

Appendix A - Comment Letters Received

**ORCHARD HILLS™
VILLAGE***Sent via Electronic Mail*

October 20, 2025

Kathleen Gil
Facilities Planner, IUSD
c/o Irvine Unified School District Board of Education
Irvine Unified School District
[REDACTED]

RE: Community Opposition – Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Improvement Project (Draft Environmental Impact Report)

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board of Education,

On behalf of the Orchard Hills Village II Community Association (OHVII), representing 809 homes directly bordering Northwood High School on three sides, we respectfully submit this formal objection to the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Improvement Project.

This letter supplements and reinforces OHVII's prior correspondence dated November 22, 2024, which registered our initial objection and requested direct notification of any CEQA-related actions. O1-1
Unfortunately, those issues remain unresolved, and the current DEIR fails to provide a meaningful or adequate evaluation of the project's true impacts on the community most directly affected by it – the immediate neighboring residents of Northwood High. Instead of focusing on real, site-specific conditions and foreseeable effects on adjacent homes, the DEIR relies on generalized assumptions that overlook the very factors CEQA is intended to address.

I. Primary Community Concerns

Orchard Hills Village II is the only non-gated community within the greater Orchard Hills development, leaving our residents uniquely exposed to illegal parking, late-night traffic, and student trespassing, among other concerns. These risks are not hypothetical, they are ongoing, well-documented problems that the DEIR fails to acknowledge or address. O1-2

1. Noise Intrusion and Evening Disturbance – Residents already hear the school's marching band between 7:00 a.m. and 8:30 a.m., a daytime sound tolerated as part of normal school activity. If that is already clearly audible, the noise during evening football games, with an award-winning 300-member band, cheering crowds, and amplified PA systems, will be exponentially louder and far more disruptive. The DEIR's noise analysis is materially flawed. It relies on a single monitoring point along Portola Parkway rather than on-field measurements within our community and fails to model actual game-day peak events. By dismissing these impacts as "less than significant," the DEIR grossly understates the disturbance this project would cause. O1-3

2. Light Pollution and Visual Intrusion – Four 70-foot light poles with 12 fixtures each will cast glare directly into nearby homes, including second-story windows along our streets, particularly those abutting Twisted Oak, Bandana, and Stallion. Our community enjoys scenic hillside views, which the DEIR fails to acknowledge or protect. O1-4

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As an example, Section 3.1.2 (“Existing Conditions”) of the DEIR analyzes view sheds and vistas in the City of Placentia, a location entirely unrelated to this project. This is not a minor clerical error. It is a glaring example of a pro forma EIR that was never intended to assess actual on-site conditions or real-world impacts. The inclusion of irrelevant geography demonstrates that the report was prepared with a template-based, non-site-specific approach lacking any genuine evaluation of the physical environment or the surrounding residential community. It is therefore an extremely flawed study that fails to identify, quantify, or mitigate any of the visual and lighting impacts on the neighborhoods most directly affected by this project. Moreover, the DEIR conducts no analysis of candle-lumen intensity or ambient light spillage, another fundamental omission that disregards our residential conditions. These lights will create widespread ambient glow and degrade the nighttime environment.

O1-5

3. Traffic, Parking, and Safety Risks – Our community already experiences unauthorized student parking, cut-through traffic, and pedestrian hazards. Parents are also using our private streets to drop off their students, further compounding congestion and safety concerns. Nighttime events will significantly worsen these conditions. The DEIR incorrectly assumes that some attendees will use “mass transit,” yet no OCTA bus route serves Portola Parkway, virtually all attendees will drive.

O1-6

As a real-world example, the football game between Orange High School and Northwood High School on Friday, October 17, 2025 (Northwood’s Homecoming), held at Irvine High, overflowed with cars filling the entire dirt lot along the I-5 freeway. The traffic control supervisor onsite confirmed that attendance far exceeded projections, with 500–700 vehicles instead of 300. The DEIR fails to consider these firsthand experiences, let alone evaluate peak impacts like this event.

4. Cumulative Growth and Neighborhood Change – When Northwood High opened in 1999, surrounding development was minimal. Today, some 3,500 of the 4,000 approved homes have been built for Orchard Hills and adjoining communities. The DEIR fails to reflect this changed environment, relying instead on outdated baseline assumptions inconsistent with CEQA §15125(a). Moreover, the avocado orchards immediately abutting the school’s sports fields are slated to be turned over to OHVII by the Irvine Company within the next several years under an existing agreement. Once transferred, these areas will become part of the residential community, eliminating the current open-space buffer and bringing our community even closer to the field, further amplifying light, noise, and traffic impacts that the DEIR fails to evaluate.

