A new significant environmental impact would result from the project or from a new mitigation measure proposed to be implemented.*
  - (2) *A substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact would result unless mitigation measures are adopted that reduce the impact to a level of insignificance.*
  - (3) *A feasible project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the project, but the project’s proponents decline to adopt it.*

(4) *The draft EIR was so fundamentally and basically inadequate and conclusory in nature that meaningful public review and comment were precluded.*

Courts have interpreted the Guideline Section 15088.5(f)3 for recirculation to note:

*“where a recirculated EIR states that it is replacing a prior EIR and the agency makes clear the overall nature of the changes, and states that prior comments will not receive responses, the agency may be said to have complied with the Guidelines requirement that it summarize the revisions made to the previously circulated draft EIR.”*

This Revised Draft SEIR has been prepared by the District to evaluate the effects that relate to the proposed lighting improvements on the Project Site. This Revised Draft SEIR identifies and discusses potential Project-specific and cumulative environmental impacts that may occur should the Project be implemented. CEQA, Section 21166, requires that when an EIR has been prepared for a project, a subsequent or supplemental EIR shall be required by the lead agency or by any responsible agency should one or more of the following events occur:

1. Substantial changes are proposed in the project that will require major revisions of the EIR;
2. Substantial changes occur with respect to the circumstances under which the project is being undertaken will require major revisions to the EIR; and
3. New information, which was not known and could not have been known at the time the EIR was certified as complete, becomes available.

A Notice of Completion (NOC) of the Revised Draft SEIR was also provided on October 4, 2023, to the State Clearinghouse. Following the completion of the 45-day public review period for the Revised Draft SEIR, the District prepared this Final SEIR in accordance with Sections 15089 and 15132 of the CEQA Guidelines. The NOA and NOC are provided in **Appendix A**.

The Revised Draft SEIR provided analysis of the following topics:

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Noise
- Transportation
- Tribal Cultural Resources

The Revised Draft Supplemental EIR is provided in **Appendix D** under separate cover.

Other environmental topics were scoped out from detailed review in the Revised Draft SEIR because it was determined the proposed Project would result in no impact or less than significant impacts. The District accepted written comments on the Revised Draft SEIR by mail, electronic mail, and in person to

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3 State CEQA Guidelines. Section 15088.5(f), Recirculation of an EIR Prior to Certification.

the District’s Planning Division. The comments received by the District during the public review period are provided in this Final SEIR, along with responses to comments.

The discretionary actions involved in the implementation of the Project by the District, as well as responsible and trustee agencies, are described in **Section 3.0**.

During the 45-day comment and review period, the District received written comment letters from the following:

Agency/Commentor	Date
Department of Toxic Substances Control	October 13, 2023
Riverside County Flood Control	October 19, 2023
Andrew Stark	October 25, 2023
City of Rancho Mirage	November 3, 2023
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	November 7, 203

Responses to comments received from the public and public agencies on the Revised Draft SEIR for the Project have been distributed directly to all public agencies for a period of 10 days prior to the certification of the Final SEIR in accordance with Section 15088 of CEQA. Responses to comments are provided in **Section 2.0** of this Final SEIR.

### Mitigation Monitoring Plan

Section 15097 of the CEQA Guidelines states that the lead agency must adopt a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMP) to ensure that the mitigation measures identified for the Project in the Revised Draft SEIR are implemented. The MMRP is provided in **Section 3.0** of this Final SEIR.

## 1.5 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS

As described in **Section 5.0** of the Revised Draft SEIR, impacts of the Project related to aesthetics, biological resources, cultural resources, noise, and tribal cultural resources were determined to be less than significant through a combination of implementation of existing regulations and standards, and incorporation of mitigation measures (MM). As such, impacts related to these environmental topics were reduced to less than significant levels.

A summary of the potential environmental impacts of the Project and the measures identified to mitigate these impacts is provided below for each topic addressed in the Revised Draft SEIR. **Table 1.0-1: Summary of Project Impacts**, summarizes the significance of the impacts of the Project based on the information and analysis in **Section 5.0: Environmental Impact Analysis of the Revised Draft SEIR**.



TABLE 1.0-1 SUMMARY OF PROJECT IMPACTS			
Project Impacts	Impact without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Impact with Mitigation
<b>Aesthetics</b>			
<i>Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?</i>	Potentially Significant.	<b>MM AES-1:</b> The District shall coordinate with all residence along the western border of the RMHS who have yards that abut the campus to address the placement of light poles. Light poles adjacent to residences, along the west side of the fields, would be located in conjunction with discussion with the owners of the impacted properties so as to align the poles to avoid visual impacts. This will include, to the degree feasible in maintain lighting standards for field safety, the potential for locating poles in between each residential property line and away from any back yard viewing locations, Poles would be located, to the degree feasible, to align out of direct view of the residences.	Less than Significant with Mitigation.
<i>Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock, outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?</i>	Less than Significant.	No mitigation measures are necessary.	Less than Significant.
<i>Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?</i>	Less than Significant.	No mitigation measures are necessary.	Less than Significant.
<i>Create substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?</i>	Potentially Significant.	<b>A-1:</b> Light fixtures shall be selected to provide downward lighting with minimal horizontal travel and minimum levels to provide sufficient safety at night. Use of stadium and sports field lighting shall be limited to scheduled events.  <b>MM AES-2:</b> Luminaires shall be directed aways for residential and offsite uses such that the light level at the property line between the residential use and campus does not exceed 1.0-foot candles. If necessary, the District may need to increase/or decrease the number of light poles, their height, and luminaires at any specific location.  <b>MM AES-3:</b> The District will provide compensation to all property owners along the western border of the campus within the Tuscany HOA, including the Tuscany HOA parcels, to	Less than Significant with Mitigation.

**TABLE 1.0-1  
SUMMARY OF PROJECT IMPACTS**

Project Impacts	Impact without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Impact with Mitigation
		<p>allow the property owner to install landscaping or other screening materials on their property. The District will limit the compensation to \$1,000 per parcel.</p> <p><b>MM AES-4:</b> The District will endeavor to start games and activities and the use of lights on the fields immediately adjacent to the Tuscany development to the west of the campus (this includes the varsity and JV baseball fields, and the south practice field) such that the lights will not be used after 9:00 PM to the degree possible to assure that the activities are complete, and the fields are vacated.</p>	
<b>Air Quality</b>			
<i>Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?</i>	Less than Significant.	No mitigation measures are necessary.	Less than Significant.
<i>Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?</i>	Less than Significant.	No mitigation measures are necessary.	Less than Significant.
<i>Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?</i>	Less than Significant.	No mitigation measures are necessary.	Less than Significant.
<i>Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?</i>	Less than Significant.	No mitigation measures are necessary.	Less than Significant.
<i>Is the boundary of the proposed school site within 500 feet of the edge of the closest traffic lane of a freeway or busy traffic corridor? If yes, would the project create an air quality health risk due to the placement of the School?</i>	Less than Significant.	No mitigation measures are necessary.	Less than Significant.
<b>Biological Resources</b>			
<i>Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special</i>	Potentially Significant to nesting birds.	<b>MM BIO-1:</b> Pre-Construction Surveys for Migratory Bird. Regardless of the time of year, nesting bird surveys shall be performed by a qualified avian biologist no more than 3	Less than Significant

