NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

To: Office of Planning and Research 1400 Tenth Street, Room 222 Sacramento, CA 95814	From: Oakland Unified School District 1000 Broadway, Suite 680 Oakland, CA 94607
 Office of the County Clerk-Recorder County of Alameda 1106 Madison Street Oakland, CA 94607 	
Subject: Filing of Notice of Determination in comp Resources Code.	bliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public
Project Title: Central Kitchen, Instructional Farm an	nd Education Center Project
State Clearinghouse Number Lead Age	ncy Area Code/Telephone/Ext.
SCH# 2015092070 Oakland Unified Sch	
	Contact: Jacqueline Minor,
	General Counsel
Project Location – Address: 2850 West Street (AP	
Project Location - City: Oakland	Project Location - County: Alameda
 project on November 4, 2015 and has made the folloproject: 1. The project will not have a significant effect of 2. A Mitigated Negative Declaration/Initial Studiprovisions of CEQA. 3. Mitigation measures were made a condition of 4. A Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Progrations 5. Findings were made pursuant to the provisions This is to certify that the MND/IS with comments and 	at the site of the former Marcus Foster School. An vcase a wide variety of hand-scale agricultural et, the Lead Agency, has approved the above-described owing determinations regarding the above-described on the environment. by (MND/IS) was prepared for this project pursuant to the the approval of the project. am was adopted for this project.
Oakland, CA 94607.	
Signature: James Harris, Board President	Date: 111415
Signature:Antwan Wilson, Board Secretary and Super	rintendent Date: 1)/4/15
 Signed by Lead Agency Date received for Signed by Applicant 	filing at OPR:



Central Kitchen, Urban Farm and Education Center Project

FINAL MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION/ INITIAL STUDY

Oakland Unified School District

In association with Center for Ecoliteracy



November 2015

Prepared by: PLACEMAKERS CHS Consulting Group Geoffrey H. Hornek Terraphase Engineering, Inc.

Page

CENTRAL KITCHEN, INSTRUCTIONAL FARM AND EDUCATION CENTER PROJECT FINAL MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION/INITIAL STUDY

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INTRODUCTION

Purpose of the Final MND/IS

The Final Mitigated Declaration/Initial Study (MND/IS) is an informational document prepared by the Oakland Unified School District (District), the Lead Agency. This Response to Comments document includes written public comment letters on the Draft MND/IS and presents responses to the written public comments; and as necessary makes corrections and clarifications to the Draft MND/IS. This Response to Comments document, together with the Draft MND/IS constitute the Final MND/IS for the Project. Due to its length, the text of the Draft MND/IS is not included with this Response to Comments document but is included by reference as part of the Final MND/IS. The District has prepared this document pursuant to Sections 15070 – 15074 of the CEQA Guidelines which address the preparation of Negative and Mitigated Negative Declarations.

No New Significant Information

If significant new information is added to a Draft MND/IS after notice of public review has been given, but before adoption of the Final MND/IS, the lead agency must issue a new notice and re-circulate the Draft MND/IS for further comment and consultation.

Although this Response to Comments document contains additions and clarifications to information presented in the Draft MND/IS, none of these additions and clarifications constitute a "substantial revision" as defined under Section 15073.5 of the CEQA Guidelines, defined as:

- A new avoidable significant effect is identified and mitigation measures or project revisions must be added in order to reduce the effect to insignificance.
- The lead agency determines that the proposed mitigation measures or project revisions will not reduce potential effects to less than significance and new measures or revisions must be required.

Information presented in this document support the District's determination that recirculation of the Draft MND/IS is not required because:

- Revisions to mitigation measures are more effective as revised pursuant to Section 15074.1 of the CEQA Guidelines.
- Revisions to the project do not represent new avoidable significant effects.
- New information is added to clarify the project based on community input.

Organization of this Final MND/IS

This Final MND/IS contains information about the proposed Project, supplemental environmental information and responses to comments raised during the public review and comment period on the Draft MND/IS. Following this Introduction, the document is organized as described below.

Project Summary: summarizes the proposed Project, potential environmental impacts and recommended mitigation measures.

List of Commenters on Draft MND/IS: lists public agencies and individuals that submitted written comments on the Draft MND/IS during the public review and comment period.

Written Comments on the Draft MND/IS and Responses to these Comments: contains the comment letters received on the Draft MND/IS and presents individual responses to the specific CEQA-related comments raised.

Revisions to the Draft MND/IS: contains text changes and corrections to the Draft MND/IS initiated by the District (as the Lead Agency) or resulting from comments received on the Draft MND/IS.

PROJECT SUMMARY

Summary of the Project

Site Location

The Project site is in the Hoover-Foster neighborhood in West Oakland and contains the former Marcus Foster School located at 2850 West Street. The site is located about 525 feet west of Interstate 980 and about 530 feet east of San Pablo Avenue. Access to the site is available from West Street and 29th Street.

Project Description

The proposed Project would consist of the construction of a central kitchen, instructional farm and education center at the Marcus Foster School site. The new building would contain 43,245 gross square feet and would include a central kitchen wing and an administrative office and education center wing. The central kitchen wing would range in height from 16 feet to 36 feet and the administrative office and education center wing would be 16 feet in height. An outdoor dining area would be located adjacent to the eastern edge of the education center. A staff and visitor parking area containing 40 parking spaces and two handicap spaces would be located east of the new building and would be accessed from 29th Street. A truck loading apron would provide three bays for delivery purposes that would accommodate up to two semi-trucks and one or two box trucks; and six bays to accommodate six box trucks for food delivery to District schools; and eight parking spaces and one handicap space for staff. The instructional farm would comprise about 1.5 acres and is designed to showcase a wide variety of hand-scale agricultural techniques, growing methods and crops. The instructional farm would include an outdoor gathering area, outdoor classrooms, orchard, raised and perennial beds, children's garden, farm stand, stormwater treatment planting area, beehive, composting area and community garden.

The central kitchen and administration office would house between 52 and 74 staff. The education center would have the capacity for 60 students. Visitors to the facility are estimated at 30 to 70 persons; and District K-12 students touring the instructional farm are estimated at 30 to 70 students. Outdoor dining events would be planned for up to 50 persons. Special events for up to 120 persons would take place two to three times a year.

