REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF DUBLIN
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, SEPTEMBER 25, 2018, 5:30 P.M.

Summary of Evidence Supporting the Resolution of Necessity for the Acquisition of Property for the Construction of a New Dublin Unified School District High School

BACKGROUND

The Dublin Unified School District (the “District”) requires the acquisition of vacant real property generally located between Dublin Boulevard and Central Parkway in the City of Dublin, bearing Assessor’s Parcel Numbers 985-0078-002, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, including the 0.71-acre parcel identified as part of South Grafton Street and East Finnian Way on Assessor’s Map 985 (and Parcel Map 9717) (the “Property”), for the construction and operation of a District high school and related educational purposes, including all uses necessary, incidental, or convenient thereto (the “Project”). The District requires fee title to the Property, which is currently owned by Grafton Station, LLC (the “Owner”).

A written offer to purchase the Property pursuant to Government Code Section 7267.2 was made to the Owner by letter dated March 19, 2018. Since that date, there has been extensive correspondence with the Owner. However, to date, the offer has not been accepted, and negotiations have not resulted in an agreement for the District's purchase of the Property.

The District’s Board of Trustees ("Board") previously held a special meeting on July 17, 2018, to consider the necessity of acquiring the Property for the Project. At the meeting, the Board heard and considered information, evidence, and public comment regarding the Property’s suitability for the Project, eventually opting to further analyze some of the issues raised. The Board and District staff have carefully considered said information, evidence, and comment in further assessing the necessity of the Property for the Project and in preparing this Summary of Evidence.

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt Resolution No. 2018/19-09 determining that the public interest and necessity require acquisition of the Property for public purposes and authorizing proceedings under Education Code Section 35270.5, Title 7 of Part 3 of the Code of Civil Procedure, including, but not limited to, Sections 1230.010 et seq., and 1240.020, and Article I, Section 19 of the California Constitution.

DISCUSSION

The Board has been provided with a copy of Resolution No. 2018/19-09 ("Resolution of Necessity"), which would authorize the acquisition of the Property for public purposes by exercising the District’s powers under Education Code Section 35270.5, Title 7 of Part 3 of the Code of Civil Procedure, including, but not limited to, Sections 1230.010 et seq.,

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and 1240.020, and Article I, Section 19 of the California Constitution. The Resolution requires approval by at least two-thirds majority of the Board.

As set forth in Resolution No. 2018/19-09, the Board is asked to make the following findings:

1. The public interest and necessity require the Project.
2. The Project is planned or located in the manner that would be the most compatible with the greatest public good and the least private injury.
3. The real property sought to be acquired is necessary for the Project.
4. The District has offered to purchase the Property in compliance with the statutory requirements.
5. The District has complied with all conditions and statutory requirements necessary to exercise the powers granted by Education Code Section 35270.5 and Title 7 of Part 3 of the Code of Civil Procedure (“the right to take”) to acquire the Property described herein.

The following information is provided as support for the Board to make the required findings:

1. **The public interest and necessity require the Project.**

The need for the Project is based on population growth and increased residential and commercial development in the City of Dublin, which has caused the District’s school facilities to reach capacity, with further growth projected and overcrowding anticipated, including at the high school level.

The District currently educates over 12,060 transitional-kindergarten/kindergarten through twelfth grade students in its 12 schools, approximately 3,070 of which are at the high school level (including 67 students at Valley Continuation High School). Of its 12 schools, the District operates a total of seven (7) elementary schools (transitional kindergarten through fifth grade); two (2) middle schools (grades 6 through 8); one (1) kindergarten through eighth grade school; one (1) high school; and one (1) continuation high school. Dublin High School, the only comprehensive high school that the District operates, has a current capacity to house approximately 3,021 students. Thus, as of fall of 2018, Dublin High School is very close to being at full capacity.

The District’s School Facilities Needs Analysis (“SFNA”), School Fee Justification Study (“SFJS”), and demographics study prepared by Davis Demographics to project student population trends in the District from 2018-2024 (the “Davis Demographics Study”), establish that student enrollment within the District is going to increase vastly over the next five to ten years, as residential and commercial development continues to occur throughout the District. In particular, according to the SFNA and SFJS, the District will experience the development of approximately 3,700 new residential units over the next five years, and a corresponding increase of student enrollment of approximately 2,000 students, including approximately 340 at the high school level. In the next ten years,
according to the SFJS, the District anticipates that it could experience the development of approximately 4,646 new units, resulting in approximately 2,300 new students to the District, including 413 new high school students.

The Davis Demographics Study, relying on student enrollment data from 2017, student birth data, student mobility data, and student yield factors based on projected development, anticipates that the District will experience an even greater increase in students to the District. The Study provides that the District should plan for the addition of approximately 5,580 resident students to the District’s K-12 schools from fall of 2018 to the fall of 2024, including an increase of approximately 1,840 at the high school level (about 260 high school students per year). Thus, according to the Davis Demographics Study, and using the District’s current Dublin High School capacity data, Dublin High will have a deficit of capacity of over 1,000 students by 2024 unless the District constructs a new high school.

