



South Coast
Air Quality Management District

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Ms. Janet Dixon, Director jdixon@rusd.k12.ca.us
Planning and Development
Riverside Unified School District
3070 Washington Street
Riverside, CA 92504

**Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (Draft MND) for the Proposed Arlington High School
Athletic Facilities Master Plan**

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the above-mentioned document. The following comments are meant as guidance for the Lead Agency and should be incorporated into the Final CEQA document.

In the project description, the lead agency proposes to increase athletic activities by constructing new facilities on 26 acres located in the northern portion of the existing school campus. This proposed project area is currently used for alternative education purposes and is bordered to the north by an active railroad right-of-way that has diesel-fueled train engines passing the site during school hours. Since the California State Air Resources Board has classified diesel particulate matter as a toxic air contaminant, the lead agency should consider evaluating the potential health risks from the train diesel emissions to those using the proposed facilities. The AQMD also recommends that the lead agency consider mitigation measures such as providing buffer zones or using alternative site configurations like placing parking lots close to the rail line in order to minimize student exposure.

Please provide the AQMD with written responses to all comments contained herein prior to the adoption of the Final MND. The AQMD staff is available to work with the Lead Agency to address these issues and any other questions that may arise. Please contact Gordon Mize, Air Quality Specialist – CEQA Section, at (909) 396-3302, if you have any questions regarding these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ian V. MacMillan".

Ian MacMillan
Program Supervisor, Inter-Governmental Review
Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources

IM:GM

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