

4. SCHOOLS

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Within the City of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) provides public education for grades K-12. There are approximately 426 elementary schools, 74 middle schools, 49 high schools, and 20 Magnet schools.⁷⁷ In addition, the LAUSD also operates multilevel, special education schools, and opportunity and continuation schools. The LAUSD provides public education partially or entirely within 26 incorporated Los Angeles County cities. The total enrollment for the LAUSD for the 2001-2002 school year was 736,675.⁷⁸

The Project Site is in an attendance area serviced by Calahan Elementary School, located approximately 1.35 miles east of the Site; Nobel Middle School, located approximately 1.5 miles north-northeast of the Site; and Cleveland High School, located approximately 1.9 miles south of the Site. The location of these schools is shown on **Section IV, K: Public Services, Figure 23: Public Facilities Map. Table 45: Schools** summarizes the characteristics of each of these school facilities.

TABLE 45
SCHOOLS

School	Calahan Elementary	Nobel Middle School	Cleveland High School
Address	18722 Knapp St	9950 Tampa Ave	8140 Vanalden Ave
Distance from site	1.35 miles	1.46 miles	1.88 miles
Calendar	Traditional	Traditional	Traditional
2001-2002 Enrollment	480	1,365	2,112
Magnet ¹	no	yes	yes
2001-2002 Magnet Enrollment	0	837	847
Total 2001-2002 Enrollment	480	2,202	2,959
Capacity	500	2,238	3,831
Surplus/Deficiency	20	36	872

¹Magnet programs are voluntary integration opportunities available to students in grades K-12 in the LAUSD that emphasize a particular subject area, specialty, or teaching approach such as alternative and/or gifted/high ability programs, as well as basic academic skills. There are over 130 magnet programs located throughout the District.

SOURCE: LAUSD website, <http://www.lausd.k12.ca.us>.

⁷⁷<http://search.lausd.k12.ca.us/cgi-bin/fccgi.exe?w3exec=school0>. July 10, 2002. Includes Magnet Schools.

⁷⁸<http://search.lausd.k12.ca.us/cgi-bin/fccgi.exe?w3exec=school0>. July 10, 2002. Includes Magnet Schools.

All three of the attendance area schools currently operate on a traditional, one-track school calendar year. As shown in **Table 45: Schools**, Calahan Elementary School has an operating capacity of 500 students that adequately accommodates the current enrollment of 480. Nobel Middle School has an operating capacity of 2,238 that adequately accommodates the current enrollment of 2,202. Cleveland High School has an operating capacity of 3,831 that can accommodate the current enrollment of 2,959 students.

THRESHOLDS OF SIGNIFICANCE

According to the City of Los Angeles CEQA Thresholds Guide, the determination of significance shall be made on a case-by-case basis, considering the following factors:

- The population increase resulting from the proposed project, based on the increase in residential units or square footage of non-residential floor area;
- The demand for school services anticipated at the time of project buildout compared to the expected level of service available. Consider, as applicable, scheduled improvement to LAUSD services (facilities, equipment and personnel) and the project's proportional contribution to the demand;
- Whether (and the degree to which) accommodation of the increased demand would require construction of new facilities, a major reorganization of students or classrooms, major revisions to the school calendar (such as year-round sessions), or other actions which would create a temporary or permanent impact on the school(s); and
- Whether the project includes features that would reduce the demand for school services (e.g., on-site school facilities or direct support to LAUSD).

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

School service needs are related to the size of the residential population, the geographic area served, and community characteristics. The school-aged residential population in the school attendance area could be affected by the construction of residential units associated with Development Scenarios 3 and 4. However, the geographic area served and community characteristics are not expected to change as a result of the proposed Project.⁷⁹ For planning purposes, all condominium units were assumed to have two bedrooms.

⁷⁹Phone conversation between Greg Langan, LAUSD Demographics Department and Carrie Riordan of Planning Associates, Inc. July 10, 2002.

