



JOHN A. MEYER  
Vice Chancellor

OFFICE OF RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING  
ONE SHIELDS AVENUE  
DAVIS, CALIFORNIA 95616-8678

July 2, 2001

State of California  
Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**NOTICE OF INTENT  
TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

**Project Title:** Aquatic Center

**Project Location:** University of California, Davis; west of La Rue Road and east of East Health Sciences Drive

**County:** Yolo

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code Section 2100 et seq.), the CEQA Guidelines (Title 14 Code of Regulations Section 1500 et seq.), and the University of California Procedures for the Implementation of CEQA, a Draft Tiered Initial Study for the above-named project was prepared (please see enclosure). The document identifies and evaluates the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project. The campus proposes to prepare a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project.

**Project Description**

The University of California, Davis (UC Davis) proposes to construct and operate an aquatic sports and recreation facility and a parking area on the central campus, west of La Rue Road and east of East Health Sciences Drive. The proposed project site is located east of Parking Lots 54 and 54a, northwest of the Health Sciences District (including the Schools of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine), and north and south of undeveloped fields. The site is primarily undeveloped, except for a bike path that currently crosses the site and provides access between the Health Sciences District and the core campus. The project would realign the bike path to maintain efficient access.

The proposed project would comprise approximately 3.6 acres and would consist of an approximately 46,208 gross square feet Aquatic Center, an approximately 1.3 acre parking area, and approximately 1.3 acres of landscaped grounds. The Aquatic Center would include a 65-meter long pool, a deck and warming pool, spectator seating, and an aquatic support building (including offices, lockers, meeting areas, and pool equipment rooms). The proposed parking area, located directly west of the Aquatic Center, would accommodate up to 100 vehicles.

Existing UC Davis facilities for aquatic sports and recreation (including Hickey Gymnasium Pool and the Recreation Pool) cannot meet the demands of current enrollment. The proposed project would supplement existing facilities to better meet the aquatic needs of intercollegiate athletic aquatic sports, recreational swimmers in the campus community, and City of Davis swimming programs. The pool would also alleviate demand on existing campus aquatic facilities so they may better serve other users.

### **Environmental Review and Comment**

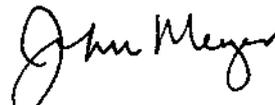
Based on the analysis presented in the Draft Tiered Initial Study, the campus proposes to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed project. Copies of the Draft Tiered Initial Study are available during normal operating hours at the UC Davis Office of Resource Management and Planning in 376 Mrak Hall on the UC Davis campus; at Reserves in Shields Library on the UC Davis campus; at the Yolo County Public Library, 315 E. 14th Street, Davis; at the Vacaville Public Library, 1020 Ulatis Drive, Vacaville; and online at <http://www.ormp.ucdavis.edu/environreview/>.

We appreciate your prompt acknowledgement and review of this Draft Tiered Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration. Due to the time limits mandated by state law, the document's 30-day review period will extend from July 2, 2001 to August 1, 2001. Comments must be received before 5:00 p.m. on August 1, 2001. They may be e-mailed to [environreview@ucdavis.edu](mailto:environreview@ucdavis.edu) or mailed to:

John A. Meyer  
Vice Chancellor  
Office of Resource Management and Planning  
376 Mrak Hall  
University of California  
One Shields Avenue  
Davis, CA 95616

If you have any questions about the project, please contact Sid England, UC Davis Environmental Planner, at (530) 752-2432.

Sincerely,



John A. Meyer  
Vice Chancellor  
Office of Resource Management and Planning

Enclosures: 15 copies of the Draft Tiered Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration  
1 Notice of Completion and Environmental Document Transmittal Form

c: Notice of Intent, Notice of Completion and Environmental Document Transmittal Form,  
and Draft Tiered Initial Study sent to addresses on attached list

Michael J. Bocchicchio  
Asst. Vice President - Facilities Administration  
University of California, Office of the President  
1111 Franklin Street 6th Floor #6201  
Oakland, CA 94607-5200

James E. Holst  
Office of the General Counsel of The Regents  
University of California  
300 Lakeside Drive, 7th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612-3550