**TABLE 1.0-1  
SUMMARY OF PROJECT IMPACTS**

Project Impacts	Impact without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Impact with Mitigation
<p><i>status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the CDFW or USFWS?</i></p>		<p>days prior to vegetation removal or ground-disturbing activities. Pre-construction surveys shall focus on both direct and indirect evidence of nesting, including nest locations and nesting behavior.</p> <p>The qualified avian biologist will make every effort to avoid potential nest predation as a result of survey and monitoring efforts. If active nests are found during the pre-construction nesting bird surveys, a qualified biologist shall establish an appropriate nest buffer to be marked on the ground.</p> <p>Active nests and adequacy of the established buffer distance shall be monitored daily by the qualified biologist until the qualified biologist has determined the young have fledged or the Project has been completed. A qualified biologist has the authority to stop work if nesting pairs exhibit signs of disturbance.</p> <p><b>MM BIO-2:</b> Pre-Construction Surveys for Burrowing Owls. Pre-construction surveys for burrowing owls should be undertaken no less than 60 days between 14 and 30 days prior to any kind of ground disturbance related to modifications to facilities and properties. The burrowing owl habitat assessment shall be conducted by a qualified biologist according to the specifications of the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (Department of Fish and Game, March 2012 or most recent version).</p> <p>If the habitat assessment demonstrates suitable burrowing owl habitat, then focused burrowing owl surveys shall be conducted in accordance with the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (2012 or most recent version). If burrowing owls are detected during the focused surveys, the qualified biologist and Project proponent shall prepare a Burrowing Owl Plan that shall be submitted to CDFW for review and approval prior to commencing Project activities. The Burrowing Owl Plan</p>	<p>with mitigation.</p>

**TABLE 1.0-1  
SUMMARY OF PROJECT IMPACTS**

Project Impacts	Impact without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Impact with Mitigation
		<p>shall describe proposed avoidance, monitoring, relocation, minimization, and/or mitigation actions. The Burrowing Owl Plan shall include the number and location of occupied burrow sites, acres of burrowing owl habitat that will be impacted, details of site monitoring, and details on proposed buffers and other avoidance measures if avoidance is proposed.</p> <p>Preconstruction burrowing owl surveys shall be conducted no less than 14 days prior to the start of Project-related activities and within 24 hours prior to ground disturbance, in accordance with the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (2012 or most recent version). Preconstruction surveys should be performed by a qualified biologist following the recommendations and guidelines provided in the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation. If the preconstruction surveys confirm occupied burrowing owl habitat, Project activities shall be immediately halted. The qualified biologist shall coordinate with CDFW and USFWS to conduct an impact assessment to develop avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures to be approved by CDFW prior to commencing Project activities.</p>	
		<p><b>MM BIO-3:</b> Assessment of Biological Resources for Sensitive Species. Prior to Project construction activities, an inventory of rare, threatened, endangered, and other sensitive species located within the Project footprint (i.e., the RMHS campus) and within immediate offsite areas to the north of the campus for a distance of up to one-quarter mile from the campus, including California Species of Special Concern (CSSC) and California Fully Protected Species (Fish and Game Code § 3511), will be completed. If the surveys identify any species that may be impacted that as a result of Project construction may result in take of CESA-listed species, CDFW recommends that the District initiate informal consultation with</p>	

**TABLE 1.0-1  
SUMMARY OF PROJECT IMPACTS**

Project Impacts	Impact without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Impact with Mitigation
<i>Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the CDFW or USFWS?</i>	Less than Significant.	<p>CDFW to seek appropriate remedies or mitigation to avoid “take” prior to project implementation.</p> <p><b>MM BIO-4:</b> Wildlife Entrapment. Project-related excavations shall be secured to prevent wildlife entry and entrapment. To prevent injury, mortality, or inadvertent entrapment, the District, or their contractor, shall ensure all excavated areas (e.g., trenches, bore holes, pits, etc.) are covered, backfilled, fenced, or are monitored while not actively in use. All open holes and trenches shall be inspected daily and prior to back-filling.</p> <p>At the end of each workday, the District, or their contractor, shall place an escape ramp at each end of trenches to allow any animals that may have become trapped in the hole or trench to climb out overnight. The ramp may be constructed of either dirt fill or wood planking or other suitable material that is placed at an angle no greater than 30 degrees. If any worker discovers that wildlife have become trapped, they shall halt construction activities and notify the qualified biologist immediately. Project personnel shall allow the individual to escape unimpeded if possible, or a qualified biologist shall move the individual out of harm’s way before allowing work to continue. Only qualified biologists with appropriate authorization by CDFW shall move CESA-listed or other special-status species.</p>	Less than Significant.
<i>Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of</i>	Less than Significant.	No mitigation measures are necessary.	Less than Significant.

**TABLE 1.0-1  
SUMMARY OF PROJECT IMPACTS**

Project Impacts	Impact without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Impact with Mitigation
<i>the Clean Water Act through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?</i>			
<i>Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?</i>	Potentially Significant to migratory birds.	<p><b>MM BIO-1:</b> Pre-Construction Surveys for Migratory Bird. Regardless of the time of year, nesting bird surveys shall be performed by a qualified avian biologist no more than 3 days prior to vegetation removal or ground-disturbing activities. Pre-construction surveys shall focus on both direct and indirect evidence of nesting, including nest locations and nesting behavior.</p> <p>The qualified avian biologist will make every effort to avoid potential nest predation as a result of survey and monitoring efforts. If active nests are found during the pre-construction nesting bird surveys, a qualified biologist shall establish an appropriate nest buffer to be marked on the ground.</p> <p>Active nests and adequacy of the established buffer distance shall be monitored daily by the qualified biologist until the qualified biologist has determined the young have fledged or the Project has been completed. A qualified biologist has the authority to stop work if nesting pairs exhibit signs of disturbance.</p>	Less than Significant with mitigation.
<i>Conflict with any local polices or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?</i>	Less than Significant.	No mitigation measures are necessary.	Less than Significant.
<i>Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan or other adopted local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?</i>	Less than Significant.	No mitigation measures are necessary.	Less than Significant.

**TABLE 1.0-1  
SUMMARY OF PROJECT IMPACTS**

Project Impacts	Impact without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Impact with Mitigation
<b><i>Cultural Resources</i></b>			
<i>Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to § 15064.5?</i>	Less than Significant.	No mitigation measures are necessary.	Less than Significant.
<i>Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?</i>	Potentially Significant.	<p><b>MM CUL-1: WEAP Training.</b></p> <p>All construction personnel and monitors who are not trained archaeologists shall be briefed regarding inadvertent discoveries prior to the start of construction activities. A basic presentation and handout or pamphlet shall be prepared, by a qualified archaeologist meeting the Secretary of Interior’s Standards, in order to ensure proper identification and treatment of inadvertent discoveries. The purpose of the Workers Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) training is to provide specific details on the kinds of archaeological materials that may be identified during construction of the project and explain the importance of and legal basis for the protection of significant archaeological resources. Each worker shall also learn the proper procedures to follow in the event that cultural resources or human remains are uncovered during ground-disturbing activities. These procedures include work curtailment or redirection, and the immediate contact of the site supervisor and archaeological monitor.</p> <p>Plan Requirements and Timing: Prior to commencement of project construction, PSUSD shall contract with a qualified archaeologist to prepare materials and deliver WEAP training to construction workers engaged in trenching and light pole foundation excavation; the requirement for WEAP training shall be included on grading or civil improvement plan sheets. The WEAP training shall be completed before ground disturbing activities begin. Monitoring: The construction contractor</p>	Less than Significant with Mitigation.