Construction would take about 16 months, starting in December 15, 2015 and ending in May 15, 2017. Construction hours would be 7:00 am to 4:00 pm. Monday through Friday.

CEQA Process and Schedule

Prior to the release of the Draft MND/IS, the District undertook a comprehensive community engagement effort which is presented below in chronological order:

• Canvassing the neighborhood immediately surrounding the Project site with fact sheets and flyers about the Project, launching an informational website, returning resident calls with requests for more information, reaching out to and meeting with West Oakland key leaders (including community-

based organizations, local political leaders and nearby schools) both on a one-on-one basis and through three group meetings to collect input about the programming and design and canvassing the neighborhood to distribute flyers inviting residents to community meetings.

- A community meeting on January 26, 2015 where the architects presented the Project design to residents and community leaders. The community asked questions and provided their input.
- A community meeting on January 31, 2015 where the CEQA consultant presented information on the CEQA review process for the Project and residents and community leaders asked questions about CEQA and shared their concerns about potential environmental impacts.
- In February and March 2015, the District sent representatives to three community meetings to discuss the Project with local residents.
- A second CEQA-related community meeting on May 2, 2015 where the CEQA consultant presented preliminary conclusions pertaining to Project impacts and mitigation measures.
- Establishment of a Community Engagement Advisory Committee made up of local residents, neighbors and key District personnel. The District convened seven Committee meetings to gather community input on topics of concern for local residents and share additional information about the Project.
- Conducted a neighborhood survey to assess community concerns and perspectives about the Project. The survey was released in July 2015.
- A community town hall meeting on August 29, 2015 to discuss the Project and receive input from the community.

The purpose of the District's community engagement effort was to inform the public about the Project and its environmental review process and to receive comments from the community regarding their concerns about the environmental effects of the Project.

On September 25, 2015 the Oakland Unified School District issued a Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Central Kitchen, Instructional Farm and Education Center Project. The 30-day public review and comment period on that Draft MND/IS ended on October 28, 2015. A public hearing on the Final MND/IS is scheduled for November 4, 2015.

Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Measures

The summary table included in the Draft MND/IS and presented on the following pages of this document identify the potentially significant impacts and recommended mitigation measures that would reduce the potentially significant impacts to less than significant. The District agreed to incorporate the recommended mitigation measures identified in the Draft Initial Study. Thus, a Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for the proposed Project in conformance with Public Resources Code Section 21080.

Impact	Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Significance After Mitigation
Initial Study Section 3 Air Quality			
During Project construction the maximum annual PM _{2.5} concentration would exceed the Project-level BAAQMD CEQA threshold.	Potentially Significant	AIR-1 Although the Project construction fleet emissions would be limited by the requirements of the California Air Resources Board's (CARB) <i>In-Use Off-Road Diesel Vehicle Regulation</i> , the Project health risk assessment found that additional controls are required to assure that the BAAQMD's diesel particulate matter (DPM) concentration threshold is met at all local residences. Accordingly, the construction contractor shall implement the following BAAQMD <i>Enhanced Exhaust Emissions Reduction Measures for Project Construction Equipment</i> measures to further reduce construction-related exhaust emissions:	Less Than Significant
		• All off-road equipment greater than 25 horsepower (hp)and operating for more than 20 total hours over the entire duration of construction activities shall meet the following requirements:	
		 All such engines shall meet or exceed USEPA/CARB Tier 3 off-road emission standards; or 	
		 All such engines shall be retrofitted with a CARB-level 2 Verified Diesel Emissions Control Strategy (VDECS) device. 	
Initial Study Section 5 Cultural Reso	urces		
During Project construction it is possible unknown prehistoric, historic or paleontological resources and human remains could be disturbed.	Potentially Significant	CUL-1 In the event that any prehistoric, historic or paleontological materials are discovered during ground disturbing activities, all work within 50 feet of the resources shall be halted and the District shall consult with a qualified archaeologist or paleontologist to assess the significance of the find. If any find is determined to be significant, the District and qualified archaeologist shall meet to determine the appropriate avoidance or other measures. All significant cultural materials recovered shall be subject to scientific analysis and/or professional museum curation and a report shall be prepared by the qualified archaeologist according to current professional standards.	Less Than Significant

Impact	Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Significance After Mitigation
Initial Study Section 5 Cultural Resou	urces - continued		
		CUL-2 In the event that human skeletal remains are uncovered at the Project site during construction or ground-breaking activities, all work shall immediately halt and the Alameda County Coroner shall be contacted to evaluate the remains and following the procedures and protocols pursuant to Section 15064.5(e)(1) of the CEQA Guidelines, if the County Coroner determines that the remains are Native American, the District shall contact the California Native American Heritage Commission, pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code and all excavation and site preparation activities shall cease within a 50-foot radius of the find until appropriate arrangements are made. If the agencies determine that avoidance is not feasible, then an alternative plan shall be prepared with specific steps and timeframe required to resume construction activities. Monitoring, data recovery, determination of significance and avoidance measure (if applicable) shall be completed expeditiously.	
Initial Study Section 12 Noise			
During Project construction, daily average outdoor noise levels from the	Potentially Significant	NOISE-1 The following Best Management Practices shall be incorporated into the construction documents to be implemented by the construction contractor:	Less Than Significant
Project site could rise to disruptive and annoying levels.		• Provide enclosures and noise mufflers for stationary equipment, shrouding or shielding for impact tools, and barriers around particularly noisy activity areas on the site.	
		• Use quietest type of construction equipment whenever possible, particularly air compressors.	
		• Provide sound-control devices on equipment no less effective than those provided by the manufacturer.	
		• Locate stationary equipment, material stockpiles, and vehicle staging areas as far as practicable from sensitive receptors.	
		 Prohibit unnecessary idling of internal combustion engines. 	

