Four written comment letters were received during the public and agency comment period on the Draft EIR. These letters and the public hearing transcript are included in this section. Two of the four letters and all comments received at the public hearing were related to the removal of the equestrian riding course currently located on the project site. The campus has prepared master responses that address all issues associated with the equestrian riding course. Those master responses are presented below. All agencies and individuals that commented on the Draft EIR are listed below.

**List of Agencies and Individuals Commenting on the Draft EIR**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Agency/Individual</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>June 5, 2000</td>
<td>Governor’s Office of Planning and Research Terry Roberts</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>June 7, 2000</td>
<td>Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District Daniel O’Brien</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>May 26, 2000</td>
<td>Equestrian Center Participants (numerous signatories)</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>May 27, 2000</td>
<td>Equestrian Center Holly Fox and Lori Kaeslin</td>
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**Public Hearing on May 18, 2000**

1. Ms. Holly Fox  
2. Ms. Eileen O’Farrell  
3. Ms. Jennifer Williams  
4. Ms. Kerry Fitzgerald  
5. Ms. Katie Douglas  
6. Ms. Lori Kaeslin

**MASTER RESPONSES**

**M-1 – DESIGNATION OF LAND FOR ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE USES**

The 1994 UC Davis Long Range Development Plan (LRDP) designated approximately 25 acres for Physical Education/Intercollegiate Athletics/Recreational land uses south of the University Arboretum and School of Veterinary Medicine (SVM). These lands were for the use of the UC Davis Equestrian Center, a campus recreational program. A site currently used by the Equestrian Center for a cross-country course was designated for High Density Academic and Administrative land uses in the 1994 LRDP. Land use designations in the 1994 LRDP reflect the decision by the campus after evaluating the future needs of all campus programs. The site
proposed for the Veterinary Medicine Laboratory Facility has long been recognized as being
needed for improvement and expansion of facilities and programs at the UC Davis School of
Veterinary Medicine (SVM). As stated on page 2-6 of the Draft EIR, this project is needed to
correct facility adequacy issues raised in the 1998 accreditation evaluation of the SVM by the
American Veterinary Medical Association and the American Association for Accreditation of
Laboratory Animal Care. Thus, the decision to use the proposed site is a programmatic decision
by the University to use the land as designated in the 1994 LRDP.

As identified in the Draft EIR and the Initial Study, the proposed project is consistent with the
existing land use designation. The commenters do not raise any new environmental impacts that
are not addressed in the Draft EIR.

**M-2 – REPLACEMENT AREA FOR CROSS COUNTRY COURSE**

Several commenters proposed that a parcel called either B-1 or Tract-B be designated as the site
for a replacement cross country facility. This triangular-shaped parcel is located east of the
Equestrian Center and is bordered by the University Arboretum on the north, Old Davis Road on
the east, and Interstate 80 on the south. This parcel was designated for High Density Academic
and Administrative land uses in the 1994 LRDP. In addition, the site was designated as a
“Enterprise Reserve.” Enterprise Reserves are sites where the University may develop
partnerships with another public organization or private entity. Permanently relocating the cross
country course to this parcel would conflict with this land use designation.

Several commenters also suggest relocating the cross country course to the C-tract. This land is
located on the West Campus and is bordered by Highway 113 and Interstate 80 on the east, the
south fork of Putah Creek on the south, and the former north fork of Putah Creek on the west and
north. These lands are designated as Teaching and Research Fields in the 1994 LRDP.

Equestrian Center lands are designated Open Space Teaching/Research in the 1994 LRDP.
Thus, locating the cross country course in C-tract would conflict with this land use designation.
In addition, most of the C-tract is used by either Animal Science to grow forage for their research
animals or by Foundation Plant Material Service. Both of these programs are seeking additional
acreage for their programs. Thus, this site is not available for use by the Equestrian Center.

**M-3 – EFFECTS ON UC DAVIS EQUESTRIAN CENTER PROGRAM**

Several commenters identified potential operational and financial impacts of the proposed
project on the Equestrian Center program. None of these comments raise new environmental
impacts that were not adequately addressed in the EIR for the proposed project.