**TABLE 1.0-1  
SUMMARY OF PROJECT IMPACTS**

Project Impacts	Impact without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Impact with Mitigation
		<p>or PSUSD facilities management staff will verify workers receive the WEAP training prior to construction start.</p> <p><b>MM CUL-2: Inadvertent Discoveries/Spot Monitoring.</b></p> <p>A qualified archaeologist, meeting the Secretary of Interior’s Standards, shall be retained and on-call to conduct spot monitoring and respond to and address any inadvertent discoveries identified during ground disturbing activities whether within disturbed, imported or native soils. A qualified archaeological principal investigator, meeting the Secretary of the Interior’s Professional Qualification Standards, shall oversee and adjust monitoring efforts as needed (increase, decrease, or discontinue monitoring frequency) based on the observed potential for construction activities to encounter cultural deposits or material. The archaeological monitor shall be responsible for maintaining daily monitoring logs for those days monitoring occurs.</p> <p>In the event that potential prehistoric or historic-era archaeological resources (sites, features, or artifacts) are exposed during construction activities for the project, all construction work occurring within 50 feet of the find shall immediately stop and a qualified archaeologist must be notified immediately to assess the significance of the find and determine whether or not additional study is warranted.</p> <p>Depending upon the significance of the find under the California Environmental Quality Act, the archaeologist may simply record the find and allow work to continue. If the discovery proves significant under CEQA, additional work (e.g., preparation of an archaeological treatment plan, testing, or data recovery) may be warranted.</p>	



**TABLE 1.0-1  
SUMMARY OF PROJECT IMPACTS**

Project Impacts	Impact without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Impact with Mitigation
<i>Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?</i>	Potentially Significant.	<p><b>MM CUL-3: Human Remains.</b></p> <p>If Native American resources are discovered or are suspected, each of the consulting tribes for the Project will be notified and as dictated by California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, PRC Section 5097.98, and the California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15064.5(e).</p> <p>In the unlikely event that earth-disturbing activities conducted by the District and/or its construction contractors identify undiscovered human remains, the District will comply with Government Code Sections 27460 et seq.86, Section 27491, and Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5097.9887. These regulations would require earthmoving activities to halt until the Riverside County Coroner can determine whether the remains are subject to the provisions of Section 27491 or any other related provisions of law. The required recommendations concerning the treatment and disposition of the human remains would be subject to the person responsible for the excavation, or to his or her authorized representative.</p> <p>Additionally, pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.588, the coroner shall make a determination within two working days of notification of the discovery of the human remains. If the coroner determines that the remains are not subject to his or her authority and recognizes, or has reason to believe, that they are those of a Native American, he or she shall contact the Native American Heritage Commission by telephone within 24 hours. The District will comply with existing regulations and potential impact related to the accidental discovery of human remains.</p>	Less than Significant with mitigation.

**TABLE 1.0-1  
SUMMARY OF PROJECT IMPACTS**

<b>Project Impacts</b>	<b>Impact without Mitigation</b>	<b>Mitigation Measures</b>	<b>Impact with Mitigation</b>
<b>Greenhouse Gas Emissions</b>			
<i>Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?</i>	Less than Significant.	No mitigation measures are necessary.	Less than Significant.
<i>Conflict with any applicable plan, policy, or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?</i>	Less than Significant.	No mitigation measures are necessary.	Less than Significant.
<b>Noise</b>			
<i>Would the project result in the generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?</i>	Potentially Significant.	<b>MM NOI-1:</b> The District shall direct construction activities that result in noise above 60 dBA to correspond with the school’s schedules to minimize noise and vibration impacts when classes are in session, and to avoid critical (testing) periods. Intensive construction activities shall be scheduled to occur after 2:30 PM and before 5:30 PM Monday through Friday.	Less than Significant with Mitigation.
		<b>MM NOI-2:</b> The District’s construction contractor shall ensure that construction equipment is properly muffled according to industry standards and is in good working condition.	
		<b>MM NOI-3:</b> The District’s construction contractor shall utilize diesel generators and compressors that are listed as “quiet units” by the manufacturer.	
		<b>MM NOI-4:</b> For all noise- and vibration-generating construction activity on the Project Site, the District’s construction contractor shall employ additional noise and vibration attenuation techniques to reduce noise and vibration levels. Such techniques may include, but are not limited to, the use of sound blankets on noise-generating equipment and the construction of temporary sound barriers between construction sites and nearby sensitive receptors. Intensive construction activities shall be scheduled to occur after 2:30 PM and before 5:30 PM Monday through Friday.	

**TABLE 1.0-1  
SUMMARY OF PROJECT IMPACTS**

Project Impacts	Impact without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Impact with Mitigation
		<p><b>MM NOI-5:</b> The District’s construction contractor shall turn off all idling equipment when not in use for more than 5 minutes</p> <p><b>MM NOI-6:</b> The District’s construction contractor shall disconnect backup alarms on vehicles that require them.</p> <p><b>MM NOI-7:</b> The District’s construction contractor shall utilize temporary noise deflector walls during construction, where feasible</p> <p><b>MM NOI-8:</b> The District’s construction contractor shall place noise- and vibration-generating construction equipment, as well as locating construction staging areas, away from sensitive uses, including operating classrooms, where feasible.</p> <p><b>MM NOI-9:</b> The District’s construction contractor shall coordinate the reduction of construction activities with nearby classrooms during exam periods to minimize noise and vibration. The District’s construction contractor shall provide construction activity schedules to try to minimize noisy activities when construction is taking place to the fullest extent practicable.</p>	
<i>Is the proposed school site located adjacent to or near a major arterial roadway or freeway whose noise generation may adversely affect the educational program?</i>	Less than Significant.	No mitigation measures are necessary.	Less than Significant.
<i>Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?</i>	Less than Significant.	No mitigation measures are necessary.	Less than Significant.
<i>For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or</i>	Less than significant.	No mitigation measures are necessary.	Less than Significant

**TABLE 1.0-1  
SUMMARY OF PROJECT IMPACTS**

<b>Project Impacts</b>	<b>Impact without Mitigation</b>	<b>Mitigation Measures</b>	<b>Impact with Mitigation</b>
<i>working in the project area to excessive noise levels?</i>			
<b>Transportation</b>			
<i>Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?</i>	Less than Significant.	No mitigation measures are necessary.	Less than Significant.
<i>Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines § 15064.3, subdivision (b)?</i>	Less than Significant.	No mitigation measures are necessary.	Less than Significant.
<i>Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)</i>	Less than Significant.	No mitigation measures are necessary.	Less than Significant.
<i>Result in inadequate emergency access?</i>	Less than Significant.	No mitigation measures are necessary.	Less than Significant.