Impact	Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Significance After Mitigation
Initial Study Section 12 Noise - conti	nued		
		 Require applicable construction-related vehicles and equipment to use designated truck routes when entering/leaving the site. Designate a noise disturbance coordinator who shall be responsible for responding to complaints about noise (and vibration) during construction. The telephone number of the noise disturbance coordinator shall be conspicuously posted at the construction site. Copies of the project purpose, description and construction schedule shall also be distributed to the surrounding residences. Limit project construction activity to the hours of 7 am to 9 pm on weekdays as required under the <i>City of Oakland Municipal Code Chapter</i> 	
Initial Study Section 16 Transportation	on and Circulation	8.18.020.	
During Project construction, it may be necessary to temporarily close traffic lanes adjacent to the Project site.	Potentially Significant	 TRAFFIC-1 During Project construction, in the event of traffic lane closures, the District shall provide advance notice to the neighbors to inform them about the location, dates and times of lane closures. To reduce potential temporary construction impacts to the surrounding streets during construction activities, the District shall comply with the City of Oakland's Standard Conditions of Approval for Construction Traffic and Parking, which requires that a construction traffic management plan be developed and approved by the City. Project compliance with Standard Conditions of Approval for Construction generation of approval for Construction Traffic and Parking shall include: A set of comprehensive traffic control measures, including scheduling of major truck trips and deliveries to avoid peak traffic hours, detour signs if required, lane closure procedures, signs, cones for drivers, and designated construction access routes; Notification procedures for adjacent properties and public safety personnel regarding when major deliveries, detours, and lane closures 	Less Than Significant

Impact	Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Significance After Mitigation
Initial Study Section 16 Transpor	rtation and Circulation – continue	d	
		 Location of construction staging areas for materials, equipment, and vehicles at an approved location. A process for responding to, and tracking, complaints pertaining to 	
		construction activity, including identification of an onsite complaint manager. The manager shall determine the cause of the complaints and shall take prompt action to correct the problem. Planning and Zoning shall be informed who the Manager is prior to the issuance of the first permit issued by Building Services.	
		• Provision for accommodation of pedestrian flow.	
		 Provision for parking management and spaces for all construction workers to ensure that construction workers do not park in on-street spaces 	
		• Any damage to the street caused by heavy equipment, or as a result of this construction, shall be repaired, at the applicant's expense, within one week of the occurrence of the damage (or excessive wear), unless further damage/excessive wear may continue; in such case, repair shall occur prior to issuance of a final inspection of the building permit. All damage that is a threat to public health or safety shall be repaired immediately. The street shall be restored to its condition prior to the new construction as established by the City Building Inspector and/or photo documentation, at the applicant's expense, before the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy.	
		• Any heavy equipment brought to the construction site shall be transported by truck, where feasible.	
		• No materials or equipment shall be stored on the traveled roadway at any time.	
		• Prior to construction, a portable toilet facility and a debris box shall be installed on the site, and properly maintained through project completion.	

Impact	Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measure	Significance After Mitigation
Initial Study Section 16 Transportation	on and Circulation – cont	inued	
		 All equipment shall be equipped with mufflers. Prior to the end of each work day during construction, the contractor or contractors shall pick up and properly dispose of all litter resulting from or related to the project, whether located on the property, within the public rights-of-way, or properties of adjacent or nearby neighbors. 	

LIST OF COMMENTERS ON DRAFT MND/IS

Public Agencies Commenting in Writing

Presented below is a list of written correspondence received by Oakland Unified School District from public agencies providing comments on the Central Kitchen, Instructional Farm and Education Center Project Draft MND/IS:

• Letter #1: Department of Transportation (Caltrans) – Letter from Patricia Maurice, District Branch Chief; dated October 26, 2015.

Individuals Commenting in Writing

In addition to the comments received from public agencies, a number of private individuals have submitted written comments on the Draft MND/IS. These individuals include the following:

- Letter #2: Shaunna Vella Email dated October 27, 2015.
- Letter #3: Alternier Baker Cook Email dated October 28, 2015.
- Letter #4: Lynne Horiuchi, Ph.D. Letter dated October 28, 2015.

WRITTEN COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT MND/IS AND RESPONSES TO THESE COMMENTS

This section includes copies of the written comments received by U.S. mail and electronic mail during the public review and comment period on the Draft MND/IS. Specific responses to the individual comments in each correspondence follow each letter.

Each correspondence is identified by a numeric designator (e.g., "1"). Specific comments within each correspondence also are identified by a numeric designator reflecting the numeric sequence of the specific comment within the correspondence (e.g., "1-2" for the second comment in Comment Letter 1).

Responses focus on comments that pertain to the adequacy of the analysis in the MND/IS or to other aspects pertinent to the potential effects of the Project on the environment, pursuant to CEQA. Comments that address topics beyond the purview of the MND/IS or CEQA are noted as such for the public record. Where comments have triggered changes to the Draft MND/IS, these changes appear as part of the specific response and are consolidated in Revisions to the Draft MND/IS section of this document where they are generally listed in the order the revision would appear in the Draft MND/IS document.

Comment Letter #1: Department of Transportation (Caltrans)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—CALIFORNIA STATE TRANSPORTATION AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 4 P.O. BOX 23660 OAKLAND, CA 94623-0660 PHONE (510) 286-6053 FAX (510) 286-5559 TTY 711 www.dot.ca.gov



EDMUND G. BROWN Jr., Governor

Serious Drought. Help save water!

1 - 1

1-2

October 26, 2015

ALA980035 ALA-980-PM 1.5 SCH# 2015092070

Ms. Jacqueline Minor Oakland Unified School District 955 High Street Oakland, CA 94601

Central Kitchen Instruction Farm and Education Center Project – Mitigated Negative Declaration

Dear Ms. Minor:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the project referenced above. The proposed project would demolish the two existing on-site buildings and construct a central kitchen, instructional farm, and education center that is approximately 43, 245 gross square feet. Nearby regional access is provided via the State Route 24 on-ramp and off-ramps on 17th Street approximately 0.5 miles from the project site. Our comments seek to promote the State's smart mobility goals that support a vibrant economy and build active communities rather than sprawl. We have reviewed the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) and have the following comments to offer.

Mitigation Responsibility

As the lead agency, the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) is responsible for all project mitigation including any needed improvements to State highways, if any. The project's fair share contribution, financing, scheduling, implementation responsibilities and lead agency monitoring should be fully discussed for all proposed mitigation measures.

Vehicle Trip Reduction

We encourage the OUSD to consider project-specific Transportation Demand Management (TDM) and parking management strategies including dedicated car-sharing parking, dedicated bicycle parking and facilities, and providing transit passes or incentives to employees and visitors. This would promote mass transit use thereby reducing regional vehicle miles traveled (VMT). Additionally, considering Complete Street improvements, such as street furniture for pedestrians and transit riders may reduce vehicle trips and further alleviate the project's parking demand. This smart growth approach is consistent with MTC's Regional Transportation

"Provide a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system to enhance California's economy and livability"

Comment Letter #1 (continued)

Ms. Jacqueline Minor, Oakland Unified School District October 26, 2015 Page 2

Plan/Sustainable Community Strategy goals of both increasing non-auto mode transportation, and reducing per capita VMT by 10 percent each.