Phil Zeniner  
State Water Resources Control Board  
Division of Water Quality  
P. O. Box 100  
Sacramento, CA 95801

State of California  
Native American Heritage Commission  
915 Capitol Mall, Room 364  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Department of Toxic Substances Control  
400 P Street, 4th Floor  
Sacramento, CA 94814

Solano County Department  
Of Environmental Management  
601 Texas Street  
Fairfield, CA 94533

Steve Olive  
Department of Conservation  
801 K Street, MS-24-02  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Jeffrey Pulverman  
Caltrans, District 3  
703 B Street  
Marysville, CA 95901

State of California  
Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814 (15 copies)

County Clerk  
County of Yolo  
625 Court Street  
Woodland, CA 95695 (notice only)

Hans Kreutzberg  
Office of Historic Preservation  
P.O. BOX 942896  
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

Craig Stowers  
Department of Fish & Game  
7400 Hendon Way  
Elk Grove, CA 95758

County Clerk  
County of Solano  
600 Texas Street  
Fairfield, CA 94533

Bill Emlen  
Community Development Director  
City of Davis  
23 Russell Boulevard  
Davis, CA 95616 (3 copies)

John Bencome  
Planning Department  
County of Yolo  
292 West Beamer Street  
Woodland, CA 95695

Christopher Manske  
Solano County Planning  
601 Texas Street  
Fairfield, CA 94533

Thomas To  
Yolo County Department of Public Health  
Environmental Health Services  
10 Cottonwood Street  
Woodland, CA 95695

Environmental Services  
Department of Fish and Game  
1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Wayne White  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Ecological Services  
2800 Cottage Way #W-2605  
Sacramento, CA 95825-1888

Larry Green  
Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District  
1947 Galileo Court, Suite 103  
Davis, CA 95616

Richard McHenry  
Central Valley Regional Water Quality  
Control Board  
3443 Routier Road  
Sacramento, CA 95827-3098

Russell Huck  
Environmental Management Branch  
Department of Health Services  
P.O. BOX 942732  
Sacramento, CA 94234-7320

Peter Venturini  
Air Resources Board  
2020 L Street  
Sacramento, CA 95815

Sue O'Leary  
California Waste Management Board  
8800 Cal Center Drive  
Sacramento, CA 95826

Allen Patton  
State Water Resources Control Board  
Division of Clean Water Programs  
P.O. Box 944212  
Sacramento, CA 94244-2120

Teresa Russell  
Fairfield/Suisun Community Library  
1150 Kentucky Street  
Fairfield, CA 94533

Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

SCH # \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, PO Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 916/445-0613

Project Title: Aquatic Center

Lead Agency: University of California

Contact Person: Sid England

Street Address: Office of Resource Management and Planning, UC Davis

Phone: (530) 752-2432

City: Davis

Zip: 95616

County: Yolo

Project Location:

County: Yolo

City/Nearest Community: Davis

Cross Streets: La Rue Road and Garrod Drive

Zip Code: 95616

Total Acres: 3.6

Assessor's Parcel No. NA

Section: 16

Twp. 8N

Range: 2E

Base: Mt. Diablo

Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: SR 113 and I-80

Waterways: Putah Creek

Airports: University Airport

Railways: Union Pacific

Schools: Davis Joint Unified

Document Type:

CEQA:

- NOP
- Early Cons
- Neg Dec
- Draft EIR

Supplement/Subsequent EIR

(Prior SCH No.) \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

NEPA:

- NOI
- EA
- Draft EIS
- FONSI

Other:

- Joint Document
- Final Document
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

Local Action Type:

- General Plan Update
- General Plan Amendment
- General Plan Element
- Community Plan

- Specific Plan
- Master Plan
- Planned Unit Development
- Site Plan

- Rezone
- Prezone
- Use Permit
- Land Division (Subdivision, etc.)
- Annexation
- Redevelopment
- Coastal Permit
- Other Project Approval

Development Type:

- Residential: Units \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_
- Office: Sq.ft. \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_ Employees \_\_\_\_\_
- Commercial: Sq.ft. \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_ Employees \_\_\_\_\_
- Industrial: Sq.ft. \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_ Employees \_\_\_\_\_
- Educational \_\_\_\_\_
- Recreational Aquatic sports and recreation facility