**TABLE 1.0-1  
SUMMARY OF PROJECT IMPACTS**

Project Impacts	Impact without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Impact with Mitigation
<i>Tribal</i>			
<b><i>Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k)?</i></b>	Less than Significant.	No mitigation measures are necessary.	Less than significant.

***Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is a resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe?***

Potentially Significant.

**MM TCR-1:** The District will notify the tribes two weeks prior to the start of construction activities when ground disturbing work will begin.

The District allows access for tribal monitors (at no cost to the District) during any ground disturbing activities (including archaeological testing and surveys). Should buried cultural deposits be encountered, the tribal monitor may request that construction activities in the immediate area of the discovery be halted, and the monitor shall investigate to assess if the discovery includes tribal cultural resources, or human remains that may be of tribal decent. If the tribal monitor determines that the discovery does include tribal cultural resources or human remains that may be of tribal decent, then the monitor shall notify the District and plan for recovery of the remains be prepared. If Native American resources are discovered or are suspected, each of the consulting tribes for the Project will be notified and as dictated by California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, PRC Section 5097.98, and the California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15064.5(e).

If human remains are discovered, the District shall also notify the Riverside County coroner's office to remove the remains.

No further work in the immediate area may resume until the tribal cultural resources or human remains are removed.

**MM CUL-1:** WEAP Training: All construction personnel and monitors who are not trained archaeologists shall be briefed regarding inadvertent discoveries prior to the start of construction activities. A basic presentation and handout or pamphlet shall be prepared, by a qualified archaeologist meeting the Secretary of Interior's Standards, in order to ensure proper identification and treatment of inadvertent discoveries. The purpose of the Workers Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) training is to provide specific details on the kinds of archaeological materials that may be identified during construction of the project and explain the importance of and legal basis for the protection of significant archaeological resources. Each worker shall also learn

Less than Significant with mitigation.

**TABLE 1.0-1  
SUMMARY OF PROJECT IMPACTS**

Project Impacts	Impact without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Impact with Mitigation
		<p>the proper procedures to follow in the event that cultural resources or human remains are uncovered during ground-disturbing activities. These procedures include work curtailment or redirection, and the immediate contact of the site supervisor and archaeological monitor.</p> <p>Plan Requirements and Timing: Prior to commencement of project construction, PSUSD shall contract with a qualified archaeologist to prepare materials and deliver WEAP training to construction workers engaged in trenching and light pole foundation excavation; the requirement for WEAP training shall be included on grading or civil improvement plan sheets. The WEAP training shall be completed before ground disturbing activities begin. Monitoring: The construction contractor or PSUSD facilities management staff will verify workers receive the WEAP training prior to construction start.</p> <p><b>MM CUL-2:</b> Inadvertent Discoveries/Spot Monitoring: A qualified archaeologist, meeting the Secretary of Interior's Standards, shall be retained and on-call to conduct spot monitoring and respond to and address any inadvertent discoveries identified during ground disturbing activities whether within disturbed, imported or native soils. A qualified archaeological principal investigator, meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards, shall oversee and adjust monitoring efforts as needed (increase, decrease, or discontinue monitoring frequency) based on the observed potential for construction activities to encounter cultural deposits or material. The archaeological monitor shall be responsible for maintaining daily monitoring logs for those days monitoring occurs.</p> <p>In the event that potential prehistoric or historic-era archaeological resources (sites, features, or artifacts)</p>	

**TABLE 1.0-1  
SUMMARY OF PROJECT IMPACTS**

Project Impacts	Impact without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Impact with Mitigation
		<p>are exposed during construction activities for the project, all construction work occurring within 50 feet of the find shall immediately stop and a qualified archaeologist must be notified immediately to assess the significance of the find and determine whether or not additional study is warranted.</p> <p>Depending upon the significance of the find under the California Environmental Quality Act, the archaeologist may simply record the find and allow work to continue. If the discovery proves significant under CEQA, additional work (e.g., preparation of an archaeological treatment plan, testing, or data recovery) may be warranted.</p> <p>If Native American resources are discovered or are suspected, each of the consulting tribes for the Project will be notified and as dictated by California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, PRC Section 5097.98, and the California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15064.5(e).</p> <p><b>MM CUL-3:</b> In the unlikely event that earth-disturbing activities conducted by the District and/or its construction contractors identify undiscovered human remains, the District will comply with Government Code Sections 27460 et seq.86, Section 27491, and Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5097.9887. These regulations would require earthmoving activities to halt until the Riverside County Coroner can determine whether the remains are subject to the provisions of Section 27491 or any other related provisions of law. The required recommendations concerning the treatment and disposition of the human remains would be subject to the person responsible for the excavation, or to his or her authorized representative.</p> <p>Additionally, pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.588, the coroner shall make a</p>	



**TABLE 1.0-1  
SUMMARY OF PROJECT IMPACTS**

Project Impacts	Impact without Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Impact with Mitigation
<p><i>Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is a resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe?</i></p>	<p>Potentially significant.</p>	<p>determination within two working days of notification of the discovery of the human remains. If the coroner determines that the remains are not subject to his or her authority and recognizes, or has reason to believe, that they are those of a Native American, he or she shall contact the Native American Heritage Commission by telephone within 24 hours. The District will comply with existing regulations and potential impact related to the accidental discovery of human remains.</p> <p>Same as above.</p>	<p>Less than Significant.</p>

## 2.0 COMMENTS RECEIVED AND RESPONSES

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The State CEQA Guidelines<sup>4</sup> require that the decision-making body of the Lead Agency consider the proposed Final SEIR together with any comments received during the public review process prior to approving a project.

The following comment letters were received regarding the EIR:

Letter No.	Agency/Commentor	Date
1	Department of Toxic Substances Control	October 13, 2023
2	Riverside County Flood Control	October 19, 2023
3	Andrew Stark	October 25, 2023
4	City of Rancho Mirage	November 3, 2023
5	Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	November 7, 203

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4 California Code of Regulations, State CEQA Guidelines Sec. 15090.

**Comment Letter 1: Department of Toxic Substances Control (Page 1 of 4)**







**COMMENT LETTER 1: Department of Toxic Substance Control,  
dated October 13, 2023**

**Comment 1-1:**

The comment states that If the district plans to use State funds for the project, then the district shall comply with the requirements of California Education Code (CDE), sections 17210, 17213.1 and 17213.2, unless otherwise specifically exempted under section 17268. If the district is not using State funds for the project, or is otherwise specifically exempted under section 17268, DTSC recommends the district continue to investigate and clean up the Site, if necessary, under the oversight of Riverside County and in concurrence with all applicable DTSC guidance documents.

***Response:***

The District will utilize state funding. As such, the District will comply with all appropriate requirements of the California Education Code.

