# PUBLIC NOTICE FOR THE CUYAMACA COLLEGE FACILITIES MASTER PLAN UPDATE

**Project Title:** Cuyamaca College 2013 Facilities Master Plan Update

**Lead Agency:** Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District

Project Location: Cuyamaca College

900 Rancho San Diego Parkway El Cajon, California 92019-4304

County: San Diego

### **Project Background:**

In November 2013, the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District (District) published a Notice of Preparation (NOP) announcing its intention to prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (EIR) addressing the potential environmental effects of implementing the Cuyamaca College 2013 Facilities Master Plan Update (proposed Project). The NOP was circulated for a period of 30 days and a Scoping Meeting was held on December 16, 2013 giving public agencies, interested organizations, and members of the public an opportunity to comment on the scope and content of the Supplemental EIR.

In 2016, the District conducted new enrollment forecasting and made revisions to the proposed 2013 Facilities Master Plan Update in response to available funding from Proposition V, as supplemented by State funds. As revised, the current campus enrollment forecast is predicted to be far less than the 15,000-student ultimate enrollment population identified in the 2003 Master Plan and its certified 2004 Final EIR (SCH No. 2003051013). Specifically, the ultimate enrollment population of the campus at buildout is now projected at approximately 11,150 students, which represents a 3,850-student reduction from prior estimates, during the multi-decade implementation of the 2013 Facilities Master Plan Update. In addition, all of the funded facilities would replace or modernize existing outdated facilities and serve the existing and future campus population; no expansion of classroom capacity is proposed under the 2013 Facilities Master Plan Update, as described below under *Project Revisions*.

The 2013 Facilities Master Plan Update, as revised, no longer triggers the need for supplemental or subsequent review under Section 15162 of the State CEQA Guidelines. Therefore, the District has determined that an Addendum to the 2004 Final EIR is the appropriate CEQA document to address minor revisions to the 2003 Master Plan, pursuant to Section 15164 of the State CEQA Guidelines. The Addendum will describe, using substantial evidence in the record, the changes or additions to the approved Master Plan that are necessary and explain why none of the conditions described in Section 15162 of the State CEQA Guidelines calling for preparation of a subsequent EIR have occurred.

## **Project Revisions:**

In 2013, the District identified several future construction projects in the 2013 Facilities Master Plan to be developed over the next few decades to modernize facilities and to accommodate educational needs and anticipated student growth anticipated at Cuyamaca College. The initial list of projects involved a combination of the demolition/replacement of older facilities, renovation/modernization of existing facilities and new facility (classroom) construction. As of 2016, a number of the facilities and projects initially identified in the 2013 Facilities Master Plan have been eliminated. Therefore, new facility construction is no longer anticipated and all of the projects under the 2013 Facilities Master Plan Update would be replacement or modernization of existing campus facilities. In addition, rather than needing to accommodate an ultimate student enrollment population of 15,000, as studied in the previous 2004 EIR, the District is predicting an ultimate enrollment population of 11,150 students at buildout of the 2013 Facilities Master Plan Update. The reduced enrollment projection is attributable to lower high school graduation rates, changing student demographics, and a statewide focus on student completions instead of growth.

#### **Determination:**

Based on the above-described revisions to the 2003 Master Plan and substantial evidence in the whole record, the District has determined that the revised project would result in:

- No Substantial Project Changes. There are no substantial changes proposed to the 2003 Master Plan which will require major revisions of the previous EIR due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects.
- No Substantial Change in Circumstances. No substantial changes have occurred
  with respect to the circumstances under which the Project will be undertaken which will
  require major revisions of the previous EIR due to the involvement of new significant
  environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified
  significant effects.
- No New Information of Substantial Importance. There is no new information of substantial importance, which was not known or could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the previous EIR was certified as complete, which shows any of the following: the Project will have one or more significant effects not discussed in the previous EIR; significant effects previously examined will be substantially more severe than shown in the previous EIR; mitigation measures or alternatives previously found not to be feasible would in fact be feasible, and would substantially reduce one or more significant effects of the Project, but the Project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative; or mitigation measures or alternatives which are considerably different from those analyzed in the EIR would substantially reduce one or more significant effects on the environment, but the Project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative.

Therefore, the District, as the CEQA Lead Agency, has concluded that minor additions or changes related to the above criteria would not be necessary to make the previous EIR adequate and a Supplemental EIR is not required, in accordance with Sections 15162 and 15164 of the State CEQA Guidelines.

In arriving at a decision to proceed with the Project, the District Governing Board will consider, among other things, the information in the certified 2004 Final EIR with some minor technical changes or additions related to the proposed revisions to the 2003 Master Plan.

Signature:

Ken Emmons, Senior Director of Districtwide Facilities
Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District

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