1-2 con't.

Should you have any questions regarding this letter or seek additional information, please contact Sherie George at (510) 286-5535 or <u>sherie.george@dot.ca.gov.</u>

Sincerely,

For PATRICIA MAURICE District Branch Chief Local Development - Intergovernmental Review

c: State Clearinghouse

"Provide a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system to enhance California's economy and livability"

Letter #1 Response: Department of Transportation (Caltrans)

1-1 As discussed in Section 16 TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION of the Draft Initial Study, the proposed Project would result in less than significant traffic and circulation impacts. As discussed on pages 138 -149 of the Draft Initial Study, the Project would operate at acceptable LOS C or better during both AM and PM peak hours at all study intersections. Thus, no mitigation measures are required and were not identified in the Draft Initial Study.

The Draft Initial Study identified potential temporary construction impacts to the surrounding streets during construction activities and identified Mitigation Measure TRAFFIC-1, on pages 152-153, to reduce potentially significant temporary construction traffic and circulation impacts to less than significant. Mitigation Measure TRAFFIC-1 would not require any improvements to State highways.

- 1-2 This comment suggests the District consider including Transportation Demand Management and parking management strategies. The Project includes the following features to reduce vehicle trips:
 - Parking facilities for 12 bicycles.
 - K-12 students visiting the Instructional Farm will be transported by bus or carpool.
 - Special events visitors will be encouraged to arrive in vans.

Comment Letter #2: Shaunna Vella

10/27/2015	OUSD Mail - Concerns for the Central Kitchen
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT Comunity Studies, Throng Studies	Jacqueline Minor <jacqueline.minor@ousd.org></jacqueline.minor@ousd.org>
Concerns for the Central K 1 message	itchen
Shaunna Vella <shaunna.vella@gmail. To: jacqueline.minor@ousd.org</shaunna.vella@gmail. 	com> Tue, Oct 27, 2015 at 10:01 AM
Hi Jackie,	
	ctly across from the potential loading dock of the proposed Central Kitchen formal concerns for the Marcus Foster Central Kitchen.
potential loading dock that will bring in associate with this project. Obviously still believe that bringing a project like	00 feet "zone of influence", I live approximately 100 feet away from the diesel trucks, I am deeply concerned with the detrimental health issues OUSD will take proper precautions regarding the mitigated impacts, but I this into a residential neighborhood put the residents of the Hoover-Foster rtable living environment with health risks.
with this ongoing industrial use of a re- animals (dogs and cats) with such larg of 28 th and West. We have a garden our gardens as residents with the impa grown directly on this corner and now a amount of toxins in the air. I am conc concerned with the diesel trucks sourn "limited deliveries" on the weekend me	the loading dock of semi-trucks and boxes trucks. I am very concerned sidential street that has children, families, pedestrians, cyclists, and ge vehicles. My other concern is about the increased traffic on my corner in our front yard with vegetables that we grow and eat, I am worried about act of both construction and ongoing use. I am concerned that the food across from the central kitchen with be hazardous from the increase emed with the amount of traffic coming into a mixed residential area I am d, size and disruption to the neighborhood. I am concerned about he overall etory in the neighborhood. I am concerned about he overall etory in the neighborhood. I am concerned about our property value
complained about the smell of trash, I Containers that my household and othe live with the putrid trash odor. "As for p	in" the smell of trash? The residents of the Prescott Kitchen specifically am concerned about living directly across from the Trash and Recycling er residences adjacent to the "two fully enclosed compactors" will have to otential odors from trash/recycling bins or from the compost yard proposed as part sealed within the compactors and the compost yard would be located in the center of
risks regarding air quality with the incre	I even with steps for mitigated impacts I still feel uncomfortable with the eased traffic and diesel trucks. Especially because my family and I are e specifically directly across from the loading dock, I am fearful about the
attributed to relatively few compour engines (DPM). The BAAQMD has cumulative cancer risk from all airbo	the estimated carcinogenic/chronic health risk from TACs can be tids, the most important being particulate matter from diesel-fueled identified DPM as being responsible for about 80 percent of the prine TAC exposures." And "But there are additional thresholds that impacts of the ambient concentration of the Project-emitted ocations."
judge the significance of the health i	mpacts of the ambient concentration of the Project-emitted

Comment Letter #2 (continued)

OUSD Mail - Concerns for the Central Kitchen 10/27/2015 I understand this is a great project for Oakland, for the school children on Oakland. I understand that there has been abundant work on behalf of the local residents, and OUSD to find compromise for this construction and specifically concerns regarding the site-selection process and communication with community. I appreciate all that OUSD has done since January in regards to reaching out to us but it still does not change that I am deeply concerned with the health risks regarding air quality, toxins with demolishing the existing building, and 2-5 environmental risks like increase traffic, increased sounds, smells that could be aggravating live within 100 feet distance from. These are my formal concerns, so that OUSD has it on record that we are residents of 2805 West Street, CA 94608 Shaunna Vella, and Summer Cox are against the use of this property to be turned into the Central Kitchen. https://mail.google.com/mail/ca/u/0/?ui=2&ik=47db1fd534&view=pt&q=shaunna.vella%40gmail.com&qs=true&search=query&th=150aa3eea1b27c4e&siml=15... 2/2

Letter #2 Response: Shaunna Vella

- 2-1 This comment suggests the Project would present significant adverse health risks to the Hoover-Foster neighborhood. The Draft Initial Study addresses potential health risks to neighborhood residents in Section 3 AIR QUALITY (pages 44 – 62). The Project air quality analysis concluded that nearby residents would not be exposed to significant health risks from toxic air contaminants (TACs) due to Project construction or operation. It also estimated the cumulative health risks due to Project TAC emissions combined with emissions from all existing substantial TAC sources (as identified by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD)) within 1,000 feet of the Project site (i.e., the "zone of influence" prescribed by the BAAQMD for cumulative TAC analysis, not the zone within which significant Project TAC impacts are expected). No significant cumulative TAC health risks were found.
- 2-2 This comment presents concerns about increased traffic, truck deliveries on weekends, truck safety, increase in noise and toxins due to trucks, aesthetics and property values. The concerns are addressed below:

Increased Traffic. During weekdays, there would be up to two semi-trucks and eight box trucks, for a total of ten trucks, entering and exiting the Project site on West Street between the hours of 7:00 am and 2:00 pm Monday through Friday. The Project is estimated to result in an increase in approximately 33 to 60 vehicle trips in the vicinity of the Project site during the AM (7:00 am to 8:00 am) and PM (5:00 pm to 6:00 pm) peak hours respectively. The traffic analysis concluded this increase is less than significant.

