

## STEM High School Project Summary

- The proposed RUSD STEM High School will likely serve about 800 students in grades 9-12.
- Funding for the STEM High School facilities will come entirely from RUSD. Other financial assumptions are noted below:
  - RUSD is responsible for all planning, logistics, design, CEQA, land preparation, construction, and operations of STEM High School.
  - UCR is responsible for land (pending lease approval by Board of Regents) and possible replacement of current land usage (e.g., intramural fields, parking); UCR already has developed plans to increase/improve parking and intramural fields in upcoming construction projects and LRDP (e.g., construction of new parking structure is set for Lot 13 and in North District; plan for better-quality intramural fields in closer proximity to campus in the southwest corner of North District).
- Consistent with the 2015 MOU, UCR plans to lease an appropriate campus site for \$1 to RUSD for the construction of a STEM High School to further strengthen this partnership and confer benefits on both RUSD and UCR.
- RUSD would be responsible for addressing all parking needs on the site they will use for the high school. They will not be using UCR parking inventory (except in some exceptional cases – like a special weekend event).
- The STEM High School will be a “closed campus” in the sense that students will have to remain on the campus for the academic day. Therefore, STEM High School students will not come to the UCR campus for lunch or other activities during the school day. The STEM High School will have a full cafeteria.
- Even when RUSD selects a site on UCR, a CEQA process is required for that site and this typically requires at least one year to complete. Further, locating the STEM High School on the UCR campus requires action by the Board of Regents at a public meeting to approve a ground lease and the CEQA document.
- The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is a transparent and an objective process to disclose and minimize potential environmental impacts to the extent feasible. The proposed STEM High School is considered a project under CEQA and thus is required to go through the environmental process which would analyze the following environmental topics including but not limited to: Aesthetics, Agricultural and Forestry Resources, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Energy, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Mineral Resources, Noise, Population and Housing, Public Services, Recreation, Transportation, Tribal Cultural Resources, Utilities and Service Systems, and Wildfire. The anticipated CEQA document for the proposed STEM High School project is preparation of an Initial Study leading into an Environmental Impact Report. Agencies, the community, and the public will have an opportunity to read through the environmental document as well as provide any comments during the public review

process and applicable hearings. For more detailed information on the CEQA Statute & Guidelines and process, please click on the following link [https://www.califaep.org/statute\\_and\\_guidelines.php](https://www.califaep.org/statute_and_guidelines.php).

### **Proposed Sites**

#### **Current site as focus of due diligence by RUSD:**

Blaine site – approximately 6.0 acres at Blaine St. and Canyon Crest Dr.

#### **Previous sites considered:**

Lot 13 site

West Campus site

Watkins site

Whichever site is selected can be accommodated into our Long Range Development Plan and we do not anticipate any conflict with our growth plans. The proposed STEM High School is part of our growth plan, not antithetical to it, and in total we would be committing approximately 6 acres within our east campus, which is over 500 acres, and our land holdings on east and west campus total nearly 1100 acres.

### **Projected Project Timeline:**

RUSD to conduct due diligence on Blaine site including community meetings — November 6, 2019 and Q1 2020

RUSD to make decision on site — Spring/Summer 2020

CEQA process approximately 1 year to Spring/Summer 2021

If UCR land, likely information item at Board of Regents — Spring/Summer 2021

Requested action item (land lease & CEQA) — by end of calendar year 2021

RUSD estimates STEM High School to open — Fall 2024

More information on the project can be found at the UCR and RUSD STEM High School websites located at:

<https://stemhighschool.ucr.edu/>

<http://stemhighschool.riversideunified.org>