

August 19, 2019

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT – MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Project Title: Student Success Center
Project Location: UC Riverside Campus
County: Riverside

Notice is hereby given that the University of California intends to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed Student Success Center project located on the University of California, Riverside (UCR) campus, east of the City of Riverside and east of Interstate 215/State Route 60, in Riverside County, California.

In accordance with the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines and University of California (UC) Procedures for Implementation of CEQA, an Initial Study for the above named project has been prepared. The Initial Study is tiered from the UC Riverside (UCR) 2005 Long Range Development Plan (LRDP) Environmental Impact Report (EIR) as supplemented and updated by the UCR 2005 LRDP Amendment 2 EIR. Based upon the Tiered Initial Study, it has been determined that a Mitigated Negative Declaration is appropriate for this project.

UCR proposes to develop the Student Success Center (herein referred to as project or proposed project), a new 3- to 4- story facility with a maximum building capacity of 80,000 gross square feet (gsf). The project would support the UCR academic mission through its explicit focus on “student success”: academic achievement, retention, and timely graduation for students from all backgrounds by providing general assignment classrooms, and student life support spaces in the campus academic core.

The project would accomplish these goals by providing three elements essential to student success: (1) general assignment classrooms designed for modern pedagogy and technology, (2) multipurpose student life spaces for use by student organizations and areas for scholarly activity such as tutoring, mentoring, and study, and (3) (shelled) dining services venue. General assignment classroom seats would be provided by constructing lecture halls, and classrooms designed for flexible teaching configurations. These seats represent replacement of current capacity that would be lost at the end of an off-campus lease at the University Village (1201 University Avenue, Riverside, California) in late 2021. The instructional space would be built to support advances in higher education pedagogy. The project would also provide multipurpose spaces for studying and student organization events and meetings. Site improvements include hardscaping, landscaping, and improvements to emergency access routes along existing pathways.

The approximately 0.8-acre project site is located west of the Student Services Building and south of the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (CHASS) Interdisciplinary Building South on UCR’s East Campus. This area of campus is known as the “academic core” and contains a high concentration of classroom and student-centered facilities. The site is located adjacent to two major campus pedestrian/greenway corridors: the Arts Mall to the west and the Carillon Mall to the south. The proximity of these open areas provides accessibility to the site and opportunities for programmatic links to outdoor space (see **Figure 1 – Regional and Location Vicinity Map**).