The proposed project implements a portion of the 1994 LRDP and is consistent with the analysis
contained in the 1994 LRDP EIR. While it is noted that this project would eliminate an area
currently used for recreational purposes, the 1994 LRDP included an additional 32 acres of parks
and recreational facilities to serve the anticipated increase in students, faculty, and staff. As a
result, the 1994 LRDP EIR concluded that the increased demand for parks and recreational
facilities due to development under the 1994 LRDP did not affect or require the designation of
substantial additional parkland to remain in conformance with locally acceptable or adopted park
standards, and therefore, resulted in a less-than-significant impact.
As discussed under Master Response M-1, the expansion and improvement of SVM facilities is a priority of the University and the 1994 LRDP reflects the University’s priorities through its land use designations. In the short-term, the approximately 25 acres of land designated for Physical Education/Intercollegiate Athletics/Recreational uses in the LRDP for the Equestrian Center is all that is currently available for its programs. This site is located south of the University Arboretum and SVM. The Planning and Budget Office is available to work with Student Affairs and the Equestrian Center to identify measures that may need to be taken to accommodate changed operations. In the long-term, the Vice Chancellor–Student Affairs may wish to request additional lands or an alternate site for the Equestrian Center. This request would be handled appropriately through the LRDP planning process. Planning for a new LRDP will begin in Fall 2000.
June 5, 2000

Sid England  
University of California, Davis  
Planning and Budget Office  
One Shields Avenue  
Davis, CA 95616

Subject: Veterinary Medicine Laboratory and Equine Athletic Performance Laboratory Facilities  
SCH#: 2000022057

Dear Sid England:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named Draft EIR to selected state agencies for review. The review period closed on June 2, 2000, and no state agencies submitted comments by that date. This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

Please call the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process. If you have a question about the above-named project, please refer to the ten-digit State Clearinghouse number when contacting this office.

Sincerely,

Terry Roberts  
Senior Planner, State Clearinghouse
**Document Details Report**
**State Clearinghouse Data Base**

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<tr>
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<td>Construction and operation of new facilities for animal surgery instruction and equine athletic performance research (i.e., a horse treadmill) at the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine. The project includes small and large animal holding facilities and a pasture.</td>
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<td>Resources Agency; Department of Conservation; Department of Fish and Game, Region 2; Office of Historic Preservation; Department of Parks and Recreation; Caltrans, Division of Aeronautics; California Highway Patrol; Caltrans, District 5; Department of Food and Agriculture; Department of Health Services; Regional Water Quality Control Bd., Region 5 (Sacramento); Department of Toxic Substances Control; Public Utilities Commission; State Lands Commission</td>
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| **Date Received** | 04/19/2000 |
| **Start of Review** | 04/19/2000 |
| **End of Review** | 06/02/2000 |

*Note: Blanks in data fields result from insufficient information provided by lead agency.*
May 27, 2000

Dear Richard,

Last week we attended a “public hearing” relating to the EIR proposal of the VMTH (Vet Med Teaching Hospital) building an Equine Analytical and Performance Lab on the site of the Equestrian Center’s cross country jumping field. This parcel is the six-acre field located west of the VMTH, east of Highway 113, along the Equestrian Center’s driveway.

The Center seeks to obtain acreage to replace the acreage the VMTH is proposing to build on. We seek your help in securing the campus precedent of gaining compensation of space/land and the moving costs related to relocating a displaced program.

This acreage is critical to the programs offered at the Center. The Equestrian Center has built jumps, hills, enclosure fences and maintained this acreage since 1973, over 25 years. It is the location for the cross country jumping course, trail riding, youth summer camp programs, intercollegiate teams and Equestrian Center sponsored horse shows. This area is also necessary for health and safety of herd during the winter season, as the terrain provides reprieve from mud-related diseases and problems.

The Center’s annual operating budget is $350,000. We are primarily a self-supporting unit, financially dependent on our ability to offer successful programs. Most of these programs occur on that site.

The area serves a variety of uses as follows:

- The intercollegiate teams, with over 100 members, use the area to train and develop the horses and riders. Their team is nationally ranked with consistently strong programs at the National level in each of the past five years.