During Project construction, it is estimated there would be a peak of 150 truck trips per day over a two to three-day period during the demolition of the existing two buildings. As discussed in Section 16 TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION of the Draft Initial Study, with implementation of Mitigation Measure TRAFFIC-1 (pages 152-153) traffic impacts during Project construction activities would be less than significant.

Truck Deliveries on Weekends. There would be up to three delivery trucks accessing the Project site during one weekend day per week. The District has added text to identify the number of truck deliveries on weekends under the Revisions to the Draft MND/IS section on page 28.

Truck Safety. Trucks would access the Project site from West Street and drive directly onto the truck apron and then back up to the loading dock. The truck apron would be fenced and gated along its West Street frontage. Pedestrians will not have access to the truck apron. During Project construction, the entire Project site will be fenced and gated, preventing pedestrian access to the construction site. Truck drivers must obey all traffic safety requirements (e.g., speed limits, signaling) when entering and exiting the Project site. During construction activities there will be public safety personnel on-site to monitor truck activity. The potential for truck accidents with pedestrians, bicycles and autos, while a possibility, is not considered to represent a significant safety hazard.

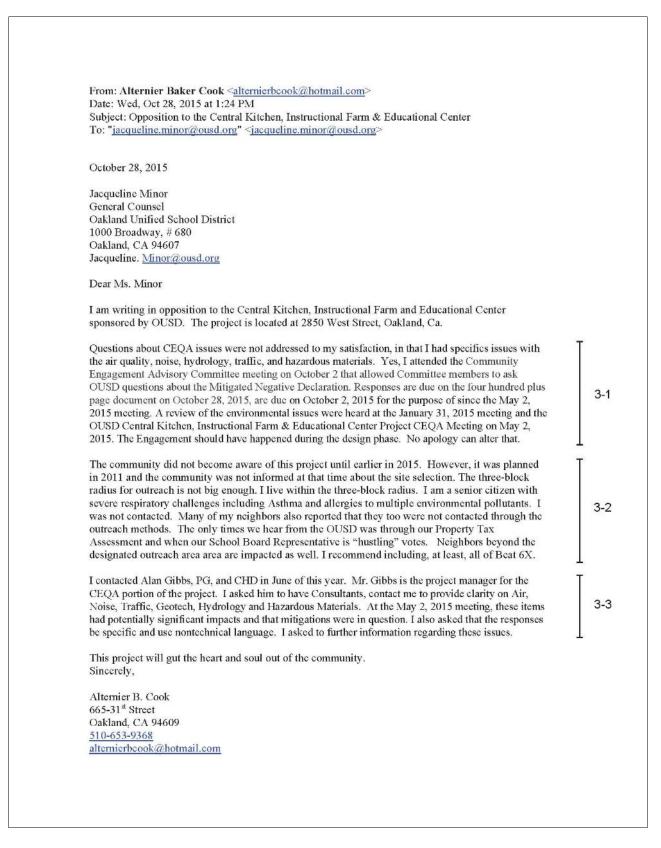
Increase in Noise and Toxins Due to Trucks. Noise and TAC emissions will be limited by the relatively small number of truck operations associated with food delivery (i.e., two semi-trucks and eight box trucks, each making one trip in and one trip out of the site per day) and by adherence to procedures/regulations that reduce noise: 1) there will be no outdoor loading activities in the yard outside the loading dock: 2) trucks will back into the dock and all loading activities will take place within the building; 3) TAC emissions (i.e., truck idling will be limited to five minutes per loading operation by California law; and 4) trucks will comply with California emission regulations for diesel engines, which will get progressively more stringent over time. Thus, there will be no significant noise impacts to adjacent residents as defined by the Oakland Noise Ordinance, nor significant health impacts to adjacent residents or to their gardens under BAAQMD criteria.

Aesthetics. As discussed in Section 1 AESTHETICS, Subsection 1c of the Draft Initial Study (pages 36 - 41), the new building would be similar in height and massing as with the existing two buildings located on the Project site; and the new building would be located at the site of the existing two buildings - the corner of West Street and 29^{th} Street. The physical size of the building will be similar to the existing two buildings and the new building would be compatible with the heights and massing of nearby development. The site use will change to include a central kitchen, but there will continue to be a school use including culinary and hospitality classes and outdoor classrooms for K-12 students touring the Instructional Farm.

Property Values. Property values are not a CEQA-related issue and therefore is not addressed in the Draft MND/IS.

- 2-3 This comment presents concerns about odors from the facility trash bins located on the loading dock and from on-site composting. The trash bins would be sealed and would be located about 150 feet away from the nearest residential property line; they will be emptied frequently so that odor does not increase from food spoilage. Regarding the compost yard, it would be located at the center of the property, about 160 feet away from the nearest residential property line. This yard will be used to compost only green waste (dead plants) from the instructional farm, a process which is essentially odorless. Food waste produced by the central kitchen will not be composted on site, but will be hauled offsite regularly for disposal.
- 2-4 This comment presents concerns about TAC impacts because of the resident's location within the "zone of influence" of the Project's air quality analysis. This zone is not the area within which significant Project TAC impacts are expected. It is the area prescribed by the BAAQMD for the inclusion of Project and other existing local TAC sources within the scope of the air quality analysis. Both project-level and cumulative analyses were conducted under BAAQMD guidelines and no significant TAC health risks were found to the nearest residents nor to any other residents within the 1,000-foot zone of influence.
- 2-5 The commenter's opinions are noted and are hereby made part of the public record. The commenter's concerns about health and environmental risks are discussed in Responses 2-1 through 2-4 above.