The comment is acknowledged and will be provided to the PSUSD Board of Trustees for their information.

**Comment 1-2:**

The comment states that because the project is school site related, DTSC recommends that an environmental review, such as a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment and/or Preliminary Environmental Assessment, be conducted to determine whether there has been or may have been a release or threatened release of a hazardous material, or whether a naturally occurring hazardous material is present based on reasonably available information about the property and the areas in its vicinity. Such an environmental review should generally be conducted as part of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process. If the District elects to proceed and conduct an environmental assessment at the Site under DTSC oversight, it should enter into an Environmental Oversight Agreement with DTSC to oversee the preparation of the environmental assessment.

***Response:***

The project is located on an existing school campus at Rancho Mirage High School, and is part of the athletic and practice field areas. The District will complete all required environmental re=views as required by DTSC prior to the star of any work.

The comment is acknowledged and will be provided to the PSUSD Board of Trustees for their information.

**Comment 1-3:**

The comment states if buildings or other structures are to be demolished on any project sites included in the proposed project, surveys should be conducted for the presence of lead-based paints or products, mercury, asbestos containing materials, and polychlorinated biphenyl caulk. Removal, demolition, and disposal of any of the above-mentioned chemicals should be conducted in compliance with California environmental regulations and policies.

***Response:***

The proposed Project will not demolish any buildings or structures.

## ***2.0 Comments Received and Responses***

The comment is acknowledged and will be provided to the PSUSD Board of Trustees for their information.

### **Comment 1-3:**

The comment states if any projects initiated as part of the proposed project require the importation of soil to backfill any excavated areas, proper sampling should be conducted to ensure that the imported soil is free of contamination.

### ***Response:***

The proposed Project will not require any imported fill materials. Only soils excavated on site will be used for backfilling.

The comment is acknowledged and will be provided to the PSUSD Board of Trustees for their information.



**Letter No 2 - Riverside County Flood Control Oct 19, 2023 (Page 1 of 2)**



**COMMENT LETTER 2: Riverside County Flood Control, dated October 19, 2023**

**Comment 3-1:**

The comment notes that the District's storm drain facilities will not be impacted, there is no need for permanent drainage, and there are no Area Drainage Plan fees to be paid, Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District does not have any comments for this project.

**Response:**

The District appreciates the County Flood Control time to review the environmental document.

The comment is acknowledged and will be provided to the PSUSD Board of Trustees for their information.

**Letter No 3 - Andrew Stark email Oct 25, 2023**

### COMMENT LETTER 3: Andrew Stark email, dated October 15, 2023

#### Comment 3-1:

The comment states request that if the new lights will not come on in the morning prior to sunrise since they will be off by 10pm. Is this something PSUSD can agree to for our community? The use of these fields that early would cause a negative impact beyond lights, such as sound from coaches' whistles, athletes communicating at louder levels and possibly even a band practicing.

#### Response:

The District has included mitigation measure MM AES-4: The District will endeavor to start games and activities and the use of lights on the fields immediately adjacent to the Tuscany development to the west of the campus (this includes the varsity and JV baseball fields, and the south practice field) such that the lights will not be used after 9:00 PM to the degree possible to assure that the activities are complete, and the fields are vacated.

The comment is acknowledged and will be provided to the PSUSD Board of Trustees for their information.

**Letter No 4 - City of Rancho Mirage dated November 3, 2023 (Page 1 of 2)**



## COMMENT LETTER 4: City of Rancho Mirage dated November 3, 2023

### Comment 4-1:

The comment notes that construction noise was evaluated and noise from factors such as games and gatherings, but is there any information regarding operational noise of the poles? Do the poles themselves produce any operational noise?

### Response:

The Revised Draft Supplemental EIR did evaluate noise.

As note in Section 5.6pf the Revised Draft SEIR, the proposed Project includes trenching to install wiring between the poles and electrical control panels and installation of the light fixtures. Construction staging would occur on each field over the course of approximately 3 to 6 months. The staging area would change for each field and would place the area away from active school areas. A variety of construction equipment would be used including but not limited to tractors, loaders, backhoes, trenchers, cement and mortar mixers, cranes, and excavators. No street closure is anticipated during construction.

Construction activities typically generate noise from the operation of a variety of equipment types. Noise impacts from on-site construction activities were evaluated by determining the noise levels generated by different types of construction activity and calculating the construction-related noise level at nearby noise-sensitive receptor locations. The actual noise level would vary, depending upon the equipment type, model, the type of work activity being performed, and the condition of the equipment.

To calculate construction noise levels, hourly activity or utilization factors (i.e., the percentage of normal construction activity that would occur, or construction equipment that would be active, during each hour of the day) are estimated based on the temporal characteristics of other previous and current construction projects. The hourly activity factors express the percentage of time that construction activities would emit average noise levels. Typical noise levels for each type of construction equipment were obtained from the FHWA Roadway Construction Noise Model.

With regard to potential noise from the lighting fixtures, the lighting contractor, MUSCO, has indicated that they do not have a specification on noise emission. Further, they advise that LED fixtures do not emit any appreciable noise from the Electrical Component Enclosure mounted on the light pole.

The relative perceived loudness of sound doubles for each increase of 10 dBA, although a 10 dBA change corresponds to a factor of 10 in relative sound energy. To assess the potential for any noticeable noise, a calculation of potential perceptible noise by humans from noise was calculated in response to your comment.

The light poles that are nearest to the residential uses to the west of the campus (Tuscany HOA) would be 60 feet tall and average approximately 25 feet in distance from the rear property line of the residences. A such, the direct distance from the lighting fixtures to the base of the wall at the property



line would be 65 feet. As such, any noise generated from the lights at the top of the poles would be reduced by 36.3 dB(A).

As note on Table 5.6-2 of the Revised Draft SEIR, the City of Rancho Mirage standard for residential noise from 5:00 PM to 10:00 PM 50 dB(A). For the proposed Project's LED light to generate a noise that would exceed the 50 dB(A) threshold, the LEDs would need to generate a noise level of 86 dB(A) at the source.

Generally, sounds with differences of 3 dBA or less are not perceived to be noticeably different by most listeners. As such, to be noticeable, the noise would need to exceed the City's threshold by 3 dB(A) or be 53 dB(A) at the property line. As noted on Table 5.6-4 of the Revised Draft SEIR, this would require that the LED noise be equivalent to a busy street (80 dB(A)) or a noisy kitchen (90dB(A)).

[LED lights can make noise due to various factors.](#) These include:

- Defective LED bulbs or dimmer switches
- Compatibility issues between the dimmer and LED light bulbs
- Inadequate minimum load of the dimmer switch
- Frequent on/off cycles
- Loose wiring
- Incorrect installation
- Wear and tear on the wiring
- High-powered appliance in the same circuit (surge wattage)
- Inappropriate dimming set-up
- Other LED light problems
- [Overheating caused by incorrect wattage bulbs being used in the fixtures.](#)

The likelihood of such noise form the LED lighting is not probable. As noted by the lighting contractor, the LED fixtures do not emit any appreciable noise from the Electrical Component Enclosure mounted on the light pole

The comment is acknowledged and will be provided to the PSUSD Board of Trustees for their information.