O1-7

5. Unresolved Trespassing, Drop-Offs, and Property Damage – For years, OHVII has dealt with illegal parking, student trespassing, and property damage to association-maintained areas. We have spent nearly \$100,000 on fencing, replanting, and security, while also contending with parents dropping off students inside our private streets. Despite our repeated communications with Northwood administrators over the past several years, these issues remain unresolved. We expect IUSD to address these problems as a good neighbor would, not expand activities that exacerbate them. This project will only add insult to injury, deepening an already untenable situation for nearby residents.

O1-8

6. No Demonstrated Need for the Project – Northwood administrators have confirmed they did not request this project. Most athletic practices and games occur immediately after school, not at night. For over 25 years, the school has successfully operated using existing daylight facilities and shared facilities with other schools. Installing permanent lighting and a new PA system introduces unnecessary costs and negative community impacts, a solution seeking to solve a non-existing problem.

O1-9



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7. Quality of Life and Property Value Impacts – This project will undoubtedly reduce our community's overall quality of life, introducing continuous traffic congestion, illegal parking, noise, and trespassing that will necessitate higher HOA fees to manage. These recurring disturbances will have a direct and adverse impact on property values.

O1-10

Before pursuing new capital projects, IUSD must first address the current problems, including minimum adequate staffing to cite fence climbers, increased fence height, deterrent vegetation along Northwood's property line, and other preventative measures to reduce hazards and liability exposure. These are known, documented issues that the DEIR completely ignores. We expect any satisfactory mitigation to include measures that actively involve and engage our community in their design and enforcement. If this DEIR is not substantially corrected, OHVII is prepared to pursue every recourse available to safeguard the welfare and property interests of our community.

O1-11

II. Legal Deficiencies Under CEQA

The DEIR is inadequate and noncompliant with CEQA for the following reasons:

O1-12

- Improper Baseline – Fails to represent existing residential conditions (§15125(a)).
- Segmentation of Related and Future Impacts – Violates CEQA §15165 by omitting foreseeable future components such as potential PA system expansion, constituting unlawful segmentation of related activities.
- Failure to Analyze Cumulative Impacts – Ignores combined effects of lighting, PA operations, and traffic (§15130).
- Insufficient Mitigation and Monitoring – Lacks enforceable standards for decibel limits, light spillage, parking control, and community oversight.
- Deficient Public Notice and Outreach – Despite OHVII's written request, the Association and other directly adjacent homeowners were not properly notified or engaged regarding the DEIR (§15087(a)).

O1-13

O1-14

O1-15

O1-16

III. Constructive Alternatives and Requested Actions

IUSD should maintain the existing, proven operating model in place since 1999. Portola High School and Irvine High School already possess fully lighted athletic fields, originally designed and intended to accommodate Northwood High's nighttime athletic use. Northwood football played at Portola High for approximately two years before returning to Irvine High. Continuing to use these shared facilities, as has been successfully practiced for over two decades and remains the most logical, cost-efficient, and least disruptive solution for both students and surrounding residents.

O1-17

Should IUSD wish to explore new athletic field opportunities in the future, the District should engage with the City of Irvine regarding the planned Gateway Preserve Park (former All American Asphalt site). That location could potentially support expanded athletic programming while avoiding residential conflicts entirely.

O1-18

If the District continues to pursue this project at Northwood High, it must begin with, but not be limited to:

- Recirculating the DEIR to correct baseline, analytical, and notification deficiencies.
- Conducting supplemental studies on noise, lighting (including candle-lumen levels), and traffic conditions based on actual game-night data.

O1-19



ORCHARD HILLS™ VILLAGE

- Adopting enforceable and satisfactory mitigation measures—including curfews, shielding, full-time security/towing service guarding our communities and private streets during all night activities, community participation, and ongoing monitoring.
- Establishing a Community Impact Mitigation Agreement with OHVII and, if appropriate, the City of Irvine before any project approval.

O1-19 cont

While we value collaboration and recognize IUSD's role in serving students, we are equally committed to protecting the well-being and property interests of our residents. Should the District proceed without addressing these deficiencies, OHVII is prepared to pursue all legal remedies under CEQA.