Comment Letter #3: Alternier Baker Cook



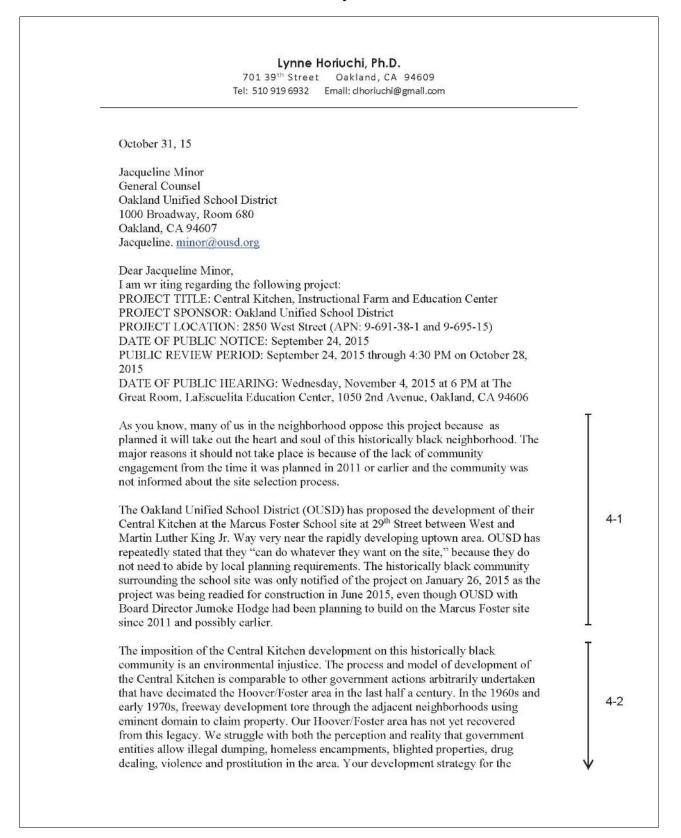
Letter #3 Response: Alternier Baker Cook

- 3-1 The commenter opinions are noted and hereby made part of the public record.
- 3-2 The commenter opinions are noted and hereby made part of the public record. The community engagement process for preparation of the Mitigated Negative Declaration/Initial Study began prior to the first CEQA community meeting on January 31, 2015 with neighborhood canvassing, distribution of fact sheets and flyers and launching of an informational website for the Project.

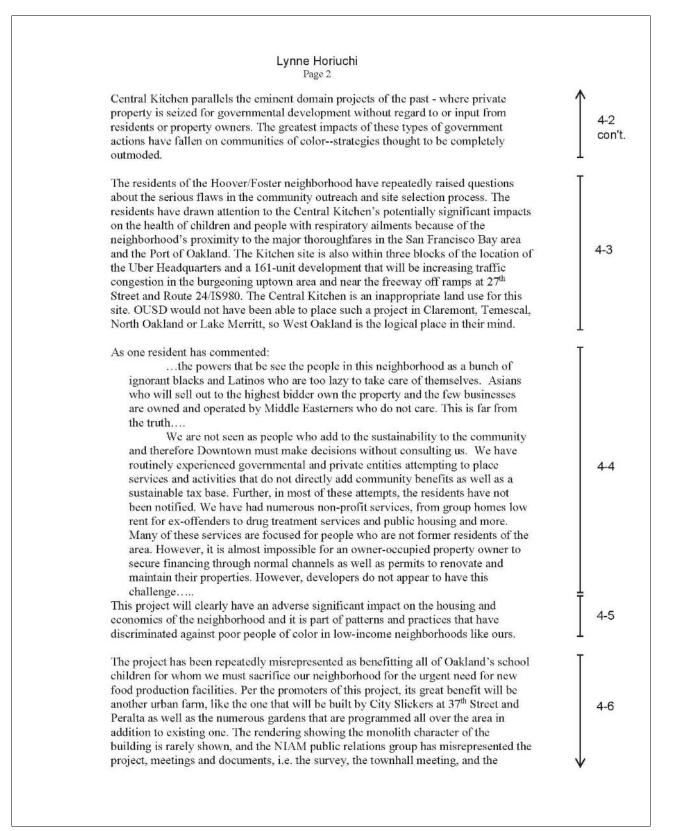
Ms. Cook notes she is within the public outreach three-block radius of the Project site. Ms. Cook's property is located approximately 875 feet northeast of the Project site. Air pollutant emissions from Project construction would be less than significant with implementation of Mitigation Measure AIR-1 which requires that equipment have EPA-certified "clean" diesel engines. Air pollutant emissions from the two semi-trucks and eight box trucks, each making one trip in and one trip out of the site per day, would be limited because of the low number of truck trips per day and truck engine idling would be restricted to five minutes. The health risks of Project truck emissions during both construction and operation were estimated at the closest residences (where health risks would be greatest) and found to be acceptable according to the standards of BAAQMD. Project health risks at a residence 875 feet northeast of the Project site would be substantially less than those at the closest residences and well below BAAQMD standards.

3-3 The commenter opinions are noted and hereby made part of the public record. Ms. Cook contacted Mr. Gibbs by telephone on August 5, 2015, at which time Mrs. Cook discussed with Mr. Gibbs project-related traffic, noise, air quality, hazard materials, water quality, cultural resources and land use impacts. Mr. Gibbs referred Mrs. Cook to discuss her concerns with the District.

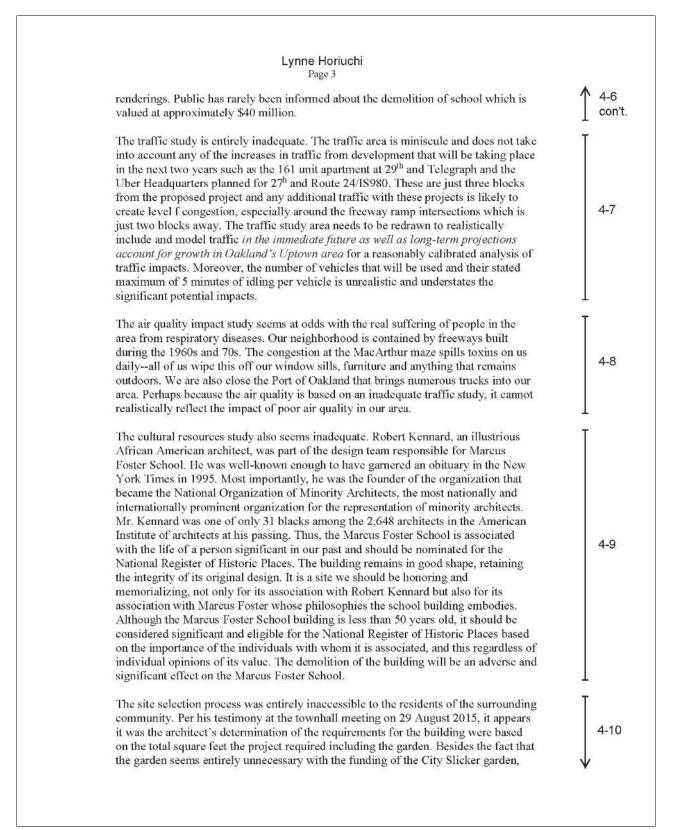
Comment Letter #4: Lynne Horiuchi, Ph.D.



