RESOLUTION NO. 17-2019/2020
OF
THE NOVATO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE NOVATO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT CERTIFYING THE COMPLETION OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE SAN MARIN HIGH SCHOOL STADIUM LIGHTS PROJECT

WHEREAS, the subject project is known as The San Marin High School Stadium Lights Project ("Project") and is comprised of new stadium lighting, an upgraded public address (PA) system, and egress lighting at the existing San Marin High School campus. The project site is generally located on and adjacent to the athletic field in the northeast portion of the campus, located at 15 San Marin Drive, just north of its intersection with Novato Boulevard, in the city of Novato; and

WHEREAS, the Project proposes the installation of stadium lights and an upgraded PA system which would:

- consist of a modern, energy-efficient, LED lighting system that would minimize the glare of the stadium lights and reduce the amount of illumination outside of the stadium fields compared to older lighting systems
- involve upgrades to the PA system that would allow the system to focus and contain sound within the stadium, which would include a digital signal processor and new speakers mounted on up to 18 poles throughout the project site, each up to 35 feet tall
- include one set of lighting poles that would support lighting fixtures for illuminating the field during sports competitions, practices, and other events, which would be approximately 80 to 90 feet tall and would be installed at eight locations, arranged as four poles spaced evenly along each long side of the athletic field
- include a second set of lighting poles that would support lighting fixtures for illuminating the field during post-event egress, clean-up, and potentially during sports team practices, which would be up to 35 feet tall and would be installed at up to 18 locations throughout the project site
- allow for the expansion of evening and nighttime activities at the stadium site, which would generally end no later than 9:30 PM; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15063, the District retained an environmental consultant to prepare an initial study of the Project (the "Initial Study"); and

WHEREAS, on the basis of recommendations included in the Initial Study, the District determined that an environmental impact report (the "Draft EIR") should be prepared for the Project pursuant to CEQA Guidelines sections 15064 and 15081; and

WHEREAS, the Final Environmental Impact Report (SCH #2016082068) consisting of the Draft EIR, Partially Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report, and responses to comments and errata (hereinafter, "Final EIR") has been prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA; Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) to analyze the environmental effects of the Project; and
WHEREAS, a public scoping meeting was held in the Student Center at San Marin High School on September 7, 2016; and

WHEREAS, a Notice of Availability of the Draft EIR was circulated preparatory to a 73-day public review and comment period commencing on December 20, 2016 and concluding on March 3, 2017; and

WHEREAS, on January 24, 2017, the District held a public meeting to receive comments regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR; and

WHEREAS, the Partially Revised Draft EIR was subsequently prepared to address limited further development of the Draft EIR

WHEREAS, the Partially Revised Draft EIR was circulated for a 30-day public review and comment period commencing on July 24, 2019 and concluding on August 24, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Final EIR document was released on October 7, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Section 21000 et. seq. of the Public Resources Code and Section 15000 et. seq. of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (CEQA Guidelines) which govern the preparation, content, and processing of environmental impact reports, have been fully implemented in the preparation of the EIR; and

WHEREAS, between the public scoping meeting and date of final action two officially noticed public meetings and hearings were held to deliberate the merits of the proposed Project and make recommendations regarding components of or a final action on the Project and in addition thereto, the District hosted community meetings to receive feedback from the public on the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the Final EIR prepared for the Project, the staff reports pertaining to the Final EIR, the minutes and reports for all public hearings, and all evidence received by the District at such hearings, all of which documents and evidence are hereby incorporated by reference into this Resolution; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15086, the District has given notice to and consulted with Responsible Agencies, trustee agencies with resources affected by the Project, and other state, federal, and local agencies which have jurisdiction by law with respect to the Project or which exercise authority over resources which may be affected by the Project; and

WHEREAS, prior to taking action on the Project, the District has evaluated and considered all potentially significant effects on the environment, feasible project alternatives, and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and has balanced the benefits of the Project against its unavoidable effects on the environment; and

WHEREAS, the Board has read and considered all environmental documentation comprising the Final EIR, its supporting sources, and comments received from state and local agencies and other interested persons; and
WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the Final EIR is adequate, complete, has been prepared in accordance with CEQA, and has incorporated therein the mitigation measures described in the Draft EIR and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program; and

WHEREAS, the Final EIR has been prepared in compliance with CEQA and reflects the Board’s independent judgment and analysis of the District as lead agency with respect to the Project; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Novato Unified School District Governing Board hereby finds, determines, declares, orders and resolves as follows:

Section 1. That all of the recitals set forth above are true and correct, and the Board so finds and determines the foregoing recitals are true and correct.

Section 2. The Board certifies that: (1) the Final EIR for the Project has been prepared in compliance with CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines; (2) the Final EIR was presented to the Board, which reviewed and considered the information contained in the Final EIR and comments received prior to approving the Project; and (3) the Final EIR reflects the Board’s independent judgment and analysis.

Section 3. The Board adopts the Findings for each potentially significant environmental effect identified in the Final EIR, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

Section 4. The Board finds that the public and interested government agencies have been afforded adequate notice and opportunity to comment on the NOP, Draft EIR, Final EIR, and the Project.

Section 5. The Board finds that information contained in various reports, errata, and modifications made to the Draft EIR, in response to comments and the evidence presented in written and oral testimony, do not represent significant new information so as to require recirculation of the Draft EIR pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15088.5.

Section 6. The Board hereby delegates authority to the District Assistant Superintendent for Business Operations, or designee, to cause a Notice of Determination to be filed with the Marin County Clerk and the State Clearinghouse.

Section 7. The findings made in this Resolution are based upon the information and evidence set forth in the Draft EIR and Final EIR and upon substantial evidence, which has been presented in the record of these proceedings; the Final EIR and all supporting material, which constitute a record of these proceedings, will be kept at the Novato Unified School District Office, located at 1015 7th Street, Novato, CA 94945, under the control of the Assistant Superintendent for Business Operations.
Section 10. The Board hereby approves the Project described in the Final EIR.

APPROVED, PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of the Novato Unified School District on the 10th day of October 2019, by the following vote:

AYES: 6

NOES: 0

ABSTAIN: ____________

ABSENT: 1

State of California,
County of Marin

I, Debbie Butler, President of the Novato Unified School District Board of Trustees, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees at a regularly called and conducted meeting held on said date.

[Signature]
President, NUSD Board of Trustees

Attested to:

[Signature]
Clerk, NUSD Board of Trustees