Project Site

The proposed senior housing units are intended for seniors who require daily medical and living assistance and therefore, will not generate school-aged children. According to school generation rates provided by the L.A. CEQA Thresholds Guide, the condominium units proposed at the Project Site would have the potential to generate a maximum of 21 new students: nine elementary school students, six middle school students, and six high school students, as shown in **Table 46: Projected Project Site Student Generation**.

TABLE 46
PROJECTED PROJECT SITE STUDENT GENERATION¹

Scenario	Elementary School	Middle School	High School
Scenario 1: Retail	0	0	0
Scenario 2: Office	0	0	0
Scenario 3: Retail/Residential	9	6	6
Scenario 4: Office/Residential	9	6	6

¹Assumes a worst-case scenario of all two bedroom condominiums constructed in a high income area. This results in a generation rate of .03 elementary school students, .02 middle school students, and .02 high school students per two bedroom condominium.

As shown in **Table 47: Projected Project Site School Enrollment**, both Calahan and Nobel schools are anticipated to have the necessary capacity to accommodate the maximum number of potential students generated by the proposed Project at the Project Site. Therefore, the proposed increase of nine and six new students, respectively, would result in a less than significant impact to Calahan Elementary School and Nobel Middle School, respectively.

TABLE 47
PROJECTED PROJECT SITE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Enrollment	Calahan Elementary	Nobel Middle School	Cleveland High School
2001-2002 Actual ¹	480	2,202	2,959
2005-2006 Projected ¹	331	1,735	4,227
Project Contribution ²	9	6	6
2005-2006 Projected with Project	340	1,741	4,233
Operating Capacity ¹	500	2,238	3,831
Surplus/Deficiency	160	497	(402)

¹Source: Fax from Ray Dippel, LAUSD Office of Environmental Health & Safety, to Carrie Riordan of Planning Associates, Inc., July 10, 2002.

²Based on potential project student generation shown in Table 66: Projected Student Generation Project Site.

Cleveland High School is projected to have approximately 4,233 students enrolled by the year 2005 with the proposed Project at the Project Site, 402 students above the operating capacity of 3,831 students, as shown in **Table 47: Projected Project Site School Enrollment**. However, as within other LAUSD schools, Cleveland High School could begin to operate on a four-track, year-round school calendar, as opposed to the current one-track, traditional calendar. The four-track, year-round calendar allows for an increase of approximately 25 percent in the enrollment at a particular school annually. Implementation of a four-track, year round calendar at Cleveland High School could increase from 3,831 students to 4,789 students, which would accommodate the 2005 enrollment projection of 4,233 students. Further, with the incorporation of the proposed mitigation measure, the proposed Project at the Project Site would result in a less than significant impact to Cleveland High School.

The potential generation of 21 students as a result of the proposed Project at the Project Site would not result in a demand for school services that would not be met by LAUSD facilities available at the time of Project buildout. Further, the potential student generation would not require construction of new school facilities. Therefore, the proposed Project at the Project Site will result in a less than significant impact on school facilities or services.

Add Area

According to school generation rates provided by the L.A. CEQA Thresholds Guide, the proposed condominium units in the Add Area would have the potential to generate a maximum of seven new students: three elementary school students, two middle school students, and two high school students as shown in **Table 48: Projected Add Area Student Generation**.⁸⁰

TABLE 48
PROJECTED ADD AREA STUDENT GENERATION¹

Scenario	Elementary School	Middle School	High School
Scenario 1: Retail	0	0	0
Scenario 2: Office	0	0	0
Scenario 3: Retail/Residential	3	2	2
Scenario 4: Office/Residential	3	2	2

¹Assumes a worst-case scenario of all two bedroom condominiums constructed in a high income area. This results in a generation rate of .03 elementary school students, .02 middle school students, and .02 high school students per two bedroom condominium.

