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Update to the Public Regarding Status of Environmental Review Process for Proposed Carmel High School Stadium Lights Project

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), Carmel Unified School District commenced the environmental review process for its proposed Carmel High School Stadium Lights Project ("Project") last spring, and is steadily working towards completing this process in a manner that effectively balances environmental concerns with the needs of its educational program. As the District strives to maintain transparency and keep the public informed throughout this process, the District wishes to provide the following update to the public and community regarding the status of its CEQA review for the proposed Project.

The District has a responsibility to engage in a process that facilitates informed decision making and public participation, and takes that responsibility very seriously. To date, in addition to holding duly-noticed public meetings to solicit public feedback in both May and September of 2021, the District circulated the Project's Draft Environmental Impact Report ("EIR"), an objective public disclosure document, for public review and comment between August 13, 2021 and September 27, 2021. Since that time, the District has continued to engage in public outreach beyond the requirements of CEQA, meeting with neighbors, governmental agencies, and other members of the community in an effort to address concerns specific to the proposed Project, as well as unrelated concerns outside the scope of the CEQA process.

The District has carefully considered all public input received, and is currently in the process of revising the draft EIR to incorporate new information and make changes to the proposed Project in response to feedback from the community. In order to ensure that public participation in the environmental review process is meaningful, **the District will recirculate the draft EIR for a second round of public review and comment once the revisions are complete.**

It is anticipated that the draft EIR will be ready for recirculation in late spring/early summer 2022. At the appropriate time, the District will provide public notice of the availability of the revised EIR, including the beginning and end dates of the second round of public review and comment period, in accordance with the notice requirements of CEQA.

Additionally, the Superintendent will be conducting a survey of students, parents, and staff on the options we have in terms of late start and lights reviewing all possibilities for current and future schedules based upon the possibility of installing stadium lights. The District values the community's continued interest in the proposed Project and looks forward to finding solutions.