- Our guided trail rides generate approximately $3,800 per year. An additional $3,200 per year is generated from trail riding lessons and
Clinics that are held on the trail riding area. Some of these participants include disadvantaged youth through the EAOP outreach and extended learning programs.

- During the summer, over 300 children use the facility through an extensive youth summer camp program. This program generates over $45,000 per year in income for the Center.

- We rent the area to national organizations such as the United States Pony Club. The rewards of this program extend into enhanced public relations as many equestrians and guests become familiar with the site and program. This in turn leads to recruitment and retention for this campus.

- The Center currently houses 110 horses. During the winter months drainage becomes unbearable. For health and safety reasons some of the horses are turned out on this parcel. The hills were built to create high-and-dry areas for the horses with sufficient room for movement and safe interaction. As a result we decrease the incidence of mud related diseases.

Students, staff and the general public benefit from using the Center’s programs. In fiscal year 1999, there were 1,985 enrollments in lessons and an additional 531 participants in trail rides, practice sessions, and clinics. This represents 18,872 hours of instruction. These participants consisted of 58% students, 28% faculty and staff, and 14% general public.

**Program participants strongly support continuation and expansion of the Center’s programs.** For example:

- In 1999, UC Davis student body approved a Facility and Campus Enhancement Initiative of which approximately 3 million dollars were designated for improvements and expansion of the physical structures at the Center. This mandate was approved in “good faith” that the Center would continue to offer as broad and diverse programs as have been offered in the past.

- Clinics and horse shows, are held for the development of students and staff. Participants have an opportunity to develop competitive, leadership, and organizational skills. These activities promote group effort and camaraderie, and simultaneously act as strong recruitment tools for potential students.
• Olympic caliber guest clinics are widely attended by students and staff. The opportunities presented by such qualified clinicians are irreplaceable in the surrounding community. This year’s clinician was the former Canadian Olympic Three-day Eventing coach. Last year’s clinician was an Olympic USA show jumping rider.

The EIR proposal prepared for the VMTH states “... [this acreage] will not be replaced...” Loss of this acreage, without a replacement parcel, will impact on the nature and viability of programs the Center could offer and maintain. This proposed reduction in the Center facility will result in:

Results of Program Reduction
• An adverse impact on the Centers self-sufficiency, through no fault of the Center.

• A loss of critical riding space. A loss that will impact all participants in the program. The availability of open boarding spots and the desirability of boarding at the center will drop with over crowding of the remaining riding space.

• An elimination or substantial reduction to the Youth Summer Camp program, Trail Riding courses and classes, competitive intercollegiate teams, boarding and wintering programs. Trail riding opportunities aren’t available in the surrounding community, and are only available at a much greater cost at distances further away.

• Equestrian riders may impact the surrounding public roads as riders seek an alternative area to ride along. This is unsafe at best. Minimally we need an easement along the west edge (along Highway 113) of the property to access Tract C and the alfalfa fields.

• Elimination of a facility that is unique among UC Campuses. This facility and its convenience is not only attractive to its participants but exhibits a strong support to the agricultural heritage of the UC Davis Campus. It is the only on-site Equestrian Center among UC campuses and has excellent recruitment and retention value.

• Possible reduction of the accredited academic horse health care internships offered through the Animal Science department, and high school ROC internships. Detrimental to the current proposal for credited physical education riding classes.
Perhaps there are other parcels or options adjacent to the Equestrian Center that were overlooked. The replacement acreage must be located close to the Center for safety, observation and access purposes.

In October of 1999 a meeting with Bob Franks, Jan Gong, Tom Compton, Sandy Westfall and Holly Fox seemed to find unity in locating Tract B as the most viable option for relocation. Factors considering safety, security, risk management and convenience were discussed.

Discussions had looked hopeful at that time of finding a replacement parcel. But until this public hearing we didn’t get any response on this matter.

In the meantime, we lost several thousands of dollars in the donation of dirt and other meaningful services relating to moving from one location to another.