⁸⁰Assumes a worst-case scenario of all two bedroom condominiums constructed in a high income area. This results in a generation rate of .03 elementary school students, .02 middle school students, and .02 high school students per two bedroom condominium.

As shown in **Table 49: Projected Add Area School Enrollment**, both Calahan and Nobel schools are anticipated to have the necessary capacity to accommodate the maximum number of students that would be generated under the development scenarios analyzed for the Add Area. Therefore, the increase of three and two new students, respectively, would result in a less than significant impact to Calahan Elementary School and Nobel Middle School.

Cleveland High School is projected to have approximately 4,229 students enrolled by 2005 including students generated by development scenarios analyzed for the Add Area, 398 students above the operating capacity of 3,831 students, as shown in **Table 49: Projected Add Area School Enrollment**. However, as within other LAUSD schools, Cleveland High School could begin to operate on a four-track, year-round school calendar, as opposed to the current one-track, traditional calendar. The four-track, year-round calendar allows for an increase of approximately 25 percent in the enrollment at a particular school annually. Implementation of a four-track, year round calendar at Cleveland High School could increase from 3,831 students to 4,789 students, which would accommodate the 2005 enrollment projection of 4,229 students. Further, with incorporation of the proposed mitigation measure, the development scenarios analyzed for the Add Area would result in a less than significant impact to Cleveland High School.

TABLE 49
PROJECTED ADD AREA SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Enrollment	Calahan Elementary	Nobel Middle School	Cleveland High School
2001-2002 Actual ¹	480	2,202	2,959
2005-2006 Projected ¹	331	1,735	4,227
Project Contribution ²	3	2	2
2005-2006 Projected with Project	334	1,737	4,229
Operating Capacity ¹	500	2,238	3,831
Surplus/Deficiency	160	497	(402)

¹Fax from Ray Dippel, LAUSD Office of Environmental Health & Safety, to Carrie Riordan of Planning Associates, Inc. July 10, 2002.
²Based on potential project student generation shown in Table 68: Projected Student Generation Add Area.

The potential generation of seven students as a result of development scenarios analyzed for the Add Area would not result in a demand for school services that would not be met by LAUSD facilities available at the time of Project buildout. Further, the potential student generation would not require construction of new school facilities. Therefore, development scenarios analyzed for the Add Area will result in a less than significant impact on school facilities or services.

MITIGATION MEASURES

Although a significant impact to school facilities in the project area has not been identified, environmental impacts may result on school facilities as a result of development scenarios analyzed for the Project Site and Add Area. However, incorporation of the following mitigation measures will help reduce any potential impacts on schools in the area.

63. The developer will pay school fees as required by the City of Los Angeles. (O, C, R)

LEVEL OF IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION

Less than significant.

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Related Projects

Of the eleven related development projects in the area, only two include a residential component that might have a significant impact on schools: Porter Ranch (No. 4) and Deer Lake Ranch (No. 5). However, due to the location of both of these communities north of the 118 Freeway (SR-118), neither community is located in the same school attendance area as the project area. Further, each related project will pay the required school fees. Therefore, related projects will result in a less than significant impact to schools.

Proposed Project, Add Area, and Related Projects

The potential cumulative increase in students as a result of the proposed Project at the Project Site and development scenarios analyzed for the Add Area is approximately 28 students. Although two related projects have residential elements that could affect school services in the area, as discussed above, neither of the two related projects are within the same school attendance area as the Project Site and Add Area. Therefore, the related projects identified as having the potential to impact school facilities are not included in the cumulative impact analysis.

Based on the current and projected attendance and enrollment rates at each of the attendance area schools (Calahan Elementary School, Nobel Middle School, Cleveland High School) as shown in **Table 47: Projected Project Site School Enrollment** and **Table 49: Projected Add Area School Enrollment**, it is anticipated that the potential increase of 28 students could be accommodated. Therefore, a significant cumulative impact on school facilities or services in the project area is not anticipated.