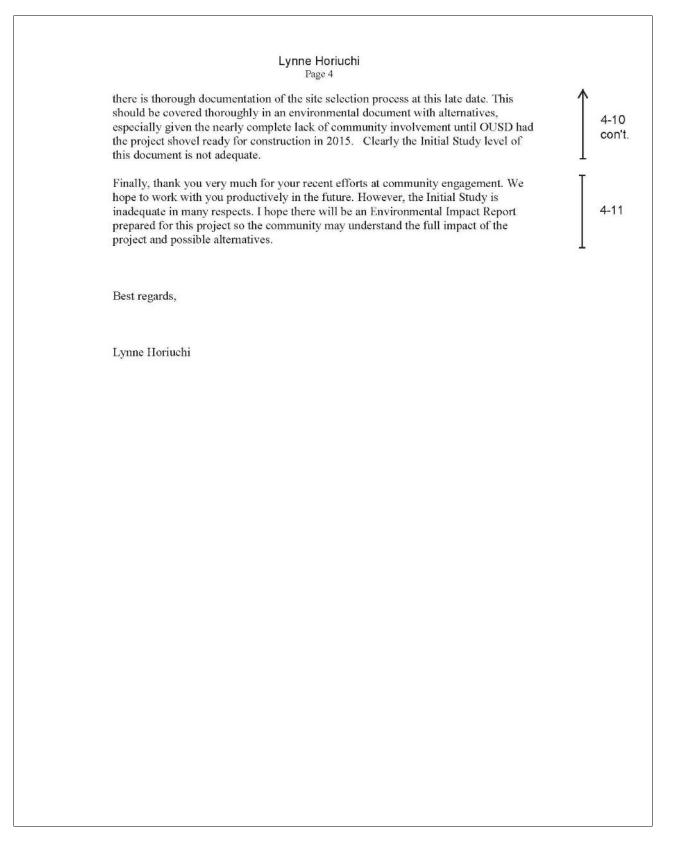
Comment Letter #4 (continued)



Comment Letter #4 (continued)



Comment Letter #4 (continued)



Letter #4 Response: Lynne Horiuchi, Ph.D.

- 4-1 The District opted to include in the Draft MND/IS a detailed section on community engagement. The District realizes that for opponents, this seems to be the most significant issue. The District believes throughout the Measure J bond campaign there was significant information about the central kitchen project and this information was available to all residents of Oakland before the community-specific engagement commenced in November 2014. The following link is to an article that appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle on October 11, 2012 about the central kitchen: http://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/Oakland-Measure-J-to-upgrade-school-kitchens-3941438.php?cmpid-email-desktop.
- 4-2 The commenter opinions are noted and hereby made part of the public record.
- 4-3 The commenter opinions are noted and hereby made part of the public record.
- 4-4 The commenter opinions are noted and hereby made part of the public record.
- 4-5 The commenter opinions are noted and hereby made part of the public record. It is noted the Project staff would be existing District employees that will be relocated from other District facilities to the Project facility, are housed in Oakland and other areas in the East Bay and would not place a significant demand on housing units in the community. Additionally, the District would hire neighborhood residents for temporary jobs as construction compliance coordinators which represents an economic benefit for the community.
- 4-6 The commenter opinions are noted and hereby made part of the public record.
- 4-7 This comment suggests the traffic study area be redrawn. Presented below are responses to issues raised by the commenter.

Traffic Study Area. In conducting a traffic study, it is assumed there are multiple ways for people to travel from Point A to Point B, thus the Project trips will likely spread onto multiple streets at greater distances from the Project site. Therefore, the traffic analysis focuses on the immediate vicinity of the Project site and along major roadways where the greatest Project impacts would occur.

Planned Development in Area. Traffic volumes for the Future Cumulative condition are developed primarily based on 2035 travel demand forecasts produced by the Alameda CTC's Countywide Travel Demand Model, which is periodically updated to be consistent with the most recent land use and socio-economic database of the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and assumptions of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's regional travel demand model. As such, the Cumulative Conditions (Year 2035) account for general cumulative background growth due to major transportation projects and land use developments that are in various stages of planning/design or construction. While it's unclear whether the specific project at 2935 Telegraph Avenue was included in the Alameda CTC model, according to the Draft EIR

for 2935 Telegraph Ave, this mixed-use development would add up to 18 vehicle trips during the AM and PM peak hour to the critical movement at the intersection of 27th Street and I-980 On-ramp. With the limited addition of these trips, the intersection would continue to operate at LOS E, same as the Cumulative Baseline condition. Moreover, even with the addition of trips from 2935 Telegraph Avenue, the Project contribution to the intersection delay would continue to be less than six seconds at critical movement, thus the proposed Project would have a less-than significant impact. The Uber Headquarter is planned for the old Sears Building located at 20th Street and Broadway, not for 27th and I-980. The planned location for Uber Headquarter is approximately a mile south of the Project site. Trips to and from this location would likely occur along 18th for direct access to I-980. Therefore, it's very unlikely the Uber Headquarter would increase traffic volumes in the vicinity of the Project site.

Model Scenarios. Traffic impacts are assessed for the Existing and Cumulative Conditions. The Existing Conditions scenario is assumed to represent what is on the ground at the commencement of this study and also with added trips from the proposed Project. As explained above, the Cumulative Conditions scenario is primarily based on the travel demand forecasts produced by the Alameda CTC 2035 travel demand model. Therefore, traffic analyses account for both immediate future as well as long-term projections.

