

OHLONE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Douglas Treadway

DATE: December 8, 2004

SUBJECT: Certification of Final Environmental Impact Report and Approval of the Facility Master Plan for the Newark Center for Health Sciences and Technology

Final Approval of Master Plan

The process for certifying the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) was initiated when the Board of Trustees approved a facility master plan for the Newark Center on December 17, 2003. The Board's approval of the facility master plan was contingent on the District meeting all CEQA requirements. Draft EIR documents were developed, based on the facility master plan approved by the Board. The Board must take action tonight to reaffirm its approval of the facility master plan. By taking this action, the Board removes the previous approval contingency. From the standpoint of the CEQA process, the facility master plan then becomes an approved "project."

Preparation of Final Environmental Impact Report

As referenced above, the Draft EIR (attached) was prepared based on the project location, proposed improvements and objectives identified in the 2003 approved facility master plan. In addition, the Draft EIR also contained an analysis of numerous environmental topics. The Draft EIR was released for a 45-day review period which began on September 22, 2004 and concluded on November 8, 2004. The Final EIR (attached) includes a summary of all public comments and responses received during the review period. Together the Draft EIR and the Final EIR constitute the complete EIR for the project. Minor corrections and modifications identified during the review period have been included in the Final EIR.

CEQA Findings of Fact

The final step in the EIR process is the preparation of CEQA Findings of Fact (attached). When the Board certifies the Final EIR, it also must adopt the findings and recommended mitigation strategies.

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

CEQA requires that the District prepare a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (attached) based on the findings. This document is essentially a summary of all mitigation measures included in the EIR, a listing of who is responsible for mitigation, as well as for monitoring, and finally, what will be the appropriate schedule for required monitoring.

RECOMMENDATION:

The President/Superintendent recommends that the Board of Trustees certify the Final Environmental Impact Report, adopt the CEQA Findings of Fact, and reaffirm its approval of the facility master plan for the Newark Center for Health Sciences and Technology as the official approved project.