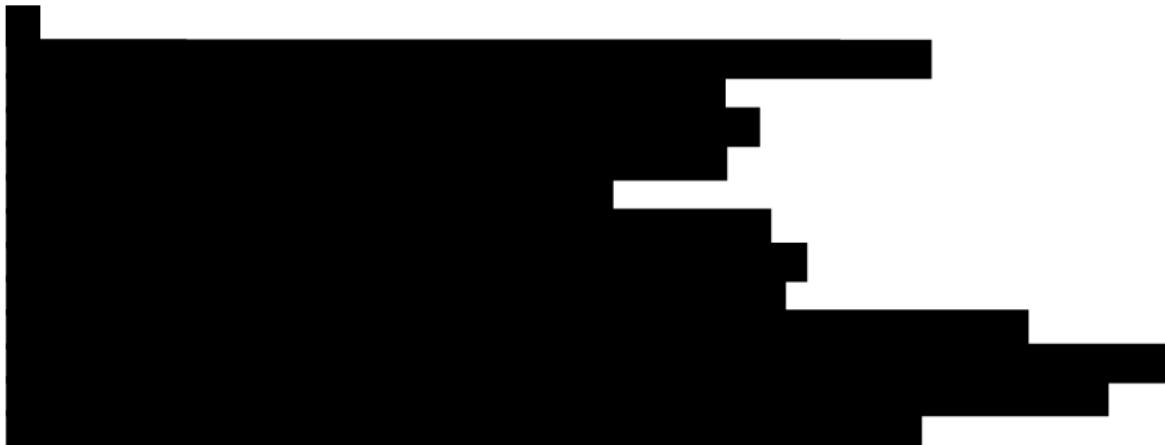
O1-20

Respectfully submitted,

Orchard Hills Village II Community Association



John Duong
President, Board of Directors
[Redacted]



Kathleen Gil

From:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject:

[EXTERNAL] Comments - RE: Draft EIR, Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Project

Attachments:

LanesEnd Letter to IUSD - 11-10-25.pdf

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil, President McEwen, and Members of the IUSD Board,

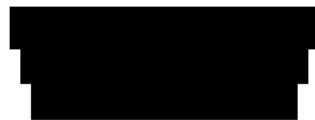
Please find the enclosed letter from the LanesEnd Community Association regarding the Draft Environmental Report (EIR) for the proposed Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Improvement Project. This letter represents the Board's formal public comment and outlines our community's concerns with the Draft EIR and the significant impacts this project would have on surrounding neighborhoods. We respectfully request that this correspondence be included in the official public record for the Draft EIR.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Dave Petka

President, Board of Directors
LanesEnd Community Association



November 10, 2025

Irvine Unified School District Board of Education
c/o Kathleen Gil, Facilities Planner
[REDACTED]

RE: *Public Comment – Opposition to Draft EIR, Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Improvement Project*

Dear President McEwen and Members of the Board,

I am writing on behalf of the LanesEnd community in Northwood Pointe. We recently became aware of IUSD's intention to install stadium lights and loud amplified speakers at Northwood High School. Our Board of Directors met on November 4 and voted unanimously to oppose the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR), given its many flaws and the significant impacts this project would have on nearby residents.

O2-1

Our community is located directly across Portola Parkway from the Northwood High School football field. The Northwood Pointe neighborhood was developed just before the high school opened in 1999. At that time, IUSD made a conscious decision not to include stadium lights, amplified speakers, or bleacher seating because of the school's close proximity to surrounding homes. During my twenty-two years serving on the LanesEnd Board (as well as the 1,930-home Northwood Pointe Master Association), I have witnessed the growth of our community, which today consists of families with young children, multi-generational households with elderly parents, and retirees like myself, many of whom have invested their life savings into their homes and this neighborhood. Installing these lights and loudspeakers would directly expose our residents to intrusive lighting, noise, and traffic. The Draft EIR fails to properly evaluate these effects on adjacent neighborhoods, particularly those south of Portola Parkway.

O2-2

We also question the absence of critical analyses in the Draft EIR, which make the document procedurally and substantively deficient. For example, why is a public address system needed if, at face value, the main purpose is limited to practices? Even so, what athletic practices extend past 7:30 p.m.? Regarding parking, Section 2.4.4 of the Draft EIR falls short of basic parking and circulation standards and omits any count of available visitor parking. Table 2-2 is misleading,

O2-3

O2-4



estimating a maximum of only 250 attendees for football events while ignoring the 300-member Northwood Marching Band, visiting teams, coaches, and fans. This example, among many other non-logical assumptions, illustrates the Draft EIR's failure to properly assess the project's true environmental impacts and demonstrates that it would not meet the standards required under CEQA.