**Letter No 5 - Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians dated November 7, 2023**

**COMMENT LETTER 5: Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, dated  
November 7, 2023**

**Comment 5-1:**

The comment notes that at this time the concerns of the Tribe have been addressed and proper mitigation measures have been proposed to ensure the protection of tribal cultural resources. The AB52 consultation efforts have been concluded.

**Response:**

The District appreciates the Tribe's participation in the environmental review process.

The comment is acknowledged and will be provided to the PSUSD Board of Trustees for their information.

### 3.0 MITIGATION AND MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

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A Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) has been prepared, pursuant to the requirements of the State CEQA Guidelines Section 15074()(6),<sup>5</sup> identifying the monitoring of mitigation measures that would reduce potential significant impacts as stated in the Revised Draft SEIR for the for the RMHS Field Lighting Program.

State CEQA Guidelines Section 15097<sup>6</sup> requires public agencies adopting an MND also adopt a program for monitoring or reporting to ensure that the mitigation measures it has imposed to mitigate or avoid significant environmental effects are implemented.

This MMRP will be required to be adopted by the School Board for the District should the Board approve the proposed Project.

The MMRP will be available for inspection at:

PSUSD Facilities Planning Division  
150 District Center Drive  
Palm Springs, CA 92264

The MMRP may be modified by the District in response to changing conditions or circumstances. A summary table (**Table 3.0-1: Mitigation Monitoring Plan**) should guide the District in its evaluation and documentation of the implementation of mitigation measures. The MMRP is organized as follows:

- **Mitigation Measure:** Provides the text of the mitigation measures identified in the Revised Draft SEIR.
- **Timing/Schedule:** Identifies the timeframe in which the mitigation will take place.
- **Implementation Responsibility:** Identifies the entity responsible for complying with mitigation measure requirements.
- **Implementation and Verification Action:** Describes the type of action taken to verify implementation.

Unless otherwise specified herein, the District is responsible for taking all actions necessary to implement the mitigation measures according to the provided specifications and for demonstrating that each action has been successfully completed. The District, at its discretion, may delegate implementation responsibility or portions thereof to a licensed contractor.

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5 California Code of Regulations. State CEQA Guidelines, Sec. 15074(b)(6).

6 California Code of Regulations. State CEQA Guidelines , Sec. 15097.

3.0 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

TABLE 3.0-1  
MITIGATION MONITORING PLAN—RMHS FIELD LIGHTING PROJECT

Mitigation Measure	Timing/ Schedule	Implementation Responsibility	Implementation and Verification Action
<i>Aesthetics</i>			
<b>MM AES-1:</b> The District shall coordinate with all residence along the western border of the RMHS who have yards that abut the campus to address the placement of light poles. Light poles adjacent to residences, along the west side of the fields, would be located in conjunction with discussion with the owners of the impacted properties so as to align the poles to avoid visual impacts. This will include, to the degree feasible in maintain lighting standards for field safety, the potential for locating poles in between each residential property line and away from any back yard viewing locations, Poles would be located, to the degree feasible, to align out of direct view of the residences.	Prior to approval of final design	District and light design planner	Provide final plans to DSA for review and approval.  Provide copy of final light plans upon request to residents verifying pole locations.
<b>MM AES-3:</b> The District will provide compensation to all property owners along the western border of the campus within the Tuscany HOA, including the Tuscany HOA parcels, to allow the property owner to install landscaping or other screening materials on their property. The District will limit the compensation to \$1,000 per parcel.	With 60 days of installation of lights	District to coordinate directly with property owners, and provide application for funds.	Verification of payment.
<b>MM AES-4:</b> The District will endeavor to start games and activities and the use of lights on the fields immediately adjacent to the Tuscany development to the west of the campus (this includes the varsity and JV baseball fields, and the south practice field) such that the lights will not be used after 9:00 PM to the degree possible to assure that the activities are complete, and the fields are vacated.	Annually during game scheduling efforts and prior the start of any games or practices.	District and RHMS Athletic Department	Published schedule of events (for each semester or annually as appropriate)

3.0 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

TABLE 3.0-1  
MITIGATION MONITORING PLAN—RMHS FIELD LIGHTING PROJECT

Mitigation Measure	Timing/ Schedule	Implementation Responsibility	Implementation and Verification Action
<b>Biological Resources</b>			
<p><b>MM BIO-1:</b> Pre-Construction Surveys for Migratory Bird. Regardless of the time of year, nesting bird surveys shall be performed by a qualified avian biologist no more than 3 days prior to vegetation removal or ground-disturbing activities. Pre-construction surveys shall focus on both direct and indirect evidence of nesting, including nest locations and nesting behavior.</p> <p>The qualified avian biologist will make every effort to avoid potential nest predation as a result of survey and monitoring efforts. If active nests are found during the pre-construction nesting bird surveys, a qualified biologist shall establish an appropriate nest buffer to be marked on the ground.</p> <p>Active nests and adequacy of the established buffer distance shall be monitored daily by the qualified biologist until the qualified biologist has determined the young have fledged or the Project has been completed. A qualified biologist has the authority to stop work if nesting pairs exhibit signs of disturbance.</p>	<p>Prior to construction as specified in each measure.</p>	<p>District Facilities Department and Staff, and District retained biologist</p>	<p>District facilities staff or construction contractor shall note in daily records.</p> <p>District to provide copy of surveys to CDFW upon completion.</p>
<p><b>MM BIO-2:</b> Pre-Construction Surveys for Burrowing Owls. Pre-construction surveys for burrowing owls should be undertaken no less than 60 days between 14 and 30 days prior to any kind of ground disturbance related to modifications to facilities and properties. The burrowing owl habitat assessment shall be conducted by a qualified biologist according to the specifications of the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (Department of Fish and Game, March 2012 or most recent version).</p>	<p>Prior to construction as specified in each measure.</p>	<p>District Facilities Department and Staff, and District retained biologist</p>	<p>District facilities staff or construction contractor shall note in daily records.</p> <p>District to provide copy of surveys to CDFW upon completion.</p>

**TABLE 3.0-1  
MITIGATION MONITORNG PLAN—RMHS FIELD LIGHTING PROJECT**

Mitigation Measure	Timing/ Schedule	Implementation Responsibility	Implementation and Verification Action
<p>If the habitat assessment demonstrates suitable burrowing owl habitat, then focused burrowing owl surveys shall be conducted in accordance with the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (2012 or most recent version). If burrowing owls are detected during the focused surveys, the qualified biologist and Project proponent shall prepare a Burrowing Owl Plan that shall be submitted to CDFW for review and approval prior to commencing Project activities. The Burrowing Owl Plan shall describe proposed avoidance, monitoring, relocation, minimization, and/or mitigation actions. The Burrowing Owl Plan shall include the number and location of occupied burrow sites, acres of burrowing owl habitat that will be impacted, details of site monitoring, and details on proposed buffers and other avoidance measures if avoidance is proposed.</p> <p>Preconstruction burrowing owl surveys shall be conducted no less than 14 days prior to the start of Project-related activities and within 24 hours prior to ground disturbance, in accordance with the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (2012 or most recent version). Preconstruction surveys should be performed by a qualified biologist following the recommendations and guidelines provided in the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation. If the preconstruction surveys confirm occupied burrowing owl habitat, Project activities shall be immediately halted. The qualified biologist shall coordinate with CDFW and USFWS to conduct an impact assessment to develop avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures to be approved by CDFW prior to commencing Project activities.</p>			