**Short Term/Long Term Plan**

We need both short term and long term resolution for the replacement of the cross-country course and acreage.

In the short term, we need to secure authorization for an interim relocation area so the programs can continue uninterrupted. We need a decision soon so plans can be made for the operating logistics. We encourage the campus to honor its precedent of providing the financial support related to the costs of relocating programs and the required materials.

For the long term, we will work with prominent leaders in Student Affairs to be well represented as the campus enters the current amendment process of the LRDP.

We appreciate your consideration in supporting security, value and vision for the Equestrian Center during this crucial time.

Sincerely,

Holly Fox  
Equestrian Center Program Manager

Lori Kaeslin  
Equestrian Center Administrator
Response to Comment Letter D

1. Please see Master Response M-3.
2. Please see Master Response M-3.
3. Please see Master Response M-2.
4. Please see Master Response M-3
PUBLIC HEARING

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS

VETERINARY MEDICINE LABORATORY AND

EQUINE ATHLETIC PERFORMANCE LABORATORY FACILITIES

DRAFT FOCUSED TIERED EIR

---oo0---

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS

UNIVERSITY CLUB LOUNGE

DAVIS, CALIFORNIA

---oo0---

THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2000

7:00 P.M.

---oo0---

Doris M. Bailey, CSR, RPR, CRR
Certified Shorthand Reporter
License Number 8751

PETERS SHORTHAND REPORTING CORPORATION (916) 362-2345
PROCEEDINGS

HEARING OFFICER ENGLAND: Good evening, everybody. I'd like to thank you for attending tonight and for coming to this public hearing. I'll start the official record that will be kept by a court reporter.

My name is Sid England. I'm the environmental planner here on the campus, and I'll be conducting this hearing.

Before we begin I want to spend a few minutes explaining the purpose of the public hearing and how it will be conducted.

This is the official public hearing on the University of California Davis, Draft Focus Tiered Environmental Impact Report for the Veterinary Laboratory -- Veterinary Medicine Laboratory and Equine Athletic Performance Laboratory Facilities.

The hearing is being conducted pursuant to the University of California's procedures for implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act.

The purpose of the hearing is to provide the public with an opportunity to present oral testimony for the official record concerning the content and completeness of the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the proposed Veterinary Medicine Laboratory and Equine Athletic
Performance Laboratory Facilities.

This Draft EIR addresses the project specific and cumulative impacts associated with the two proposed projects, the Veterinary Medicine Laboratory and the Equine Athletic Performance Laboratory.

The Draft EIR for the project incorporates, by reference, analysis in the EIR for the 1994 UC Davis Long Range Development Plan as amended by the:

1997 Wastewater Treatment Plant Replacement Project EIR;

The 1997-98 Major Capital Improvement Project Supplemental EIR;

The Center for the Arts Performance Hall and South Entry Roadway and Parking Improvements Tiered Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration;

And the USDA Western Human Nutrition Research Center Tiered Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration.

The California Environmental Quality Act and guidelines for implementing this act encourage the use of incorporation by reference to reduce the size of EIR's. And the Draft EIR should be viewed in conjunction with the Long Range Development Plan and EIR as amended. That is the EIR for this project that we're talking about tonight.

Copies of the Draft EIR for the Veterinary Medicine
Laboratory and Equine Athletic Performance Laboratory Facilities, the Draft and final EIR's for the 1994 UC Davis Long Range Development Plan, and documents that amend the LRDP EIR are available for reviewing at the sign-up table.

All comments made tonight will be recorded by the court reporter and will become part of the formal record for the EIR. The record of this hearing will be used by the University of California for review in considering the Final Environmental Impact Report and approval of the project.

All the testimony this evening, as well as all written comments received during the public comment period, will become part of the Final Environmental Impact Report for the project. The campus will evaluate the comments received on environmental issues and will include written responses to the comments in the final EIR.

Those of you that, who do not wish to speak tonight or who wish to add additional testimony, may also submit comments in writing. Written comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on June 2nd of this year in order to be officially considered as part of the record. The date and address where you can submit those comments are on a leaflet that's on the back table that you can pick up.