O2-4 cont.

Equally concerning is the omission of any evaluation of residential neighborhoods that would be directly impacted. The Draft EIR fails to acknowledge or measure the effects of lighting and noise on nearby communities such as LanesEnd, Collage, and Georgetown, all of which front along Portola Parkway and are in direct line of sight to the proposed field improvements. The absence of data or measurements from these areas undermines the credibility and purpose of an environmental review that is meant to protect surrounding residents. Such oversight further demonstrates how procedurally and substantively deficient this Draft EIR is and contradicts the very intent of the EIR process, which is to ensure transparency and accountability in evaluating real environmental impacts. In this case, the report is completely absent of any analysis reflecting real-world effects on residential neighborhoods, as if our communities do not exist.

O2-5

The lack of sincere community outreach and engagement only compounds these deficiencies and raises mistrust. Nearby neighborhoods were never meaningfully consulted or notified early in the process, despite being the most directly affected. The EIR's analysis is also built on incomplete and misleading assumptions. It provides no baseline data from actual residential vantage points and no comparative analysis between current ambient conditions and projected peak-use events. By avoiding any analysis of lighting, noise, traffic, and cumulative disturbance where the impacts would be most significant, the Draft EIR reaches its predetermined conclusion of "no significant impact." That conclusion is invalid precisely because the report fails to analyze the very conditions that would demonstrate significant and lasting harm to the surrounding communities.

O2-6

O2-7

We are deeply concerned that the analysis understates the true impacts on our community and does not reflect the reality of what large-scale evening events would mean for local residents. The introduction of nighttime sports and amplified sound will fundamentally alter the quiet residential character of our neighborhood and diminish the quality of life for hundreds of families. During my twenty-six years in the Northwood Pointe community (and over forty-two years owning homes in Irvine), I have never encountered a proposal with this magnitude of potential negative impact and threat to the Northwood Pointe neighborhoods.

O2-8

Perhaps most concerning of all is the inclusion of non-school-related activities in the project scope, as described in the Draft EIR's Notice of Completion filed with the State on September 23, 2025. The Draft EIR provides no clear definitions or analysis of such uses, leaving open the possibility of unrelated events that could greatly expand the frequency and intensity of field use. The absence of this clarity is deeply troubling. It raises legitimate questions about the District's long-term intentions and undermines the community's trust in the stated purpose of the project.

O2-9



We strongly urge IUSD to remove this element entirely from the project to eliminate any doubt or future misuse of the facilities beyond school purposes.

O2-9 cont.

We respectfully request that the District withdraw the current Draft EIR and conduct a thorough reevaluation that fully accounts for the proximity of the LanesEnd community and surrounding neighborhoods. We also ask that IUSD engage directly with affected residents before taking any further action to permanently alter the use and intensity of the Northwood High School athletic facilities. We have always supported the work of Northwood High School and IUSD in the academic arena; however, on this matter of planning and community impact, the District must engage with the residents who are also its constituents.

O2-10

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your service to our students and community. We trust the Board will carefully consider the serious and lasting consequences this project poses to nearby homeowners.

Sincerely,

David Petka/

President, Board of Directors
LanesEnd Community Association

Board of Directors (Immediate Past President)
Northwood Pointe Master Association

CC:

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Date: Friday, October 17, 2025 5:34:30 PM

NHS Stadium Lights & Speakers

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Katie, Jeff, and other board members,

I'm a resident of the Orchard Hills 2 community in Irvine, directly adjacent to NHS. I1-1

While I am also a parent of an NHS student, I'm concerned about your upcoming stadium lights and speaker project that may have the following impact on my community:

1. Traffic: Night games will bring heavy evening traffic through our streets. I1-2
2. Parking: As the only non-gated community in Orchard Hills, OHVII will absorb event overflow parking—adding to the illegal student parking already occurring daily.
3. Trespassing and Property Damage: Students frequently cross through our landscaped areas, causing nearly \$100,000 in repairs and security costs. Night events will invite more property damage and costs, which could increase HOA assessment dues. I1-3
4. Light Pollution: Stadium lights will be visible across OHVII and as far as Corte Bella. I3-4
5. Noise: Night events will bring amplified announcements, cheering, and two marching bands (home and away teams) disrupting evening quiet. I3-5
6. Lack of Transparency: When Northwood was built in 1999, IUSD chose not to install lights to protect nearby homes. Now, with over 4,000 homes in Orchard Hills—including 809 in OHVII—IUSD has failed to extend that same consideration to our community. I3-6

I urge you to reconsider the breadth of the project and put in mitigating measures to address the concerns noted above which are shared by my fellow community residents.

