

Julie Arthur, Executive Director



## Facilities Planning & Development

March 7, 2019

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians 5401 Dinah Shore Drive Palm Springs, CA 92264 Attn.: Jeff L. Grubbe, Chairman

Subject: AB 52 Consultation for the Desert Hot Springs Career Tech Building Project

Dear Mr. Grubbe:

In accordance with requirements set forth in Assembly Bill 52 (Public Resources Code [PRC] Section 21080.3.1[d]), the Palm Springs Unified School District (District) is providing written notice to the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians (Tribe) in response to the Tribe's request for notification regarding any proposed projects within the District.

The District is proposing to construct a Career Technical Education (CTE) Building and associated site improvements on the Desert Hot Springs High School (DHSHS) campus, to accommodate existing academic programs currently occurring on the DHSHS campus. The new facility would be adapted to meet the immediate and long-term educational programming needs of the DHSHS campus community.

**PROJECT LOCATION:** As shown in **Figure 1: Proposed Project Location**, attached herein, the Project site is located on the northwestern portion of the existing DHSHS campus, located at 65850 Pierson Boulevard in the City of Desert Hot Springs.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The District is proposing to construct an approximately 13,000-square-foot CTE Building on an undeveloped portion of the DHSHS campus. Implementation of the proposed Project would provide the District with an updated and modern school facility that creates flexible learning space to support the Renewable Energy Academy of Learning (REAL) and Public Safety Academy (PSA) on the DHSHS campus. The proposed CTE Building would dedicate approximately 4,800 square feet for each of the REAL and PSA programs, with approximately 3,500 square feet dedicated for outdoor spaces.

The proposed Project would not result in any changes to the existing operation of the DHSHS campus, nor would there be any adjustment to the existing student capacity. Construction would be limited to the boundaries of the existing DHSHS campus and would not involve any substantial ground-disturbing activities. The District anticipates occupancy of the proposed CTE Building by start of the 2020–2021 school year.

Under California state law, the proposed Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The District is currently preparing an Initial Study to evaluate the proposed Project's potential environmental impacts. The District anticipates the adoption of a mitigated negative declaration (MND) for the proposed Project; the Tribe will be placed on the distribution list for the release of the Notice of Intent to Adopt the MND.

Letter to Jeff Grubbe March 7, 2019 Page 2

As part of the evaluation of the proposed Project, a Cultural Resources Records Review has been prepared to support the environmental analysis found within the Initial Study. This Cultural Resources Records Review includes a records search of the California Historic Resource Information System and a review of the Sacred Lands File by the Native American Heritage Commission.

As part of this effort, and to ensure that any potential Tribal Cultural Resources (TCRs) that may be of concern are identified, as defined in PRC Section 21074(a)(1–2), please notify the District within 30 days of receipt of this letter to request consultation, pursuant to PRC Section 21080.3.1(b). Should you desire to have a consultation, the District will schedule a meeting within 30 days of receiving the Tribe's request. The consultation may include a discussion concerning the type of environmental review necessary for the proposed Project; the significance of TCRs; the significance of the proposed Project's impacts on TCRs; and, if necessary, Project alternatives or appropriate measures for preservation or mitigation that the Tribe may recommend to avoid impacts to TCRs.

Please note that consultation, or the lack thereof, does not limit the ability of the Tribe to submit information to the District as part of the CEQA process regarding the significance of the TCRs or any appropriate measures to mitigate the potential impacts.

If you wish to consult on the proposed Project, written comments may be sent to District at the following address:

Palm Springs Unified School District
Facilities Planning and Development Department
150 District Center Drive
Palm Springs, CA 92264

Contact: Julie Arthur, Executive Director

Sincerely,

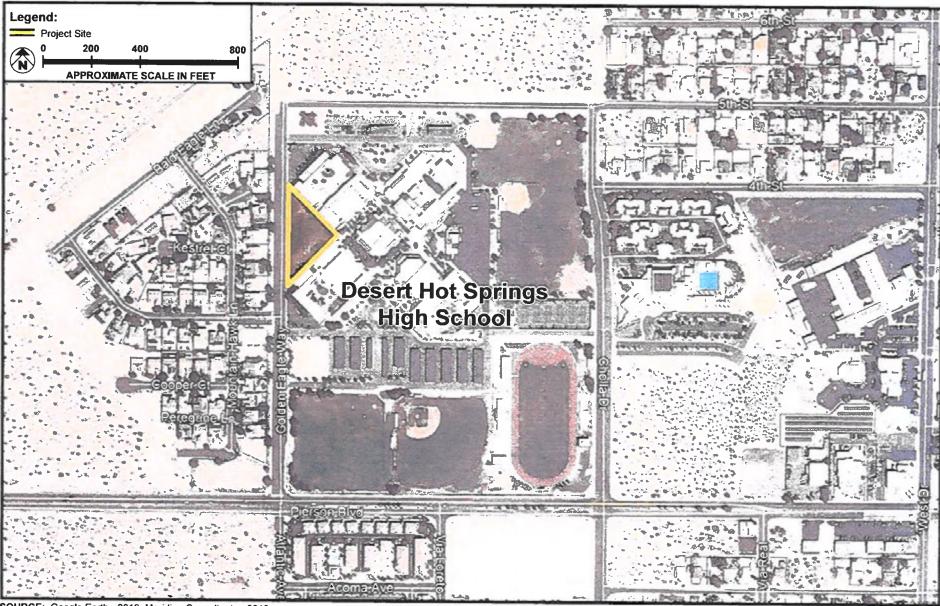
Julie Arthur Executive Director

Facilities Planning and Development

JA:dd

Attachment: Figure 1: Proposed Project Location

cc: Patricia Garcia-Plotkin, Director of Tribal Historic Preservation
Margaret Park, AICP, Planning Director