Copies of the Veterinary Medicine Laboratory and Equine Athletic Performance Laboratory Facilities Draft EIR, the '94 Long Range Development Plan EIR, and amending
documents are available at the Shields Library Reserve
Reading Room; the Yolo County Library on 14th Street here in
Davis; and at the Fairfield Suisun Community Library in
Fairfield. Copies can also be obtained in the Planning and
Budget office on the third floor of Mrak Hall.

We're going to receive comments tonight, but we're
going to respond to them in writing, so we won't be
answering comments right now. We'll take 'em back, consider
'em, and give written responses after we have time to take
all of the comments that were received.

I encourage speakers who agree with the previous
speaker to simply confirm their agreement. Everyone who
wishes to speak, of course, will be allowed to speak. So
that your testimony can be accurately recorded and so that
we can respond adequately in the final EIR, I ask that you
come to the front of the room so that your testimony can be
recorded on tape and recorded by the court reporter.

Again, the purpose of the hearing is to receive
your testimony and evidence for the University. So
therefore, I won't respond to the testimony tonight, but
formal responses to oral and written comments on
environmental issues will be included in the final EIR.

So before we begin I'd like to ask if you have any
questions about the procedure for the hearing or anything
that I can answer?
MS. KAESLIN: This is for, you're soliciting our responses not only to the EIR but also to the long range plan, is that correct?

HEARING OFFICER ENGLAND: No, just to the EIR for the Veterinary Medicine building, Veterinary Laboratory, Veterinary Medicine Laboratory Project and Equine Athletic Performance laboratory project.

MS. KAESLIN: So the environmental concerns?

HEARING OFFICER ENGLAND: That's right. We'll respond in writing to environmental concerns that are raised. We'll respond to those in the environmental document.

So that includes a broad range of things though, from land's use to air quality, water quality, all of the normal things you might think about.

So does that answer your question? The Long Range Development Plan itself, of course, is the umbrella document from which the land use designations were made in '89 and '94. So this document incorporates all that by reference. So we're not directly taking comment on the Long Range Development Plan. If there is something that pertains to this particular project, you're free to comment on it.

So with that, I'll be glad to answer any other questions. Or whoever wants to go first can make their statement. If you want to hand in written comments as well
as make oral comments you're free to do that as well.

MS. KAESLIN: I think we weren't exactly sure what
this was. We knew part of it was environmental impact,
but --

MS. FOX: We'd like to be involved in the long
range planning portion of it as well, especially when it has
to do with property that we're using on a day to day,
program needs, things like that.

HEARING OFFICER ENGLAND: The Long Range
Development Plan itself, of course, was first done in '89
and then again in '94. And the site was identified then for
high density academic administrative.

The next round of Long Range Development Plan is
going to start in the fall. And then it will probably be a
twelve to eighteen month period of developing a new Long
Range Development Plan. And that will be followed by a year
or so environmental review of that plan. So we're probably
three years away from the early state at which we would be
adopting any kind of new Long Range Development Plan.

MS. FOX: So right now it seems like the Equine
Performance Lab that is slated for the site on this map
would be covering the cross country field that the
equestrian center uses on a day to day basis.

HEARING OFFICER ENGLAND: Not the Equine Athletic
Performance Lab, that would be on the east side of Garrett.
It would be the Vet Med Laboratory Facility would be on top of part of the site, that's correct.

MS. FOX: Well that would have a lot of impact on the programs offered by the equestrian center.

HEARING OFFICER ENGLAND: Why don't you state your name and let the, make sure the court reporter gets everything down.

MS. FOX: Hi, my name is Holly Fox, F-O-X. I'm the program manager at the equestrian center.

And what I would like to discuss is the impact that building on that site would mean for the equestrian center. And the staff and the participants, some of who are here tonight, we weren't consulted when this report was being made; but when I got the report I noticed that it referred to this site as an exercise yard. And that let me know that people don't fully understand how much we use the cross country field.

At the equestrian center we have a $300,000 annual budget and we have to be self-supporting. So to do that, we've learned that programs are financially successful for us. And most of those programs incorporate using that cross country field. So it's a very serious concern for us.