I am unable to attend the meeting on the 20th, but please take into account my concerns above.” I3-7

Best Regards,

Vivian Shih

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Saturday, October 18, 2025 11:04:07 AM

[REDACTED] re: NHS Stadium light, noise pollution and traffic concerns

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Greetings to our city leaders!

I am a resident of the Orchard Hills 2 community in Irvine, directly adjacent to NHS.

I2-1

We are concerned about your upcoming stadium lights and speaker project that may have the following impact on my community.

We have had all our kids in athletics on the wonderful track and field at Northwood, but feel Irvine has enough stadiums at Irvine High, Portola and Crean Lutheran for evening and large events.

I2-2

Irvine, our quiet hills and wildlife don't need more noise and light pollution.

We may also experience significantly increased traffic potentially racing through our residential streets. We already have problems with speeding and issues with safety for walkers, joggers, bikers, strollers, skating. This may add to the issue.

I2-3

Students and parents already use our private, residential streets as a thoroughfare.

1. **Traffic:** Night games will bring heavy evening traffic through our streets.

2. **Parking:** As the only non-gated community in Orchard Hills, OHVII will absorb event overflow

parking—adding to the illegal student parking already occurring daily.

3. **Trespassing and Property Damage:** Students frequently cross through our landscaped areas, causing nearly \$100,000 in repairs and security costs. Night events will invite more property damage and costs, which could increase HOA assessment dues.

I2-4

4. **Light Pollution:** Stadium lights will be visible across OHVII and as far as Corte Bella.

I2-5

5. **Noise:** Night events will bring amplified announcements, cheering, and two marching bands (home and away teams) disrupting evening quiet.

I2-6

6. **Lack of Transparency:** When Northwood was built in 1999, IUSD chose not to install lights to protect nearby homes. Now, with over 4,000 homes in Orchard Hills—including 809 in OHVII—IUSD has failed to extend that same consideration to our community.

I2-7

I urge you to reconsider the breadth of the project and put in mitigating measures to address the concerns noted above which are shared by my fellow community residents.

Thank you for representing us on the City Council. Irvine is a master planned community priding itself on peaceful green spaces for relaxation, health and well-being. Let's preserve that in as many of our neighborhoods as possible.

I2-8

Corinne Giesemann

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Lights and speakers at Northwood High School
Date: Saturday, October 18, 2025 11:57:06 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Thanks, Raianna. Yes, copy and paste for the most part with added comments.

Kelvin Okino
Executive Director, Facilities and Construction | Irvine Unified School District



From: Raianna Chavez <[REDACTED]>
[REDACTED]
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Lights and speakers at Northwood High School

Fyi

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Lauren Brooks [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, October 17, 2025 6:25:09 PM
To: Raianna Chavez [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Lights and speakers at Northwood High School

Lauren Brooks
Board of Education,
Irvine Unified School District

Sent from my iPhone.
Please excuse all typos.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Divya [REDACTED]
Date: October 18, 2025 at 2:11:48 AM GMT+3
To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Cc: Eric Keith [REDACTED]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Lights and speakers at Northwood High School

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Katie, Jeff, and other board members,

I'm a resident of the Orchard Hills 2 community in Irvine, directly adjacent to NHS.

I3-1

While I am also a parent of an NHS student, I'm concerned about your upcoming stadium lights and speaker project that may have the following impact on my community:

1. **Traffic:** Night games will bring heavy evening traffic through our streets. I3-1
2. **Parking:** As the only non-gated community in Orchard Hills, OHVII will absorb event overflow parking—adding to the illegal student parking already occurring daily. I3-2
3. **Trespassing and Property Damage:** Students frequently cross through our landscaped areas, causing nearly \$100,000 in repairs and security costs. Night events will invite more property damage and costs, which could increase HOA assessment dues. I3-3
4. **Light Pollution:** Stadium lights will be visible across OHVII and as far as Corte Bella. I3-4
5. **Noise:** Night events will bring amplified announcements, cheering, and two marching bands (home and away teams) disrupting evening quiet. I3-5
6. **Lack of Transparency:** When Northwood was built in 1999, IUSD chose not to install lights to protect nearby homes. Now, with over 4,000 homes in Orchard Hills—including 809 in OHVII—IUSD has failed to extend that same consideration to our community. I3-6

I urge you to reconsider the breadth of the project and put in mitigating measures to address the concerns noted above which are shared by my fellow community residents.