3.0 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

TABLE 3.0-1  
MITIGATION MONITORING PLAN—RMHS FIELD LIGHTING PROJECT

Mitigation Measure	Timing/ Schedule	Implementation Responsibility	Implementation and Verification Action
<p><b>MM BIO-3:</b> Assessment of Biological Resources for Sensitive Species. Prior to Project construction activities, an inventory of rare, threatened, endangered, and other sensitive species located within the Project footprint (i.e., the RMHS campus) and within immediate offsite areas to the north of the campus for a distance of up to one-quarter mile from the campus, including California Species of Special Concern (CSSC) and California Fully Protected Species (Fish and Game Code § 3511), will be completed. If the surveys identify any species that may be impacted that as a result of Project construction may result in take of CESA-listed species, CDFW recommends that the District initiate informal consultation with CDFW to seek appropriate remedies or mitigation to avoid “take” prior to project implementation.</p>	<p>Prior to construction as specified in each measure.</p>	<p>District Facilities Department and Staff, and District retained biologist</p>	<p>District facilities staff or construction contractor shall note in daily records.</p> <p>District to provide copy of surveys to CDFW upon completion.</p>
<p><b>MM BIO-4:</b> Wildlife Entrapment. Project-related excavations shall be secured to prevent wildlife entry and entrapment. To prevent injury, mortality, or inadvertent entrapment, the District, or their contractor, shall ensure all excavated areas (e.g., trenches, bore holes, pits, etc.) are covered, backfilled, fenced, or are monitored while not actively in use. All open holes and trenches shall be inspected daily and prior to back-filling.</p> <p>At the end of each workday, the District, or their contractor, shall place an escape ramp at each end of trenches to allow any animals that may have become trapped in the hole or trench to climb out overnight. The ramp may be constructed of either dirt fill or wood planking or other suitable material that is placed at an angle no greater than 30 degrees. If any worker discovers that wildlife have become trapped, they shall halt construction activities and notify the qualified</p>	<p>During construction activities.</p>	<p>District Facilities Department and Staff, and construction contractor.</p>	<p>District facilities staff or construction contractor shall note in daily records.</p> <p>Records shall be kept on site daily on job site by District or construction contractor for inspection.</p> <p>District to provide copies of records to CDFW upon request.</p>



TABLE 3.0-1  
MITIGATION MONITORING PLAN—RMHS FIELD LIGHTING PROJECT

Mitigation Measure	Timing/ Schedule	Implementation Responsibility	Implementation and Verification Action
<p>biologist immediately. Project personnel shall allow the individual to escape unimpeded if possible, or a qualified biologist shall move the individual out of harm's way before allowing work to continue. Only qualified biologists with appropriate authorization by CDFW shall move CESA-listed or other special-status species.</p>			
<b>Cultural Resources</b>			
<p><b>MM CUL-1: WEAP Training.</b></p> <p>All construction personnel and monitors who are not trained archaeologists shall be briefed regarding inadvertent discoveries prior to the start of construction activities. A basic presentation and handout or pamphlet shall be prepared, by a qualified archaeologist meeting the Secretary of Interior's Standards, in order to ensure proper identification and treatment of inadvertent discoveries. The purpose of the Workers Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) training is to provide specific details on the kinds of archaeological materials that may be identified during construction of the project and explain the importance of and legal basis for the protection of significant archaeological resources. Each worker shall also learn the proper procedures to follow in the event that cultural resources or human remains are uncovered during ground-disturbing activities. These procedures include work curtailment or redirection, and the immediate contact of the site supervisor and archaeological monitor.</p> <p>Plan Requirements and Timing: Prior to commencement of project construction, PSUSD shall contract with a</p>	<p>Prior to construction and weekly at the beginning of each week as part of tailgate meetings with construction personnel.</p>	<p>District Facilities Staff and District retained cultural resource specialist</p>	<p>District staff shall note in daily records of all construction personnel attending WEAP training.</p> <p>Records shall be kept on site daily on job site by District or construction contractor for inspection.</p>

TABLE 3.0-1  
MITIGATION MONITORING PLAN—RMHS FIELD LIGHTING PROJECT

Mitigation Measure	Timing/ Schedule	Implementation Responsibility	Implementation and Verification Action
<p>qualified archaeologist to prepare materials and deliver WEAP training to construction workers engaged in trenching and light pole foundation excavation; the requirement for WEAP training shall be included on grading or civil improvement plan sheets. The WEAP training shall be completed before ground disturbing activities begin.</p> <p>Monitoring: The construction contractor or PSUSD facilities management staff will verify workers receive the WEAP training prior to construction start.</p>			
<p><b>MM CUL-2: Inadvertent Discoveries/Spot Monitoring.</b> A qualified archaeologist, meeting the Secretary of Interior’s Standards, shall be retained and on-call to conduct spot monitoring and respond to and address any inadvertent discoveries identified during ground disturbing activities whether within disturbed, imported or native soils. A qualified archaeological principal investigator, meeting the Secretary of the Interior’s Professional Qualification Standards, shall oversee and adjust monitoring efforts as needed (increase, decrease, or discontinue monitoring frequency) based on the observed potential for construction activities to encounter cultural deposits or material. The archaeological monitor shall be responsible for maintaining daily monitoring logs for those days monitoring occurs.</p> <p>In the event that potential prehistoric or historic-era archaeological resources (sites, features, or artifacts) are exposed during construction activities for the project, all construction work occurring within 50 feet of the find shall immediately stop and a qualified archaeologist must be notified immediately to assess</p>	<p>During construction.</p>	<p>District Facilities Staff and District retained cultural resource specialist</p>	<p>District staff shall note in daily records, and contact the County coroner, if necessary.</p> <p>Records shall be kept on site daily on job site by District or construction contractor for inspection.</p>

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MITIGATION MONITORING PLAN—RMHS FIELD LIGHTING PROJECT

Mitigation Measure	Timing/ Schedule	Implementation Responsibility	Implementation and Verification Action
<p>the significance of the find and determine whether or not additional study is warranted.</p> <p>Depending upon the significance of the find under the California Environmental Quality Act, the archaeologist may simply record the find and allow work to continue. If the discovery proves significant under CEQA, additional work (e.g., preparation of an archaeological treatment plan, testing, or data recovery) may be warranted.</p> <p>If Native American resources are discovered or are suspected, each of the consulting tribes for the Project will be notified and as dictated by California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, PRC Section 5097.98, and the California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15064.5(e).</p>			
<p><b>MM CUL-3: Human Remains.</b></p> <p>In the unlikely event that earth-disturbing activities conducted by the District and/or its construction contractors identify undiscovered human remains, the District will comply with Government Code Sections 27460 et seq.86, Section 27491, and Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5097.9887. These regulations would require earthmoving activities to halt until the Riverside County Coroner can determine whether the remains are subject to the provisions of Section 27491 or any other related provisions of law. The required recommendations concerning the treatment and disposition of the human remains would be subject to the person responsible for the excavation, or to his or her authorized representative. Additionally, pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.588, the coroner shall make a determination within two working</p>	<p>During construction.</p>	<p>District Facilities Staff and District retained cultural resource specialist</p> <p>Tribal representative and Count Corner, as appropriate.</p>	<p>District staff shall note in daily records, and contact the County coroner, if necessary.</p> <p>Records shall be keep on site daily on job site by District or construction contractor for inspection.</p>