This increase in enrollment will severely exacerbate the overcrowding within the District’s school facilities. For these reasons, in its Draft Facilities Master Plan (March 2016), the District has identified the need for construction of new schools, and the modernization and improvement of existing schools, totaling over $620,000,000 in 2016 dollars. Included among these needs is the need for a new high school.

The public interest and necessity therefore require the Project in order to accommodate anticipated residential and commercial development, and to alleviate current and anticipated District school overcrowding, including at the high school level.

2. **The Project is planned or located in the manner that will be most compatible with the greatest public good and the least private injury.**

After considering several different locations for the Project, District staff has determined that the area in which the Property is located will best serve the anticipated future student growth due to planned and projected residential and commercial development in the District. While all of Dublin has experienced increased commercial and residential development, the Property’s neighborhood has in particular experienced extensive new residential development for several reasons, including the BART Station connecting the neighborhood to the Cities of San Francisco, Oakland, Concord, and Walnut Creek. As compared to several alternatives considered by the District, the Project will be centrally located relative to its projected student population, as it is surrounded by single-family subdivisions located to the north and northeast, as well as four and five story high-density multifamily housing projects that line Tassajara Boulevard, Gleason Drive, Fallon Road, Dublin Boulevard, and Brannigan Street. District staff has also chosen the Project site based on the desirability of locating the site in the Eastern Section of Dublin for access and safety reasons, and based on the impact on existing schools, availability of municipal services, ease of building on the site, and ability of the site to accommodate more students than some of the alternatives considered.
There are only a limited number of properties within the school district that are available and suitable for use as new school sites. Unlike certain other properties considered by the District, the subject Property is and has been vacant. The District will, therefore, not have to engage in any demolition or displace any businesses, individuals, or families. The Owner has also marketed the Property for sale, although the District has not yet been able to reach agreement for the acquisition.

Prior to consideration of the Resolution of Necessity, the Board will also be asked to evaluate the Property at a public hearing and adopt a Resolution making certain findings pursuant to Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations, sections 14010, et seq., and Education Code sections 17210, et seq. In support of such findings, the Board was provided with extensive information and evidence prepared by District staff and consultants including, but not limited to, PlaceWorks, Terraphase Engineering, Inc., and Lozano Smith LLP. Such evidence is incorporated herein by reference, and supports the conclusion that the Property is suitable for use as a school site in accordance with the school site selection standards contained in Education Code Section 17211 and California Code of Regulations, Title 5, Section 14010, et seq. Such evidence further supports the conclusion that use of the Property for the Project is most compatible with the greatest public good and the least private injury.

3. **The Property sought to be acquired is necessary for the Project.**

As indicated above, a new high school will be needed to serve projected population growth in the District, as well as to relieve overcrowding in existing District school sites. The District currently only has one high school to serve its growing school population. No other suitable property is located in the District which fulfills all the District’s objectives for the Project.

4. **The District has made the statutory offers to purchase the Property from the owner of record.**

California Code of Civil Procedure Section 1245.230 requires that a Resolution of Necessity contain a declaration that the governing body has found and determined that either the offer required by section 7267.2 of the California Government Code has been made to the Owner, or the offer has not been made because the Owner cannot be located with reasonable diligence.

California Government Code Section 7267.2 requires that an offer be made to the Owner and in an amount which the agency believes to be just compensation. The amount must not be less than the agency’s approved appraisal of the fair market value of the property. In addition, the agency is required to provide the Owner with a written statement of, and summary of the basis for, the amount it established as just compensation.

As discussed above, the District has offered to purchase the Property from the Owner, in accordance with Government Code Section 7267.2, by letter dated March 19, 2018.
Said offer was based on an appraisal prepared by Terry S. Larson, MAI, of Smith & Associates, reviewed and approved by the District, which reflected the amount that the District believes to be just compensation. Said appraisal was provided to the Owner along with the written offer. The District’s offer included the additional amount of up to $5,000 for the Owner to obtain an independent appraisal.

5. **The District has the statutory authority to acquire the real property by eminent domain and has complied with all conditions and statutory requirements necessary to exercise its authority to acquire the Property.**

California Education Code Section 35270.5, Title 7 of Part 3 of the Code of Civil Procedure, including, but not limited to, Sections 1230.010 et seq., and 1240.020, and Article I, Section 19 of the California Constitution empower the District to acquire the Property by eminent domain. Education Code Section 35270.5 provides that “[t]he governing board of any school district may acquire by eminent domain any property necessary to carry out any of the powers or functions of the district.” As the governing board of a public school district, the Board has the authority under the California Constitution and the Education Code to make the findings described herein and to authorize the initiation of eminent domain proceedings to acquire the Property.

Notice of this hearing on the proposed Resolution of Necessity and of the opportunity to appear and be heard regarding the required findings was given to the Owner of record and his attorneys by letter dated August 31, 2018, in accordance with California Code of Civil Procedure Section 1245.235(a) and (b). The District subsequently provided further notice to the owner of its right to appear and be heard by letter dated September 10, 2018.

**CONCLUSION**

Staff recommends that the Board approve the Resolution of Necessity No. 2018/19-09.