- Water Facilities: Type \_\_\_\_\_ MGD \_\_\_\_\_
- Transportation: Type \_\_\_\_\_
- Mining: Mineral \_\_\_\_\_
- Power: Type \_\_\_\_\_ Watts \_\_\_\_\_
- Waste Treatment: Type \_\_\_\_\_
- Hazardous Waste: Type \_\_\_\_\_
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Funding (approx.): Federal \$ 0 State \$ 0 Total \$ 0

Project Issues Discussed in Document:

- Aesthetic/Visual
- Agricultural Land
- Air Quality
- Archeological/Historical
- Coastal Zone
- Drainage/Absorption
- Economic/Jobs
- Fiscal
- Flood Plain/Flooding
- Forest Land/Fire Hazard
- Geologic/Seismic
- Minerals
- Noise
- Population/Housing Balance
- Public Services/Facilities
- Recreation/Parks
- Schools/Universities
- Septic Systems
- Sewer Capacity
- Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading
- Solid Waste
- Toxic/Hazardous
- Traffic/Circulation
- Vegetation
- Water Quality
- Water Supply/Groundwater
- Wetland/Riparian
- Wildlife
- Growth Inducing
- Landuse
- Cumulative Effects
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:

Physical Education/Intercollegiate Athletic/Recreation

Project Description:

See attached public notice.

# Reviewing Agencies Checklist

Form A, continued

### KEY

**S** = Document sent by lead agency

**X** = Document sent by SCH

✓ = Suggested distribution

#### Resources Agency

\_\_\_\_\_ Boating & Waterways  
\_\_\_\_\_ Coastal Commission  
\_\_\_\_\_ Coastal Conservancy  
\_\_\_\_\_ Colorado River Board

SX Conservation

SX Fish & Game

\_\_\_\_\_ Forestry & Fire Protection

SX Office of Historic Preservation

\_\_\_\_\_ Parks & Recreation

\_\_\_\_\_ Reclamation Board

\_\_\_\_\_ S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Commission

SX Water Resources (DWR)

#### Business, Transportation & Housing

\_\_\_\_\_ Aeronautics

\_\_\_\_\_ California Highway Patrol

SX CALTRANS District # 3

\_\_\_\_\_ Department of Transportation Planning (headquarters)

SX Housing & Community Development

#### Food & Agriculture

#### Health & Welfare

\_\_\_\_\_ Health Services \_\_\_\_\_

#### State & Consumer Services

\_\_\_\_\_ General Services

\_\_\_\_\_ OLA (Schools)

#### Environmental Protection Agency

SX Air Resources Board

SX California Waste Management Board

\_\_\_\_\_ SWRCB: Clean Water Grants

\_\_\_\_\_ SWRCB: Delta Unit

\_\_\_\_\_ SWRCB: Water Quality

\_\_\_\_\_ SWRCB: Water Rights

SX Regional WQCB # 5 ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

#### Youth & Adult Corrections

\_\_\_\_\_ Corrections

#### Independent Commissions & Offices

\_\_\_\_\_ Energy Commission

SX Native American Heritage Commission

\_\_\_\_\_ Public Utilities Commission

\_\_\_\_\_ Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy

\_\_\_\_\_ State Lands Commission

\_\_\_\_\_ Tahoe Regional Planning Agency

SX Other \_\_\_\_\_ Yolo-Solano AQMD \_\_\_\_\_

#### Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency)

Starting Date July 2, 2001

Ending Date August 1, 2001

Signature John Meyer

Date 6/29/01

#### Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):

Consulting Firm: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

#### For SCH Use Only:

Date Received at SCH \_\_\_\_\_

Date Review Starts \_\_\_\_\_

Date to Agencies \_\_\_\_\_

Date to SCH \_\_\_\_\_

Clearance Date \_\_\_\_\_

Notes:

**Applicant:** \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

## **PUBLIC NOTICE UC DAVIS AQUATIC CENTER**

### **Proposed Project**

UC Davis proposes to construct and operate an aquatic sports and recreation facility and associated parking in the central campus, west of La Rue Road and east of East Health Sciences Drive. The proposed project site is located east of Parking Lots 54 and 54a, northwest of the Health Sciences District (including the Schools of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine), and north and south of undeveloped fields. The site is primarily undeveloped, except for a bike path that currently crosses the site and provides access between the Health Sciences District and the core campus. The project would realign the bike path to maintain efficient access.

