NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE COLE ADMINISTRATIVE/EDUCATION CENTER PROJECT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:

The Oakland Unified School District has prepared an Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed Cole Administrative Center / Education Building Project. Based on the Initial Study, the District has determined that although the Project could have a significant effect on the environment, there would not be a significant effect because the District has incorporated mitigation measures into the Project that would avoid any significant effects of the Project or reduce the effects to an insignificant level.

The Governing Board of the Oakland Unified School District (Board) will consider adopting the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and approving the Project on June 29, 2022, at 8:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible. This meeting will be a Regular Meeting of the Board in the Great Room, La Escuelita Elementary School, 1050 2nd Avenue, Oakland, CA 94606 (entrance at or near 286 East 10th St.), unless stated otherwise in the Agenda. You may attend this meeting and present testimony regarding the Project.

Project Location and Description: The Project site is at 1011 Union Street in West Oakland, the location of the existing Cole Middle School building. The Cole Middle School has not been used as a school since 2009 and is essentially unused, other than for on-going operation of the District’s computerized Data Center operations. The proposed Project includes redevelopment of the former Cole Middle School site to construct and operate a new, approximately 56,000 square-foot, two-story building and associated parking that would serve as office space for OUSD administrative personnel, as well as a new location for portions of the District’s Adult and Career Education program. The new building would accommodate approximately 70 OUSD administrative staff employees on a daily basis. It would also consolidate Oakland Adult and Career Education programs, many of which are currently held at McClymonds High School, and enable the District to re-program McClymonds to better accommodate the high school needs of the District.

The District anticipates beginning construction later in year 2022, with phased development of the Project completed within approximately one year.

Mitigation Measures: The District has incorporated mitigation measures into the Project to address potentially significant project impacts related to air quality, biological resources, cultural resources,
geology, hazardous materials, hydrology, noise, utilities and tribal cultural resources. The mitigation measures are included in Attachment A of the Initial Study. The Project site is known to contain soils with lead and arsenic levels that exceed DTSC screening levels for human health. Soil contaminated with lead and arsenic will be remediated during the construction phase of the Project, with soil excavation and off-site disposal as the preferred remedial action.

Public Review and Comment: The public and interested agencies may review and are encouraged to submit written comments on the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study. The documents are available for review on the District’s website: www.ousd.org. The 30-day public review period for the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration will begin on May 27, 2022, and end on June 25, 2022. Please submit your written comments to Tadashi Nakadegawa, Deputy Chief by email: tadashi.nakadegawa@ousd.org with a cc: to Kenya Chatman, Executive Facilities Director by email: kenya.chatman@ousd.org

The Draft proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study Report and Supporting Documents can be found at the following OUSD websites: https://www.ousd.org/Page/21387 or https://www.ousd.org/domain/69.

s/Kyla Johnson Trammell
Secretary
Governing Board
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT