

December 1, 2020

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT – MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Project Title: Student Health & Counseling 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 Health & Counseling Center project, located on the University of California, Riverside (UCR) campus, in the University community of the City of Riverside. The site lies northeast of Interstate 215/ State Route 60, in Riverside County, California. The approximately 1.5-acre project site encompasses the western third of the existing Parking Lot 21, located at the northeastern area of the UCR campus, south of W. Linden Street, and west of Pentland Way (see Figure 1 – Regional and Location Vicinity Map).

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, and University of California (UC) Procedures for Implementation of CEQA, an Initial Study has been prepared for the project mentioned above. The Initial Study tiers from the UCR 2005 Long Range Development Plan (LRDP) Environmental Impact Report (EIR; November 2005) as supplemented and updated by the UCR 2005 LRDP Amendment 2 EIR (October 2011). Based upon the Tiered Initial Study, it has been determined that a Mitigated Negative Declaration is appropriate for this project.

UCR proposes to construct an approximately 50-foot high, 50,000-gross-square-foot Student Health & Counseling Center (SHCC) with an ambulatory loading area, service loading area, stationary equipment (e.g., heating, ventilation, and air conditioning), landscape, restriping a portion of Parking Lot 21, and other associated site improvements. The proposed project would involve the removal of the existing asphalt, landscape, and parking spaces on the western portion of Parking Lot 21.

The purpose of the proposed project is to create an identifiable and easily accessible facility that welcomes members of UCR’s diverse campus community, and conveys a commitment to quality care, innovation in technical, medical, and clinical services, student support and well-being. This facility aligns with the missions and values of the UCR campus, the Division of Student Affairs, Student Health Services, Counseling and Psychological Services, Student Affairs Case Management, and The Well. The facility would support student retention and success through optimization of emotional and physical health, through direct service, promotion, prevention, education, student engagement, and provision of resources and referrals.

The project site is in an area designated as “Residence Hall and Related Support,” which includes student services. The 2005 LRDP Amendment 2 lists the Health Services Building and the Student Counseling Center under student services. The proposed project would house both Health Services and the Student Counseling Center. Therefore, the proposed project would be consistent with the 2005 LRDP Amendment 2 Land Use Plan. Additionally, it has been determined that with incorporation of applicable LRDP Planning Strategies, Programs and Practices, 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/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND), or in a significant increase in the previously identified impacts.

The proposed project is not located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.



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This letter is intended to serve as the Notice of Intent to Adopt for the project. The project's anticipated environmental effects are discussed in the Draft IS/MND. Copies of the Draft IS/MND and all documents referenced therein are available for review at the address below. In addition, the Draft IS/MND is available for review on the web at:

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

Pursuant to CEQA, the 30-day public review period will extend from **December 1, 2020 through January 4, 2021**. Comments on the Draft IS/MND must be received no later than **5:00 p.m. on January 4, 2021**. Submit your comments to CEQA@ucr.edu or send written comments to:

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Figure 1 – Regional and Location Vicinity Map



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Fig. 1 Project Site Campus