Some of the ways we use the cross country field is, in the winter, for health and safety concerns, we turn the horses out there in the winter.
The equestrian center has over a hundred and ten horses on the property, and 65 of those are UCD owned. And we turn the UCD horses out on the field. That helps alleviate the mud conditions and the health hazards. That's why we built the hill out there, and that's why we fenced the property over twenty years ago.

Another way we use the cross country field is for our summer camps which is a $45,000 a year program, income producing program for us. And every week the summer camps go out there. Throughout the week they learn their skills in the arena. And the grand finale is they get to go and practice on the cross country course on a trail ride.

We also have a $3,200 trail ride program going on. We have standing Tuesday night trail rides, and we use that property for that.

We have additional riding lessons that use the cross country field on a weekly basis.

And we have several competitive intercollegiate teams on the property with over a hundred members. The teams are very competitive.

Last weekend a couple of riders went to the National Finals held in that Georgia. One of the Davis riders ended up reserve champion and won the class. And Jen Williams here was tenth in another. So it's a very well, it's a very strong program and we need that field to
continue that way.

We also use the field to rent out for facility rental. That brings us in another $3,000 a year. So you can kind of see the trend here. It's a very financially important piece of property for us. And we also rent it out for national organizations like the United States Pony Club where they can ride there, they get their rankings and ratings out there and things like that.

So when it was referred to as just an exercise yard, that caused my a lot of concern. Because without being part of the reporting process at all, I knew that our input from staff and members and participants just wasn't getting to be known. So that would impact us greatly.

The equestrian center has over 1,900 riders in their lessons per year, and over 600 riders in the trail riding program.

And last year the students got together for a facility and enhancement, facility and campus enhancement initiative, and they voted to improve the physical condition of the equestrian center by about $3 million, and that's all specifically allocated towards facility improvements.

But that just goes to show the support that the students have for the program. And I think they voted on that in good faith knowing that we were going to be able to continue to offer a big, well-rounded program.
So by taking this piece of property away and not replacing it with something just implicates a lot of concern for the equestrian center. So I'd like that to be looked at closely, if possible.

HEARING OFFICER ENGLAND: Thank you.

MS. FOX: Can I add one more thing --

HEARING OFFICER ENGLAND: Sure.

MS. FOX: -- as a potential possible solution? We have in the past been in contact to replace the six acre cross country course that the vet school is interested in developing for a thirteen acre parcel that's just east of the equestrian center, south of the arboretum, and north of the 80 freeway. It's currently used by Animal Science. And we've been in contact with them, and they said, they were in agreement that we could use it if we boarded the two horses that they have out there now, and we're glad to board those horses for them.

If the vet school would be supportive of trying to get us authorization to use that property, that might be a possible solution as well as helping us move the things over there, the hills and the cross country jumps.

We did have a meeting over at Mrak about getting the use of that field and we haven't gotten a response.

Thank you.

HEARING OFFICER ENGLAND: Thank you. Who else
would like to speak.

MS. O'FARRELL: Is that in the environmental report?

HEARING OFFICER ENGLAND: Much of it.

MS. FOX: That piece of property is called B track if you need to know that.

HEARING OFFICER ENGLAND: Anybody else like to agree with, amplify, add new things to what Holly had to say?

MS. O'FARRELL: My name is Eileen O'Farrell, and I've been an editor on campus for about 30 years. My now twenty-year-old daughter and I have both ridden at UCD for a long time.

I don't know what I'd do without my weekly lessons. They're a lot of fun. And I think for myself as staff, and certainly for many, many students who come here because they can bring their horse, it's a very, very important thing for us to do what we can to keep the UCD equestrian center going. And this cross country field is an essential part of this, as Holly said, to our financial stability as well as to our ability to train our horses.

HEARING OFFICER ENGLAND: Thank you.

MS. WILLIAMS: Okay. My name is Jennifer Williams, and I am the president of the UC Davis Equestrian Team. And as Holly said, all of our programs for our team work out of
the cross country course.

We also have our five major fundraisers for the
year are all shows, two of which we need the use of the
cross country field to hold.