4-8 This comment presents correct observations concerning the major local air pollutant sources (i.e., freeways, Port of Oakland) that adversely affect air quality in West Oakland. The Draft Initial Study's air quality analysis was conducted with knowledge of this regional air quality context, as noted on page 31 of the Initial Study:

"West Oakland, where the Project site is located, is adjacent to the Port of Oakland and major freeways, both major sources of air pollutants, to the west and south. Regional wind patterns favor the transport of pollutants to West Oakland, and the confining terrain of the East Bay hills and frequent episodes of atmospheric stability favor their local buildup."

The Project air quality analysis, which was fully in compliance with BAAQMD Guidelines, concluded that nearby residents would not be exposed to significant health risks from toxic air contaminants (TACs) due to Project construction or operation. It also estimated the cumulative health risks due to Project TAC emissions combined with emissions from all existing substantial TAC sources (as identified by the BAAQMD) within 1,000 feet of the Project site. No significant cumulative TAC health risks were found.

The main component of Project operational TAC emissions would come from the delivery trucks. These TAC emissions will be limited by the relatively small number of trucks (i.e., two semi-trucks and eight box trucks, each making one trip in and one trip out of the site per day) and by adherence to procedures/regulations that reduce TAC emissions (i.e., truck idling will be limited to five minutes per loading operation by California law; and trucks will comply with California emission regulations for diesel engines, which will get progressively more stringent over time).

4-9 As stated in Section 3 CULTURAL RESOURCES, Subsection 3a (page 65), the two existing buildings located on the Project site are not included on the City of Oakland's Local Register of Historical Resources, the California Register of Historical Resources or the National Register of Historic Places. The buildings were constructed in 1997 and are 38 years old. Both the State and federal Registers generally consider a property potentially historic if it is at least 50 years old.

The District has added text describing the distinguished career of Robert Kennard and the commitment to undertake photographic documentation of the interior and exterior of the two existing buildings. Please refer to page 29 of the Revisions to the Draft MND/IS section.

- 4-10 The District has repeatedly said that the alternative site selection analysis discussed by the commenter is not required for the preparation of the Project MND/IS.
- 4-11 The commenter opinions are noted and hereby made part of the public record.

REVISIONS TO THE DRAFT MND/IS

The changes to the Draft MND/IS presented in this section of the Final MND/IS are either initiated by the District (Lead Agency) staff or made in response to public comments received on the Draft MND/IS. Changes consisted of additions, revisions or clarifications to descriptive information presented in the Draft MND/IS. None of the changes affected the original findings or determinations of the Draft MND/IS. Throughout this section, newly added text is shown in single <u>underline</u> format and deleted text is shown in strikethrough format. For changes specifically initiated by comments received on the Draft MND/IS, the numeric designator for the comment is indicated in [brackets] prior to its description.

Changes are listed generally in the order in which they would appear in the Draft MND/IS document. As indicated in the Introduction section, the entirety of the Final MND/IS consists of the Draft MND/IS and this Response to Comments document. Thus, the changes to the Draft MND/IS presented in this section incorporate and supersede the text of the Draft MND/IS.

INTRODUCTION: Table S-1

The District has added a mitigation measure to address community concerns regarding temporary construction air quality, noise and traffic impacts as found on pages 2, 4 and 6 (and elsewhere) in the Draft MND/IS:

AIR-2The District shall hire a Neighborhood Construction Compliance Coordinator.NOISE-2The District shall hire a Neighborhood Construction Compliance Coordinator.TRAFFIC-2The District shall hire a Neighborhood Construction Compliance Coordinator.

INITIAL STUDY: Project Description

The District has eliminated the small barn and barnyard which are deleted under *Instructional Farm* on page 22:

Phase 2 of the instructional Farm comprises about 44,350 square feet and would include the following: lath house, small barn and barnyard, row crops, orchards and service area.

and on page 32:

Phase 2 would complete the instructional farm facilities including the lath house, small barn, row crops, orchards, service area and community garden.

[2-2] The following text is revised to clarify the number of truck deliveries on weekends on page 26, first paragraph, seventh sentence:

There may be <u>up to three</u> limited truck deliveries on <u>one</u> the weekend <u>day</u>.

INITIAL STUDY: Section 5 Cultural Resources

The District has added information on the history of the two existing school buildings located on the Project site under Subsection 5a, following the second paragraph on page 65:

In 1973 Robert Kennard, a pioneering African-American architect, co-designed the Marcus Foster Middle School with the MacKinlay Winnaker McNeil & Associates firm. Mr. Kennard's architectural firm is the oldest African-American-owned architectural practice in the western United States. Mr. Kennard received numerous awards, including being inducted into the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Architects in 1987; he also received the Institute of Architects prestigious Whitney Young Citation in 1991 for encouraging young people of color to enter the architectural profession. The Marcus Foster Middle School designed by Mr. Kennard in 1973 represented a departure from then contemporary design in many ways, including the open floor plan that gave teachers use of large spaces, unencumbered by classroom walls.

<u>The Marcus Foster Middle School is not a historic resource under CEQA. However, in</u> <u>recognition of Mr. Kennard's important work, community contributions and the open floor plan</u> <u>concept he developed for the Marcus Foster School, the District agrees to photographic</u> <u>documentation of the interior and exterior of the two existing buildings prior to their demolition.</u> <u>The photographs shall be on display in the Education Center wing of the new building.</u>

APPENDIX I: Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Checklist

The District has added contact information on page 1 under the two bullets:

- District is responsible for coordination of the monitoring and reporting program including the monitoring checklist. All documentation associated with the record of proceedings for Project monitoring and reporting will be available to the public. at: *{District to identify contact and location of where documents are available]*.Contact: Lance Jackson, Interim Deputy Chief of Facilities Planning and Management.
- District has overall responsibility for confirming compliance with all mitigation measures contained within the checklist. Once all mitigation measures have been complied with, the individuals and agencies assigned responsibility for implementing the mitigation measures and providing specified documentation shall submit a completed check list to *[District to identify contact]* Lance Jackson, Interim Deputy Chief of Facilities Planning and Management.

ERRATTA

- Page 89: <u>a</u>) LAND USE AND PLANNING
- Page 97: <u>T</u>he
- Page 112: <u>Sa</u>n Pablo Avenue