The proposed project would comprise approximately 3.6 acres and would consist of an approximately 46,208 gross square feet Aquatic Center facility, an approximately 1.3 acre parking area, and approximately 1.3 acres of landscaped grounds. The new Aquatic Center facility would include a 65-meter long pool, a deck and warming pool, spectator seating, and an aquatic support building (including offices, lockers, meeting areas, and pool equipment rooms). The proposed parking area, located directly west of the Aquatic Center, would accommodate up to 100 vehicles.

Existing UC Davis facilities for aquatic sports and recreation (including Hickey Gymnasium Pool and the Recreation Pool) cannot meet the demands of current enrollment. The proposed project would supplement existing facilities to better meet the aquatic needs of intercollegiate athletic aquatic sports, recreational swimmers in the campus community, and City of Davis swimming programs. The pool would also alleviate demand on existing campus aquatic facilities so they may better serve other users.

### **Project Objectives**

The following summarizes the specific objectives of the proposed project:

- Invest in UC Davis' aquatic sports reputation, assist recruitment and retention efforts, and help publicize aquatic programs.
- Provide an attractive gateway from the western edge of campus that is consistent with the overall visual message of the campus and relates to the City.
- Support a partnership with City Parks and Recreation Programs.
- Provide accessibility to and from other parts of campus.
- Provide an open design and include wood and natural light.
- Provide an object of pride and promote the strength of UC Davis' sports programs.
- Be unique to UC Davis and support its traditions (such as Aggie Pack, the UC Davis student spirit organization).

- Provide a facility that meets the needs expressed in the Facilities and Campus Enhancement Initiative approved by the Student Body and execute such delivery cost-efficiently.
- Design the facility to accommodate future demands.
- Provide a facility that will support Men's and Women's Swimming, Water Polo, and Diving; City of Davis Masters and Aquadarts programs; and student and staff lap swimming.
- Provide a facility that will supply: an aquatic venue without recreational slides, wading pools, etc.; appropriate seating and space to accommodate larger meets and the Aggie Pack; a pool with 50-meter lap lanes, a diving area, and two movable bulkheads; the capacity for simultaneous practices in order to ease the training schedule; locker rooms, team room, and offices for Men's and Women's Swimming, Diving, and Water Polo coaches; a well-lit atmosphere during the evening; security; sufficient accessible restrooms; and sufficient equipment storage so all equipment can be kept and maintained onsite.
- Provide circulation to the facility that will: be clear and unrestricted; separate vehicular, pedestrian, and bike traffic; provide clear and separate access for utility and emergency vehicles; provide safe area for drop-off and queuing; and avoid unnecessary congestion along La Rue and Hutchison Drive.
- Protect swimmers from seasonal winds by massing the support facility or using wind-screening devices.

## **Environmental Review**

The Draft Tiered Initial Study for the Aquatic Center was prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and state and University of California guidelines for implementation of CEQA. The environmental analysis is tiered from the 1994 LRDP EIR (State Clearinghouse No. 94022005), as updated and revised by a number of subsequent documents. Specifically, the 1994 LRDP EIR was updated and revised by the 1997 Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Replacement Project EIR (State Clearinghouse Nos. 95123027 and 96072024), the 1997-98 Major Capital Improvement Projects Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) (State Clearinghouse No. 97122016), the Center for the Arts Performance Hall and South Entry Roadway and Parking Improvements Tiered Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (State Clearinghouse No. 98092016), the USDA Western Human Nutrition Research Center Tiered Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (State Clearinghouse No. 99092060), and the Veterinary Medicine Laboratory and Equine Athletic Performance Laboratory Facilities Focused Tiered EIR (State Clearinghouse No. 2000022057). These documents are available for review during normal operating hours at the UC Davis Office of Resource Management and Planning in 376 Mrak Hall on the UC Davis campus; at Reserves in Shields Library on the UC Davis campus; at the Yolo County Public Library, 315 E. 14th Street, Davis; at the Vacaville Public Library, 1020 Ulatis Drive, Vacaville; and online at <http://www.ormp.ucdavis.edu/environreview/> (technical appendices are not available online). A document summarizing amendments to

the 1994 LRDP and revisions to the 1994 LRDP EIR also is available online and is included as an appendix to the Aquatic Center Draft Tiered Initial Study.