We get some support from the University, but it's
not enough to pay for our lessons and our equipment that we
require for our sport.

HEARING OFFICER ENGLAND: Thank you.

MS. FITZGERALD: My name is Kerry Fitzgerald, I'm
the event team coordinator for one of the divisions of the
equestrian team out at UCD. And we are actually putting on
a horse show this Sunday that requires the use of that cross
country field.

We put on two of these schooling horse trials every
year, in the fall and the spring. And it's basically the
one and only major way that the event team makes money to
keep itself sufficient and being able to send its members to
clinics and, you know, providing them fun activities and
ways to improve their riding skills.

And as a private boarder also out at the equestrian
center, and being an eventor, I use that field a lot for
conditioning of my horse. It's very nice to have such close
access to a field where there are cross country, jumps,
obstacles, because there aren't that many left in the area,
and it's nice to have one that's close by so you don't have
to travel three hours with your horse to go practice what
you like to do.

HEARING OFFICER ENGLAND: Thank you. Anymore
people?

MS. DOUGLAS: Hi. My name is Katie Douglas, I am
the Vice President of the equestrian team this year, and
I've been elected the President for the next year.

I'd like to agree with everyone who has spoken
already. The cross country field is very important to all
members of the equestrian team and everyone who rides out at
the equestrian center. And it's a very, it's a big concern
of all of us that this field is going to be taken away.

And we look forward to finding a solution to, for a
new field.

HEARING OFFICER ENGLAND: Thank you.

MS. KAESLIN: My turn?

HEARING OFFICER ENGLAND: Yes.

MS. KAESLIN: My name is Lori Kaeslin,
K-A-E-S-L-I-N. I'm the administrator of the equestrian
center.

And I think that, you know, after listening to
everyone talk and whatnot, you know, we can put forth good
reasons why and how this is going to really impact us, but I
think that the largest piece for us is we are a
self-supporting unit, and we are expected to be
self-supporting. And we stand to lose, with the loss of the
cross country field, we stand to lose upwards of 6,000 to
$10,000 a year in income; which is a very large portion for
us because every, every penny that we make has to go back
into the program in the way of maintenance, maintenance
costs, and increases in fee, and all of those contingency
sorts of things.

And we're also expected to be aligned with the
University, with the University's mission, not only the
University's academic mission, but also Student Affairs'
mission, in that we have to provide, part of what we do
because we are part of campus recreation is we are expected
to provide employment opportunities, places for, where
students can -- I'm talking off the top of my head so --
where students can really work on their leadership skills
and their mentorship skills and they really learn.

What I like to think that we do is we really put
them in a position, those that work for us, to get real life
job experience. And part of that comes with managing a very
large facility, which we are. And losing, you know, seven
and a half acres or so is a pretty big deal for us because
all of that is maintenance, it's the loss of trail rides,
it's the loss of summer campers. We take the trail rides
out there. It's the loss of income from horse shows that we
cannot hold because of that, and those sorts of things.
And so in a sense we will also lose a portion of the expectation of our mission, which is those opportunities to learn and lead and serve the community at large.

And 38 percent of our budget goes back to paying student wages and whatnot.

So it's a big, it's a big deal for us to lose this facility, it really is. And there's not been much activity as of late here to try and help us find another piece for, another site to replace it.

And we really are in need of replacing it, because if we're expected to be self-supporting, but yet they're going to take away, you know, a minimum of $6,000 a year, how are we going to make that up? That's a big deal for us.

So I think that what, what I really would like to see next, since they are taking it away there's nothing we can do about it, track B is the next most likely candidate, and -- I don't know, I think it belongs to Animal Science, is that right? Yeah. But I think something could be worked out to everybody's advantage.

You know, the other part of losing, as Holly said, which I'm going to reiterate a little bit of what she said, was that losing the cross country course also is a safety issue for us, and it's a health issue for the horses.

Because we do turn the horses out there when it becomes really, really muddy. And when it's muddy, I'm not
talking, you know, you put galoshes on and go out, I'm
talking you put knee high rubber boots on because the horses
are this deep literally in mud.