I am unable to attend the meeting on the 20th, but please take into account my concerns above. I3-7

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Divya Gupta



Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Saturday, October 18, 2025 12:12:08 PM

[Steven](#)

[REDACTED] lights and speaker project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

[REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, October 17, 2025 at 06:38:14 PM PDT

Subject: Northwood high School stadium lights and speaker project

Dear Katie, Jeff, and other board members,

I'm a resident of the Orchard Hills 2 community in Irvine, directly adjacent to NHS.

I4-1

I'm concerned about your upcoming stadium lights and speaker project that may have the following impact on my community:

1. Traffic: Night games will bring heavy evening traffic through our streets. I4-2
2. Parking: As the only non-gated community in Orchard Hills, OHVII will absorb event overflow parking—adding to the illegal student parking already occurring daily.
3. Trespassing and Property Damage: Students frequently cross through our landscaped areas, causing nearly \$100,000 in repairs and security costs. Night events will invite more property damage and costs, which could increase HOA assessment dues. I4-3
4. Light Pollution: Stadium lights will be visible across OHVII and as far as Corte Bella. I4-4
5. Noise: Night events will bring amplified announcements, cheering, and two marching bands (home and away teams) disrupting evening quiet. I4-5
6. Lack of Transparency: When Northwood was built in 1999, IUSD chose not to install lights to protect nearby homes. Now, with over 4,000 homes in Orchard Hills—including 809 in OHVII—IUSD has failed to extend that same consideration to our community. I4-6

I urge you to reconsider the breadth of the project and put in mitigating measures to address the concerns noted above which are shared by my fellow community residents.

I am unable to attend the meeting on the 20th, but please take into account my concerns above.” I4-7

Thank you
Shirley Yang

Kathleen Gil

From:

[REDACTED]

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Katie, Jeff, and Esteemed Board Members,

I am a resident of Orchard Hills 2 in Irvine, located next to Northwood High School (NHS), and I am writing to express my 15-1 concerns about the proposed stadium lights and speaker project and its potential impacts on our community:

1. **Noise Disturbance:** Evening events will bring amplified announcements, crowd noise, and two marching bands, disrupting the quiet of our evenings. 15-2
2. **Increased Traffic:** Night games will likely cause significant evening traffic congestion on our neighborhood streets. 15-3
3. **Parking Issues:** As the only non-gated community in Orchard Hills, Orchard Hills VII will likely face overflow parking from events, exacerbating the existing issue of illegal student parking. 15-3
4. **Light Pollution:** The proposed stadium lights will likely be visible throughout Orchard Hills VII and as far as Corte Bella, affecting the nighttime ambiance. 15-4
5. **Trespassing and Property Damage:** Students frequently cut through our landscaped areas, resulting in nearly \$100,000 in repair and security costs. Night events may increase trespassing and damage, potentially raising HOA dues. 15-5
6. **Lack of Community Consideration:** When Northwood was built in 1999, IUSD opted against installing stadium lights to protect nearby residences. With over 4,000 homes now in Orchard Hills, including 809 in Orchard Hills VII, we are disappointed that similar consideration has not been extended to our community. 15-6

I respectfully urge you to reassess the scope of this project and implement measures to mitigate these concerns, which are shared by many in our community. 15-7

Sincerely, Steven Chen

From:**Subject:****Date:** Sunday, October 19, 2025 5:38:58 PM

[EXTERNAL] Urgent: CEQA Violations and Legal Concerns Over Northwood Stadium Lighting Proposal

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Kathleen Gil,

I'm a homeowner in Orchard Hills Village II (OHVII), one of the neighborhoods most directly and severely impacted by the proposed stadium lighting and amplified PA system at Northwood High School.

I6-1

This proposal is not just disruptive—it appears procedurally flawed and potentially unlawful.

