

Menlo-Atherton High School Campus Facilities Master Plan Draft Program Environmental Impact Report Informational Presentation to the SUHSD Board

May 20, 2015



## **MAHS FMP Draft Program EIR - Introduction**

- District staff and consultants have prepared a draft Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to evaluate the potentially significant environmental impacts that may result from the Menlo-Atherton High School (MAHS) Facilities Master Plan (FMP).
- The MAHS FMP outlines structural facilities needed to accommodate growth in student enrollment forecast to occur at MAHS up to 22 new classrooms plus other campus improvements.
- District is both the FMP proponent and the CEQA Lead Agency with primary responsibility for approving and carrying out the FMP.
- The District Board is responsible for approving the FMP and certifying the MAHS FMP EIR.

# **MAHS Campus Location**

The MAHS Campus is located at 555 Middlefield Road, in the Town of Atherton, but also adjacent to:

- City of Menlo Park
- Unincorporated San Mateo County (Menlo Oaks neighborhood)
- Developed areas (residential, commercial, schools)

MAHS is an active campus serving more than 2,150 students

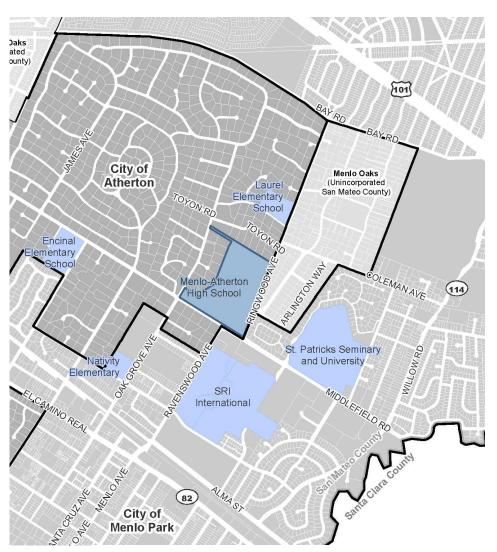


Figure 2-1 from Draft Program EIR

# MAHS Campus Aerial Photograph

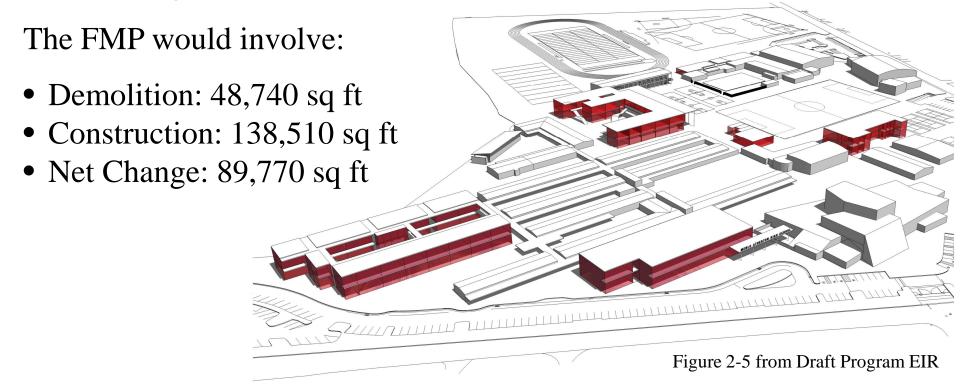


Figure 2 from February 4, 2015 Notice of Preparation



# **MAHS FMP - Key Characteristics**

MAHS enrollment is forecast to increase from 2,170 students to 2,600 students. The MAHS FMP generally involves replacement and renovation / modernization of existing facilities to support this enrollment growth.



The District would implement the FMP in phases, starting July 2015

# **MAHS FMP - Key Characteristics (Continued)**

#### Key FMP characteristics:

• Up to 22 additional classrooms and other facilities supporting approximately 430 more students

• Two-story buildings feet tall)

- Tree removal, including screening trees and large oak trees
- Practice lights on the soccer field (60-foot-tall) and tennis courts (30-foot-tall)



Page 26 from MAHS FMP (Draft Program EIR Appendix A)

### **MAHS FMP - Construction Activities and Schedule**

FMP construction would include demolition, site preparation, minor grading, utility improvements, and building construction. The FMP schedule is:

- Phase 1 G-Wing Replacement: July 2015 July 2016
- Phase 2 Lab Classroom Building: June 2016 July 2017
- Phase 2 Food Service Facility: June 2016 to August 2017
- Phase 3 Site / Student Service Improvements: June 2017 to Dec. 2017
- Phase 3 Soccer Field Practice Lights: June 2017 to July 2017
- Future Phases: 2018 / 2019 or later
- Capital Repair Projects: Approximately next five years

# MAHS Campus FMP – Significant Environmental Impacts

The Draft Program EIR identifies 16 potentially significant impacts in nine different resource areas:

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural / Tribal Cultural Resources

- Hazards / Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology / Water Quality
- Noise
- Traffic and Transportation
- Utilities

Potentially significant *construction-related* impacts include: air quality, biological resources, cultural / tribal cultural resources, hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, and noise.