And so what we do is we kick all the horses on that
nice big pasture when it's good and green because they don't
tear it up quite so badly, and they don't, they're not as
prone to some of the health related diseases and injuries
and things that they can get because of the mud in the
pastures.

So, and that's a very big concern for us,
especially, we're probably the largest facility of our kind,
because what we do is we teach lessons. We're a big riding
facility. If you want to come and learn how to ride, we'll
Teach you, right from the start, right from scratch. But I
think we're the largest facility of our kind, next to
Colorado State.

And even there, their college is comparable to
ours, but their program is different, it's aligned with,
they get academic credits and all sorts of those kinds of
things which we don't get because we're strictly a
recreational riding program.

But we are a very large facility, and we're
probably the largest even in California. So we are, even
though we are a little program here on campus, we are a big
deal in the equestrian world. We have a lot of people come
up here and whatnot.

About 38 -- or no, about 58 percent of our participants are students, and we have, probably all fifty of our boarders, well not all of our boarders are students, but probably 70 percent or more are. And they come here because of us.

So it's definitely a big deal. And, you know, I don't want to -- anyway, so I just want to make the point that we would really like to look at B track.

The other thing, there's one more thing that I was going to say and then I'll sit down. But the safety issue that I brought up besides health is that the B track, because of its location, it's a good ten minute walk out there. I walked it out at a brisk pace.

And at least with the cross country course we're always, we're always driving by, we can walk right out there, it's a five minute walk, and so if something happens we're going to hear about it that fast. But out at the B track it's a different story. It's a safety issue for us because we can't see at all out there, we have to go out there on foot. And, you know, if we have a rider fall off how are we going to get, you know, if we have to, an ambulance back there or something like that? So it's a big deal for us.

Anyway, I'm hoping that we can come to some sort of
resolution and work things out so we can get a little piece of the land.

HEARING OFFICER ENGLAND: Thank you. Anybody else wants to add anything, you're more than welcome.

And as I say, we'll reply in, written responses will be in the environmental document, if there aren't any conversations before that, that will happen at a minimum.

So we'll be publishing, we'll be working on that in the coming weeks, and I will make sure that at least, Holly, I'll make sure that you know when the documents are available.

MS. KAESLIN: Just respond to all of us as a whole.

HEARING OFFICER ENGLAND: Okay.

MS. KAESLIN: Not to each one of us.

HEARING OFFICER ENGLAND: We'll actually respond comment by comment, person by person. There may be some, we may put some sort of generic answers together too.

Thank you very much.

(Thereupon the foregoing hearing was concluded at 7:25 p.m.).
CERTIFICATE OF CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTER

I, DORIS M. BAILEY, a Certified Shorthand Reporter and Registered Professional Reporter, in and for the State of California, do hereby certify that I am a disinterested person herein; that I reported the foregoing hearing in shorthand writing; and thereafter caused my shorthand writing to be transcribed by computer.

I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for any of the parties to said proceedings, nor in any way interested in the outcome of said proceedings.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand as a Certified Shorthand Reporter and Registered Professional Reporter on the 30th day of May, 2000.

Doris Bailey

Doris M. Bailey, CSR, RPR, CRR
Certified Shorthand Reporter
License Number 8751
Responses to Comments Received at the Public Hearings

1. Regarding the potential effects of the project on the Equestrian Center program, please see Master Response M-3. In response to the comment concerning the use of the cross country site by the Equestrian Center, the following sentence on page 2-1 of the Draft EIR will be revised as follows:

   Although the site is essentially flat, it has been substantially altered into an equestrian cross country riding course complete with a small hill, man-made obstacles, and jumps, and is also used by the Equestrian Center to exercise horses.

2. Regarding potential replacement sites, please see Master Responses M-2 and M-3.

3. Comment noted. Please see Master Responses M-1 and M-3.

4. Comment noted. Please see Master Responses M-1 and M-3.

5. Comment noted. Please see Master Responses M-1 and M-3.

6. Comment noted. Please see Master Responses M-1 and M-3.

7. Comment noted. Please see Master Responses M-1 and M-3.
SECTION SIX

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