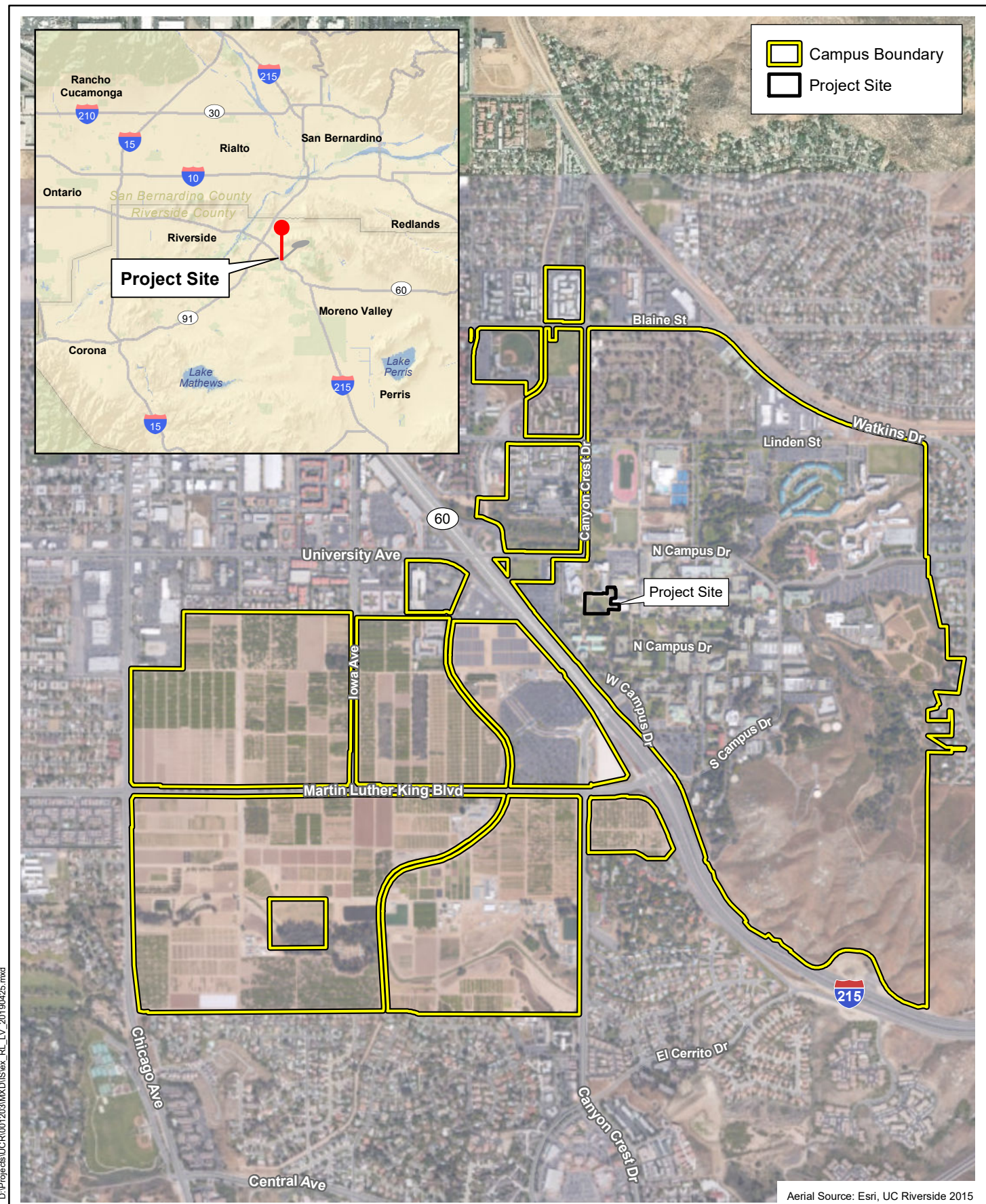
The project site is in an area designated as “Academic,” which allows for the development of the proposed project. The project site is not identified on any lists of hazardous waste sites compiled pursuant to California Government Code Section 65962.5.

It has been determined that with incorporation of applicable LRDP Planning Strategies (PSs), Programs and Practices (PPs), and Mitigation Measures (MMs), as well as project-specific MMs, the proposed project would not result in any new significant impacts that are not examined in the UCR 2005 LRDP EIR as supplemented and updated by the UCR 2005 LRDP Amendment 2 EIR, and the project Draft Initial Study, or in a significant increase in the previously identified impacts. This letter is intended to serve as the Notice of Completion for the project. The project's anticipated environmental effects are discussed in the Draft Initial Study. Copies of the Draft Initial Study and all documents referenced therein are available for review at the address below. In addition, the Initial Study is available for review on the web at:

<https://ae.ucr.edu/environmental-planning-ceqa>

Pursuant to CEQA, the 30-day public review period will extend from **August 19, 2019 through September 17, 2019**. Comments on the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration must be received no later than **5:00 p.m. on September 17, 2019**. Submit your comments to CEQA@ucr.edu or send written comments to:

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Regional and Local Vicinity

UCR Student Success Center

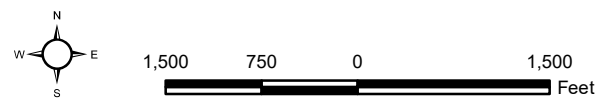


Figure 1