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MITIGATION MONITORNG PLAN—RMHS FIELD LIGHTING PROJECT

Mitigation Measure	Timing/ Schedule	Implementation Responsibility	Implementation and Verification Action
<p>days of notification of the discovery of the human remains. If the coroner determines that the remains are not subject to his or her authority and recognizes, or has reason to believe, that they are those of a Native American, he or she shall contact the Native American Heritage Commission by telephone within 24 hours. The District will comply with existing regulations and potential impact related to the accidental discovery of human remains.</p>			
<b>Noise</b>			
<p><b>MM NOI-1:</b> The District shall direct construction activities that result in noise above 60 dBA to correspond with the school’s schedules to minimize noise and vibration impacts when classes are in session, and to avoid critical (testing) periods. Intensive construction activities such as demolition and grading shall be scheduled to occur after 2:30 PM Monday through Friday.</p>	<p>During construction.</p>	<p>District Facilities Department and Staff, and construction contractor.</p>	<p>District staff and construction contractor shall note in daily records.</p> <p>Records shall be keep on site daily on job site by District or construction contractor for inspection.</p>
<p><b>MM NOI-2:</b> The District’s construction contractor shall ensure that construction equipment is properly muffled according to industry standards and is in good working condition.</p>	<p>During construction.</p>	<p>District Facilities Department and Staff, and construction contractor.</p>	<p>District staff and construction contractor shall note in daily records.</p> <p>Records shall be keep on site daily on job site by District or construction contractor for inspection</p>

3.0 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

TABLE 3.0-1  
MITIGATION MONITORING PLAN—RMHS FIELD LIGHTING PROJECT

Mitigation Measure	Timing/ Schedule	Implementation Responsibility	Implementation and Verification Action
<b>MM NOI-3:</b> The District’s construction contractor shall utilize diesel generators and compressors that are listed as “quiet units” by the manufacturer.	During construction.	District Facilities Department and Staff, and construction contractor.	District staff and construction contractor shall note in daily records.  Records shall be kept on site daily on job site by District or construction contractor for inspection
<b>MM NOI-4:</b> For all noise- and vibration-generating construction activity on the Project Site, the District’s construction contractor shall employ additional noise and vibration attenuation techniques to reduce noise and vibration levels. Such techniques may include, but are not limited to, the use of sound blankets on noise-generating equipment and the construction of temporary sound barriers between construction sites and nearby sensitive receptors.	During construction.	District Facilities Department and Staff, and construction contractor.	District staff and construction contractor shall note in daily records.  Records shall be kept on site daily on job site by District or construction contractor for inspection.
<b>MM NOI-5:</b> The District’s construction contractor shall turn off all idling equipment when not in use for more than 5 minutes.	During construction.	District Facilities Department and Staff, and construction contractor.	District staff and construction contractor shall note in daily records.  Records shall be kept on site daily on job site by District or construction contractor for inspection.

3.0 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

TABLE 3.0-1  
MITIGATION MONITORNG PLAN—RMHS FIELD LIGHTING PROJECT

Mitigation Measure	Timing/ Schedule	Implementation Responsibility	Implementation and Verification Action
<b>MM NOI-6:</b> The District’s construction contractor shall disconnect backup alarms on vehicles that require them.	During construction.	District Facilities Department and Staff, and construction contractor.	District staff and construction contractor shall note in daily records.  Records shall be keep on site daily on job site by District or construction contractor for inspection.
<b>MM NOI-7:</b> The District’s construction contractor shall utilize temporary noise deflector walls during construction, where feasible.	During construction.	District Facilities Department and Staff, and construction contractor.	District staff and construction contractor shall note in daily records.  Records shall be keep on site daily on job site by District or construction contractor for inspection.
<b>MM NOI-8:</b> The District’s construction contractor shall place noise- and vibration-generating construction equipment, as well as locating construction staging areas, away from sensitive uses, including operating classrooms, where feasible.	During construction.	District Facilities Department and Staff, and construction contractor.	District staff and construction contractor shall note in daily records.  Records shall be keep on site daily on job site by District or construction contractor for inspection.

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MITIGATION MONITORING PLAN—RMHS FIELD LIGHTING PROJECT

Mitigation Measure	Timing/ Schedule	Implementation Responsibility	Implementation and Verification Action
<p><b>MM NOI-9:</b> The District’s construction contractor shall coordinate the reduction of construction activities with nearby classrooms during exam periods to minimize noise and vibration. The District’s construction contractor shall provide construction activity schedules to try to minimize noisy activities when construction is taking place to the fullest extent practicable.</p>	During construction.	District Facilities Department and Staff, and construction contractor.	<p>District staff and construction contractor shall note in daily records.</p> <p>Records shall be kept on site daily on job site by District or construction contractor for inspection.</p>

**Tribal Cultural Resources**

<p><b>MM TCR-1:</b> The District will notify the tribes two weeks prior to the start of construction activities when ground disturbing work will begin.</p> <p>The District allows access for tribal monitors (at no cost to the District) during any ground disturbing activities (including archaeological testing and surveys). Should buried cultural deposits be encountered, the tribal monitor may request that construction activities in the immediate area of the discovery be halted, and the monitor shall investigate to assess if the discovery includes tribal cultural resources, or human remains that may be of tribal descent. If the tribal monitor determines that the discovery does include tribal cultural resources or human remains that may be of tribal descent, then the monitor shall notify the District and plan for recovery of the remains be prepared. If Native American resources are discovered or are suspected, each of the consulting tribes for the Project will be notified and as dictated by California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, PRC Section 5097.98, and the California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15064.5(e).</p>	Prior to construction.	<p>District Facilities Department and Staff, and construction contractor.</p> <p>District retained cultural resource specialist and tribal representative as appropriate.</p>	<p>District staff and construction contractor shall note in daily records.</p> <p>Records shall be kept on site daily on job site by District or construction contractor for inspection.</p>
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**TABLE 3.0-1  
MITIGATION MONITORING PLAN—RMHS FIELD LIGHTING PROJECT**

Mitigation Measure	Timing/ Schedule	Implementation Responsibility	Implementation and Verification Action
<p>If human remains are discovered, the District shall also notify the Riverside County coroner’s office to remove the remains.</p> <p>No further work in the immediate area may resume until the tribal cultural resources or human remains are removed.</p>			