

**Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report and Scoping Meeting for
West Contra Costa Unified School District
Charter Schools Construction and Modernization and
City of Richmond Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center and Park Renovation
Project**

DATE: January 7, 2008

TO: Responsible Agencies, Agencies with Jurisdiction by Law, Trustee Agencies, Involved Federal Agencies, and Agencies/People Requesting Notice

FROM: West Contra Costa Unified School District
Facilities Planning and Construction
Attn: William Savidge, District Engineering Officer
1300 Potrero Avenue
Richmond, CA, 94804

The West Contra Costa Unified School District (Lead Agency) will prepare an EIR for the proposed West Contra Costa Unified School District Charter Schools Construction and Modernization and City of Richmond Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center and Park Renovation Project.

Project Location: The proposed project includes three project sites. The three project sites are located at the following locations:

- **Project Site A:** Gompers Continuation High/LPS – Richmond
The larger eastern portion of Project Site A is bounded by Bissell Avenue, 9th Street, 8th Street, and Chanslor Avenue. The smaller western portion of Project Site A is bounded by 8th Street, 7th Street, and Chanslor Avenue and is adjacent on its northern side to the WCCUSD Central Kitchen facility. Project Site A addresses include: Samuel L. Gompers High School, 157 9th Street, Richmond, California 94801; Leadership Public Schools: Richmond, 715 Chanslor Avenue, Richmond, CA 94801.
- **Project Site B:** Nystrom/RCP Campus
Project Site B is bounded by Florida Avenue, South 12th Street, Harbour Way South. Project Site B is adjacent on its southern side to the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center and Park. Project Site B addresses include: Maritime Child Development Center, 1014 Florida Avenue, Richmond, CA 94804; Nystrom Elementary School, 230 Harbour Way South, Richmond, CA 94804; Richmond College Prep K-5 Charter School, 217 South 11th Street, Richmond, CA 94804.
- **Project Site C:** Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center and Park
Project Site C is an L-shaped site that is bounded by South 12th Street, Virginia Avenue, South Marina Way, and South Harbour Way. Project Site C is adjacent on its northern side to Nystrom Elementary

School and adjacent on its southern side to a series of smaller parcels that abut Cutting Boulevard. Project Site C addresses include: MLK Community Center, 360 Harbour Way South, Richmond, CA 94804.

Project Description: The proposed project encompasses the construction, modernization, and renovation of the facilities and campuses at **Project Site A and Project Site B** for the following District educational institutions:

- Nystrom College Prep Preschool,
- Richmond College Prep K-5 Charter School (RCP),
- Nystrom Elementary School (NES),
- Leadership Public School: Richmond (LPS), and
- Gompers Continuation High School (GHS).

At completion of all project phases, all of these educational institutions would be located at either Project Site A or Project Site B.

The primary purpose and objective of the **Project Site A and Project Site B** portion of the proposed project is to provide students with modern school facilities that would adequately accommodate student and faculty needs. The proposed project would fulfill the District’s obligations to provide equivalent facilities to the RCP and LPS charter schools. At project completion at Project Site A, the existing facilities would have been demolished and new facilities would have been constructed. At project completion at Project Site B, the existing 1-story facilities would have been demolished, modernization of both wings of the existing Nystrom Elementary School building would have been completed, and a new modular unit campus, new multi-use facility, and new play areas would have been constructed. Additionally, South 11th Street would transition to a pedestrian area and a new driveway would have been constructed between South Harbour Way and South 12th Street.

The primary purpose and objective for the **Project Site C** portion of the proposed project is to address the existing maintenance needs at the MLK Community Center and Park such that the area is more usable and accessible to the wider community and to renovate the site design for the entire MLK Community Center and Park to integrate it with the improvements for Nystrom Elementary School campus (Project Site B). At project completion at Project Site C, some of the existing facilities and outdoor recreation space would have been renovated.

Based on the project description and the Lead Agency’s understanding of the environmental setting and potential impacts associated with the project, the following topics will be analyzed in detail in the EIR:

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|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Aesthetics | |
| Air Quality | Land Use/Planning |
| Biological Resources | Noise |
| Cultural Resources | Public Services |
| Geology/Soils | Transportation/Traffic |
| Hazards & Hazardous Materials | Utilities and Services Systems |
| Hydrology and Water Quality | |

For a more detailed description of the proposed project and discussion of environmental impacts related to the proposed project, please refer to the Initial Study that can be found on the Local Agency’s website:

<http://www.wccusd.k12.ca.us/index.shtml>. Copies will also be made available at the District Office at: 1300 Potrero Avenue, Richmond, CA, 94804.

The Lead Agency solicits comments regarding the scope and content of the EIR from all interested parties requesting notice, responsible agencies, jurisdiction by law, trustee agencies, and involved agencies. Please send your written/typed comments (including contact name) to the following:

West Contra Costa Unified School District
Facilities Planning and Construction
Attn: William Savidge, District Engineering Officer
1300 Potrero Avenue
Richmond, CA, 94804

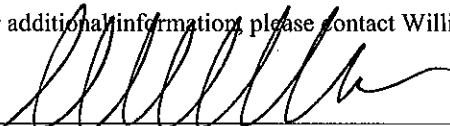
Due to the time limits mandated by California law, written comments must be sent at the earliest possible date, but no later than **February 5, 2008**.

Notice of Scoping Meeting: Pursuant to California Public Resources Code Section 21087.7, 21083.9, and 21092.2, the Lead Agency will conduct a public scoping meeting for the same purpose of soliciting oral and written comments from interested parties requesting notice, responsible agencies, agencies with jurisdiction by law, trustee agencies, and involved federal agencies, as to the appropriate scope and content of the EIR. The scoping meeting will be held on **January 24, 2008 from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM** at the following location:

City of Richmond
Martin Luther King Recreation Center
360 Harbor Way South
Richmond, CA, 94804

For additional information, please contact William Savidge at (510) 307-4544 or (510) 812-0604.

X


William Savidge
District Engineering Officer

Date:

1/4/08