SOURCE: Google Earth - 2019; Meridian Consultants - 2019



FIGURE 1

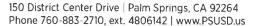


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## Facilities Planning & Development

Julie Arthur, Executive Director

March 7, 2019

Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians 66-725 Martinez Street Thermal, CA 92274 Attn.: Thomas Tortez, Tribal Chairperson

Subject: AB 52 Consultation for the Desert Hot Springs Career Tech Building Project

Dear Mr. Tortez:

In accordance with requirements set forth in Assembly Bill 52 (Public Resources Code [PRC] Section 21080.3.1[d]), the Palm Springs Unified School District (District) is providing written notice to the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians (Tribe) in response to the Tribe's request for notification regarding any proposed projects within the District.

The District is proposing to construct a Career Technical Education (CTE) Building and associated site improvements on the Desert Hot Springs High School (DHSHS) campus, to accommodate existing academic programs currently occurring on the DHSHS campus. The new facility would be adapted to meet the immediate and long-term educational programming needs of the DHSHS campus community.

**PROJECT LOCATION:** As shown in **Figure 1: Proposed Project Location**, attached herein, the Project site is located on the northwestern portion of the existing DHSHS campus, located at 65850 Pierson Boulevard in the City of Desert Hot Springs.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The District is proposing to construct an approximately 13,000-square-foot CTE Building on an undeveloped portion of the DHSHS campus. Implementation of the proposed Project would provide the District with an updated and modern school facility that creates flexible learning space to support the Renewable Energy Academy of Learning (REAL) and Public Safety Academy (PSA) on the DHSHS campus. The proposed CTE Building would dedicate approximately 4,800 square feet for each of the REAL and PSA programs, with approximately 3,500 square feet dedicated for outdoor spaces.

The proposed Project would not result in any changes to the existing operation of the DHSHS campus, nor would there be any adjustment to the existing student capacity. Construction would be limited to the boundaries of the existing DHSHS campus and would not involve any substantial ground-disturbing activities. The District anticipates occupancy of the proposed CTE Building by start of the 2020–2021 school year.

Under California state law, the proposed Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The District is currently preparing an Initial Study to evaluate the proposed Project's potential environmental impacts. The District anticipates the adoption of a mitigated negative declaration (MND) for the proposed Project; the Tribe will be placed on the distribution list for the release of the Notice of Intent to Adopt the MND.

Letter to Thomas Tortez March 7, 2019 Page 2

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Facilities Planning and Development Department
150 District Center Drive
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Contact: Julie Arthur, Executive Director

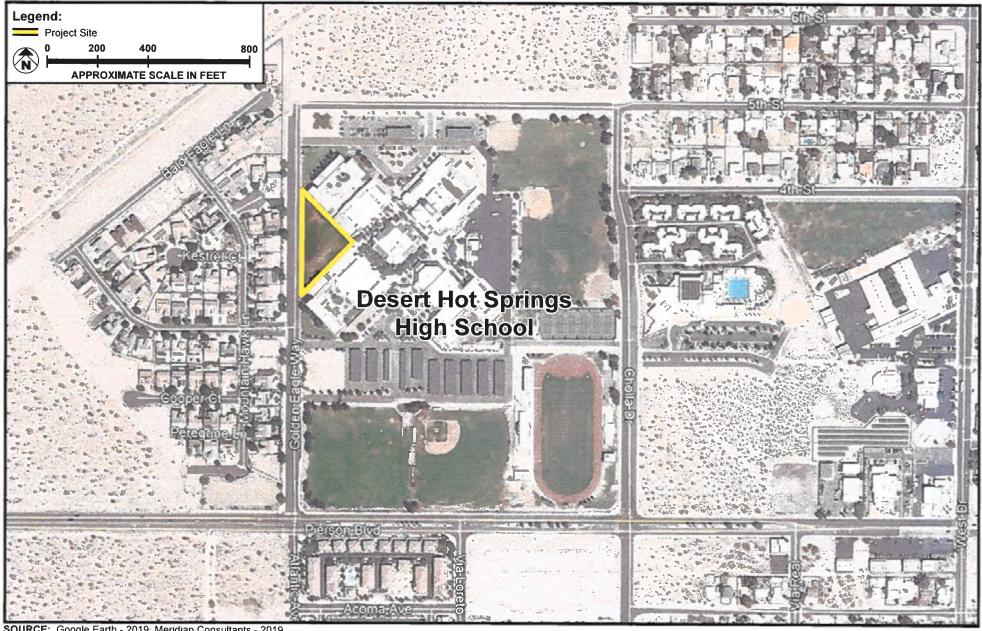
Sincerely,

Julie Arthur, Executive Director

Facilities Planning and Development

Attachment: Figure 1: Proposed Project Location

cc: Roland Ferrer, Planning Director



SOURCE: Google Earth - 2019, Meridian Consultants - 2019

FIGURE 1

Proposed Project Location



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