

# Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report

**To:** Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties

**From:** Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District

**Subject:** Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report in Compliance with Title 14, Sections 15082(a), 15103, and 15375 of the California Administrative Code. The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the proposed Project. SMMUSD has prepared an Initial Study and will prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Project identified below:

**Project Title:** **Santa Monica High School Science and Technology Building and Site Improvements Project**

**Agencies:** SMMUSD requests your agency's views on the scope and content of the environmental information relevant to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed Project, in accordance with California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15082(b). Your agency may need to use the EIR when considering any permit or other approval that your agency must issue for the Project.

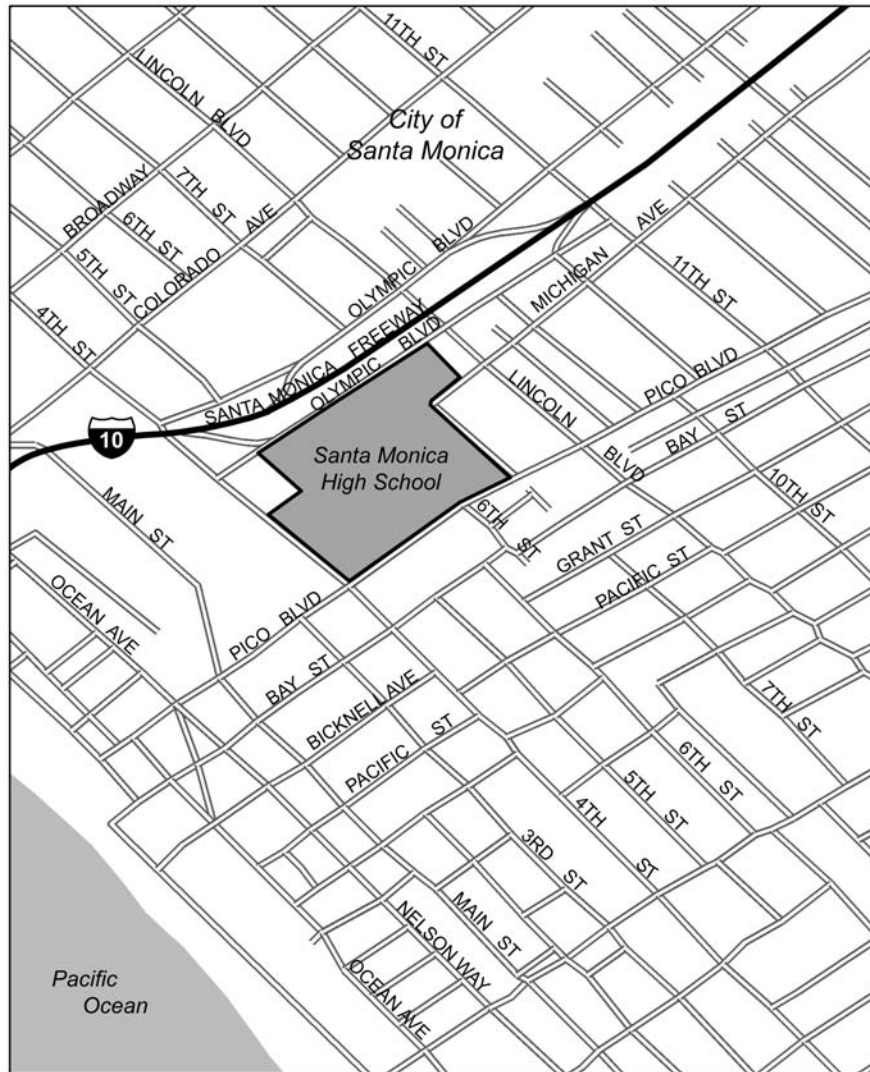
**Organizations and Interested Parties:** SMMUSD requests your comments regarding the environmental issues associated with construction and operation of the proposed Project.

**Project Location:** The Project site is located at 601 Pico Boulevard in the City of Santa Monica in the County of Los Angeles and is located generally south of the intersection of Olympic Boulevard and Lincoln Boulevard, approximately 100 feet south of Interstate 10 (I-10, Santa Monica Freeway), which becomes State Route 1 (SR-1, Pacific Coast Highway) approximately 800 feet southwest of the Project site.

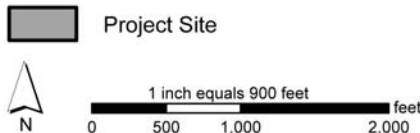
The proposed Project would occur on the northern portion of the existing 26-acre Santa Monica High School campus. The Project site occupies approximately 5.2 acres bordered by Olympic Boulevard along the northern boundary, 6<sup>th</sup> Street along the western boundary, the rest of the Santa Monica High School campus along the southern boundary, and commercial and residential parcels along the eastern boundary, which separate the Project site from Lincoln Boulevard. The reconfiguration would occur on the northeastern portion of the campus with additional infrastructure improvements occurring throughout the entire campus. The location of the Santa Monica High School Campus is shown in Figure 1.

**Project Description:** The proposed Project would consist of a reconfiguration of the northern portion of the existing Santa Monica High School campus. The proposed Project would specifically consist of the demolition of the existing 88,000-square-foot two-story Science and Technology Buildings, a 253-space parking lot, and softball field and construction of a new 84,000-square-foot, three-story Science and Technology Building, replacement parking lot, and softball field in a reconfigured site layout. A formal perimeter would be created along 7<sup>th</sup> Court Alley and Olympic Boulevard. All vehicle access to the Project site would be re-routed to 6<sup>th</sup> Street, with an enhanced pedestrian entrance along Michigan Avenue. A drop-off and pick-up lane would be provided along Olympic Boulevard. Campus-wide updates to the fire alarm and electrical systems would be included, and dependent on funding: the existing football field would be resurfaced with synthetic turf, the south gymnasium ceiling would be improved, and ventilation for the gymnasium and swimming pool locker rooms would also be improved.

**Potential Environmental Effects:** Based on the Initial Study prepared for the proposed Project, SMMUSD has determined that an EIR is the appropriate level of environmental documentation. The EIR analysis will include the provision of alternatives, and topic areas will include: aesthetics, air quality, cultural resources, hazards/hazardous materials, land use/planning, noise, recreation, and transportation/traffic.



Source: ESRI Data & Maps 2005



**Figure 1**  
**Project Location**

**Scoping Meeting:** SMMUSD will hold a public scoping meeting on Tuesday, June 23, 2009 at 6:30 p.m., at Santa Monica High School Cafeteria at 601 Pico Boulevard, Santa Monica, CA 90405. Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties are welcome to attend and comment on the issues to be addressed in the EIR.

**Document Availability:** The Initial Study is available for review at the following locations:

- Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Boulevard, Santa Monica, CA 90401
- Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, 1651 16th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404
- Online at the SMMUSD website (<http://www.smmusd.org/measureBB/index.html>).

**Agency/Public Comments:** SMMUSD will accept written comments from June 9, 2009 to July 9, 2009. Please indicate a contact person for your agency or organization and send your responses and comments to: Ms. Janece L. Maez, Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, 1651 Sixteenth Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404. Your comments may also be sent by fax to (310) 581-6720 or by e-mail to [measurebb@smmusd.org](mailto:measurebb@smmusd.org) (please include the name of the project in the subject heading). If you require additional information, please contact Ms. Maez, at (310) 450-8338.