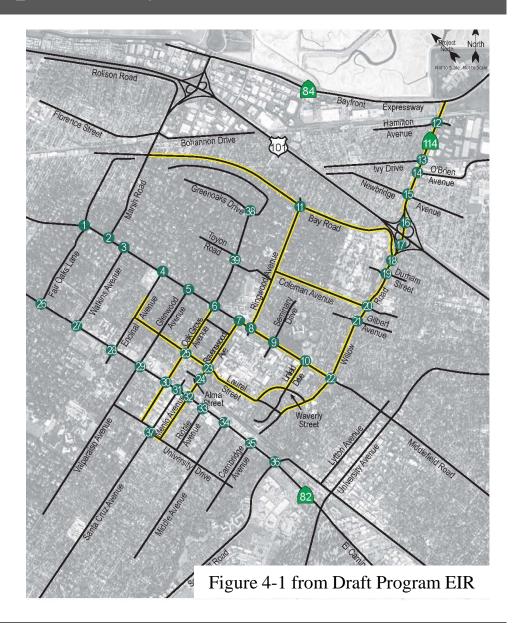
Potentially significant *long-term* impacts include: aesthetics, cultural, hydrology and water quality, noise, traffic, and utilities.

All but 2 of the 16 potentially significant impacts can be mitigated to less than significant levels. Two traffic impacts remain significant and unavoidable, even with mitigation.

# **MAHS Campus FMP - Traffic Impact Analysis**

The Draft Program EIR includes a transportation impact analysis (TIA) prepared for the MAHS FMP:

- Scope of the TIA was reviewed by Atherton / Menlo Park
- Trip generation rates based on student survey
- Evaluates impacts on 39 intersections, 18 roadway segments, and 3 routes of regional significance





## MAHS Campus FMP – MAHS Trip Generation / Traffic Patterns

MAHS Trip Generation			
	AM Peak Hour	PM Peak Hour	Daily Trips
<b>Existing Enrollment</b>	1,445	742	5,722
FMP Enrollment	1753	903	6950
Net Increase	308	161	1,228

### MAHS student survey results indicate:

- 48% of students were dropped off
- 18% drove themselves
- 7% drove with another student
- 27% walked, biked, or used public transit

# MAHS Campus FMP - Significant and Unavoidable Traffic Impacts

Existing and Near-term Plus Project Conditions (Impact TRA-1)

• Significant project-level impacts to five intersections (unacceptable LOS), four roadway segments (increased traffic volumes), and one route of regional significance (unacceptable LOS and increased traffic volumes).

Cumulative Plus Project Conditions (2040) (Impact CML-1)

 Significant contribution to cumulative traffic impacts on 16 intersections, four roadway segments, and one route of regional significance

Impacts remain significant and unavoidable because mitigation measures TRA-1A, 1B, and 1C do not fully reduce impacts. The Draft Program EIR finds infrastructure improvements and "fair share" cost contributions are not feasible mitigation for the District.

# MAHS Campus FMP - Other Potentially Significant Traffic Impacts

The Draft Program EIR identifies 2 other potentially significant impacts to traffic:

- Conflicts between vehicles and pedestrians and bicycles (Impact TRA-2). This impact would be rendered less than significant by developing a formal, written policy outlining student loading and unloading procedures (Mitigation Measure TRA-2).
- Indirect effects from a parking shortage (Impact TRA-3). This impact would be rendered less than significant by developing a formal, written policy outlining where students can find legal, off-campus parking (Mitigation Measure TRA-3).

# MAHS Campus FMP – Potentially Significant Aesthetics Impacts

The Draft Program EIR identifies 2 potentially significant impacts to aesthetics:

- Changes to existing visual character / quality of the MAHS Campus and surroundings (Impact AES-1). This impact would be rendered less than significant with building design, orientation, setback, and visual screening mitigation measures (AES-1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, and 1E)
- New sources of light and glare which could affect day or nighttime views (Impact AES-2). This impact would be rendered less than significant with wattage limits, light guards, and a practice lights illumination summary (AES-2A, 2B, and 2C)

# MAHS Campus FMP – Potentially Significant Noise Impacts

The Draft Program EIR identifies 2 potentially significant noise impacts:

- Temporary construction noise and vibration (Impact NOI-1). This impact would be rendered less than significant with construction notification and use of sound barriers and/or enclosures (Mitigation Measure NOI-1)
- Increased ambient noise levels (Impact NOI-2). This impact would be rendered less than significant by limiting public address system equipment and noise (Mitigation Measure NOI-2).

# **MAHS Campus FMP Benefits**

#### Benefits of the MAHS FMP include:

- Reduce potential classroom overcrowding
- Maintain the District's commitment to educational excellence
- Improves and expands student services at MAHS to provide outstanding educational experience
- Provides comprehensive campus planning and improvements

## What is the MAHS FMP CEQA Process?

The MAHS FMP Program EIR process includes:

- 1) February 4, 2015 Notice of Preparation
  - 31 day review and comment period
  - Public Scoping Meeting
- 2) Publish Draft Program EIR May 6, 2015
  - 47 day review and comment period
  - Closes June 22, 2015
- 3) Publish a Final EIR
  - Responds to comments received on Draft EIR
  - Identifies project revisions / EIR errata
- 4) Certify Final EIR / Approve Project
  - Occurs at Board of Trustees hearing
- 5) File Notice of Determination



#### **MAHS FMP EIR Comments**

- Three ways to comment:
  - 1) Provide oral and written comments tonight
  - 2) Mail written comments to the District:

Mr. Matthew Zito, Chief Facilities Officer Sequoia Union High School District 480 James Avenue Redwood City, CA 94062

3) E-mail comments to the District:

ma-eir@seq.org
(Subject: "MAHS Campus Master Plan NOP")

• Comment period closes Monday, June 22, 2015

### **Additional Information**

The MAHS FMP Draft Program EIR is available on the District's website:

www.seq.org

The Draft Program is also available at:

- SUHSD Main Office 480 James Avenue Redwood City, CA 94062
- MAHS Main Office
   555 Middlefield Road
   Atherton, CA 940027

Atherton Library
 2 Dinkelspiel Station Lane
 Atherton, CA 94027