Our HOA, which represents over 800 homes bordering Northwood on three sides, was never formally notified about this project, despite clear requirements under the **California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)** for meaningful public disclosure and opportunity to participate. This failure to engage directly with the most affected residents is not just disappointing—it could constitute a **violation of CEQA procedural obligations**.

I6-2

We are not opposing this project out of emotion. We are responding to a pattern:

- Illegal student parking already clogs our streets daily.
- Trespassing through HOA-maintained property has caused nearly **\$100,000 in damage** and security costs.
- Now, IUSD is attempting to introduce permanent, high-impact changes—**70-foot light poles, amplified announcements, and nighttime events**—with little to no direct engagement with those most affected.

I6-3

I6-4

I6-5

The EIR grossly understates the impact on our neighborhood. This is not a theoretical concern—this is where we live and raise our families. We are not interested in being collateral damage to a plan that prioritizes convenience over community well-being.

I6-6

If this project moves forward without correction of these CEQA violations and without serious mitigation measures, **legal action will be considered** by affected residents and associations. We are prepared to escalate this matter if IUSD does not act in good faith to rectify this process.

I6-7

We urge you to:

- **Pause** the EIR timeline immediately.
- **Provide formal notification and engagement** with all affected HOAs, especially OHVII.
- **Reassess** the project with full and honest disclosure of community impact.

I6-8

- **Commit to an in-person hearing** for Orchard Hills residents before any approvals move forward.

16-8cont.

Sincerely,
Martin

Kathleen Gil

From: Josh Guo [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, October 19, 2025 10:20 PM
To: Kathleen Gil; Jazzelle Nava
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Opposition to Stadium Lights and PA Speakers at Northwood High School

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Kathleen & Jazzelle,

I am a homeowner in Orchard Hills VII (OHVII), the community that directly borders Northwood High School on three sides. I strongly oppose the proposed installation of **70-foot stadium lights and a loud public-address (PA) speaker system** as described in the Draft EIR.

I7-1

Despite being the most directly affected under CEQA, our HOA and residents were not properly notified or consulted. The proposed project would bring significant noise, light pollution, traffic, and parking overflow into our quiet residential neighborhood. OHVII has already spent nearly \$100,000 repairing landscape damage and increasing security due to student activity—night events with lights and amplified announcements would only increase costs, safety risks, and disruptions to residents' peace.

I7-2

When Northwood High was built in 1999, IUSD intentionally excluded stadium lighting to protect nearby homes in Northwood Pointe. With over 4,000 homes now in Orchard Hills, our community deserves the same consideration.

I7-3

We respectfully urge IUSD to **reject** this proposal and engage directly with the OHVII HOA before proceeding.

Best

Josh Guo

[REDACTED]

I7-4

Kathleen Gil

From:

[REDACTED]

Cc:

Subject:

John Duong - OHVII
[EXTERNAL] NWHS stadium lights project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Katie, Jeff, and other board members,

I'm a resident of the Orchard Hills 2 community in Irvine, directly adjacent to NHS.

I8-1

I'm concerned about your upcoming stadium lights and speaker project that may have the following impact on my community:

1. **Traffic:** Night games will bring heavy evening traffic through our streets.
2. **Parking:** As the only non-gated community in Orchard Hills, OHVII will absorb event overflow parking—adding to the illegal student parking already occurring daily.
3. **Trespassing and Property Damage:** Students frequently cross through our landscaped areas, causing nearly \$100,000 in repairs and security costs. Night events will invite more property damage and costs, which could increase HOA assessment dues.
4. **Light Pollution:** Stadium lights will be visible across OHVII and as far as Corte Bella.
5. **Noise:** Night events will bring amplified announcements, cheering, and two marching bands (home and away teams) disrupting evening quiet.
6. **Lack of Transparency:** When Northwood was built in 1999, IUSD chose not to install lights to protect nearby homes. Now, with over 4,000 homes in Orchard Hills—including 809 in OHVII—IUSD has failed to extend that same consideration to our community.

I8-2

I8-3

I8-4

I8-5

I8-6

I8-7

Have any studies been conducted addressing any of the concerns listed above? If so, please share them with OHVII residents to allay our concerns. If not, I urge you to hold off on moving forward until proper studies can be conducted on how this new project will affect the lives of nearby residents.

Thank you!