The 1994 LRDP EIR, as updated and revised, is a Program EIR, prepared pursuant to Section 15168 of the CEQA Guidelines (Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Sections 15000 et seq.). The 1994 LRDP EIR analyzed full implementation of uses and physical development proposed under the 1994 LRDP through the year 2005-06 and identified measures to mitigate the significant adverse project and cumulative impacts associated with that growth.

The Draft Tiered Initial Study for the Aquatic Center is tiered from the 1994 LRDP EIR in accordance with Sections 15152 and 15168(d) of the CEQA Guidelines and Public Resource Code Section 21094. Based on the analysis presented in the Draft Tiered Initial Study, it has been determined that the project may incrementally contribute to, but would not exceed, certain cumulative significant impacts previously identified in the 1994 LRDP EIR. However, most of these impacts would be reduced to a level that is clearly less-than-significant through implementation of mitigation measures identified in the 1994 LRDP EIR.

The proposed project may incrementally contribute to, but would not exceed, certain significant and unavoidable cumulative impacts previously identified in the 1994 LRDP EIR. These impacts are related to: intersection level of service, increased noise sources, construction air pollutants, criteria air emissions, use and disposal of hazardous materials, development on potentially contaminated sites, demand for emergency response, loss of ruderal/annual grassland, receiving water quality, groundwater recharge, demand for water from the deep aquifer, seismic effects, loss of cultural resources, loss of rural character, demand on City of Davis fire and police protection services, and contribution of school-age students in the Davis Joint Unified school district. The analysis in the Draft Tiered Initial Study concluded that for these significant and unavoidable impacts, no mitigation measures other than those previously identified in the 1994 LRDP EIR are required. Mitigation measures to reduce many of these significant and unavoidable cumulative impacts to less-than-significant levels are available but are not within the jurisdiction of the University of California to enforce and monitor. These significant and unavoidable impacts were adequately analyzed in the 1994 LRDP EIR (as revised) and fully addressed in the Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations adopted by The Regents in connection with its approval of the 1994 LRDP and certification of the 1994 LRDP EIR, as revised. There are no changed circumstances since the preparation of these documents that require reanalysis of cumulative impacts.

In addition, the analysis in the Aquatic Center Draft Tiered Initial Study identified that the proposed project may result in one potentially significant impact that was not sufficiently addressed and mitigated by the 1994 LRDP EIR, as revised. The impact involves the potential disturbance of burrowing owls during construction of the project. A proposed project-specific mitigation measure would reduce the effects of this impact to a point that clearly no significant impact would occur.

### **Public Review and Comment**

Based on the analysis in the Draft Tiered Initial Study, the campus has determined that a Mitigated Negative Declaration will be prepared for this project. The public and agency review period for the Aquatic Center Draft Tiered Initial Study will be from July 2 to August 1,

2001. Copies of the Draft Tiered Initial Study are available during normal operating hours at the UC Davis Office of Resource Management and Planning in 376 Mrak Hall on the UC Davis campus; at Reserves in Shields Library on the UC Davis campus; at Reserves in Carlson Health Sciences Library on the UC Davis campus; at the Yolo County Public Library, 315 E. 14th Street, Davis; at the Vacaville Public Library, 1020 Ulatis Drive, Vacaville; and online at <http://www.ormp.ucdavis.edu/environreview/>.

Comments on this Draft Tiered Initial Study must be received by 5:00 p.m. on August 1, 2001. They may be e-mailed to [environreview@ucdavis.edu](mailto:environreview@ucdavis.edu) or mailed to:

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376 Mrak Hall  
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