James Krenzke,

Kathleen Gil

From: Maria H [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2025 5:11 PM
To: Kathleen Gil; Katie McEwen; Jeff Kim; Lauren Brooks; Connie Stone; Cyril Yu; Cassie Parham; Eric Keith
Cc: City of Irvine –; City of Irvine –; John Duong (OHVII); Roman Jaklitsch; Jim Hensley; Paul Anderson
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Northwood High School Stadium Lights and PA System - Objection Letter from OHVII Landscape Committee Chair

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms Katie McEwen and Dr. Jeff Kim and members of the IUSD Board, Principal of NHS, Irvine City Planning Team, District 1 City Council Member, Ms Liu

I9-1

It has come to my attention that there is a proposal to install 70-foot stadium lights and a PA system, etc. on the Northwood High School athletic fields.

As Landscape Committee Chair for OHVII I am presenting my concerns as to parking, and potential trespassing and property damage specifically for OHVII as the community is directly behind the Northwood High school grounds.

I9-2

Over the years, since the community was built in 2015, the community has encountered many students parking on private property and trespassing on private property. I have worked closely with IPD Officer Lindsey Campbell and the HOA to address these issues and as such have implemented recommendations to fix the situation. The OHVII has incurred close to, if not over, \$100K in landscape renovation, fencing, and security to bring down (hoping to eliminate) the number of students utilizing the property to get to school.

I object to this project as noted in the email from our OHVII Property Manager sent today noting our formal objection to the project.

I9-3

If this project does move forward, I would suggest on behalf of our HOA and other HOA's of the Northwood area surrounding and next to the NHS campus the following:

1 - Police presence at each event being held at NHS:

A: IPD Police monitoring / providing support to ensure that guests and students do not park in the residential areas - especially all private communities

I9-4

B: IPD Police presence on Portola and surrounding street arteries including Orchard Hills Road that is already being used as a racetrack, and consider lowering the speed limit permanently on Portola around the high school (between Jamboree and Jeffrey) to 40- 45 MPH

C- IPD Police presence at each of the neighboring communities. Northwood Point, Orchard Hills II, Eastwood etc., to ensure there are no cars speeding and that they do not park in private communities. These cars will be towed immediately.

D- IPD Police presence at the NHS fences surrounding the school to apprehend students taking that path

2- The cost of landscaping / property damaged due to such NHS events will be reimbursed and paid for by the school district accordingly.

3- The stadium sound system may be at a level that is not acceptable and heard by all residents. Keeping in mind the times when children are put to bed - 8:00pm and an earlier time for infants.

Considering the issues and challenges around our landscaping and trespassing over the years, I do not recommend this project around the stadium lights and what it will bring to the surrounding community of Northwood.

On another point, the light and sound pollution will impact the wildlife around the surrounding area. Please note that all parks CLOSE at dusk for this reason.

Let's keep Irvine the best we can be and be mindful of all the issues this project will bring to our treasured community.

Thank you for reading my email

Maria

I9-9

--

Maria Hensley

[REDACTED]

Kathleen Gil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2025 8:08 PM
To: [REDACTED]; Jeff Kim; Katie McEwen; Lauren Brooks; Cyril Yu; Kathleen [REDACTED]
Cc: John Duong
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Concerns re: NHS Stadium light, noise pollution and traffic concerns

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Thank you, Kathleen, for the meeting this evening.

Melinda, Jeff, Katie and IUSD Board members, I'd like to point out some additional concerns:

1) Fiscal responsible allocation of tax payer dollars. There is not a pressing need for extended time on the athletic fields at this time. The 4 lighted fields (IHS, PHS, UHS, Crean Lutheran + Beckman HS) provide adequate facilities.

2) Parking concerns: Back-to-School might already produce significant overflow traffic into the surrounding community requiring shuttles. This will be reproduced many times over with large events. The HOA has spent a great deal of money with trash all over our community from students trespassing into our community. We will continue to foot the cost for the littering and damage to landscaping.

3) We hear normal noises (band in the AM, bells) already, which is nice in the daytime. We hear fireworks from Anaheim. They echo through our hills. The wildlife in the preserved hills will undoubtedly be affected. Animals and residents NEED a quiet place to retreat to at night.

All biological beings NEED a dark, quiet place at night. We know that to keep our circadian rhythm on track and cortisol levels healthy. This is important for the well-being of our students.

4) The current EIR study takes into consideration only "athletic" noise. It DOES NOT take into account BAND, MUSIC, PA system noise. It also does not take into account traffic and speeding which already occurs on Orchard Hills Drive. When other high school students "discover" this street to speed on, it will be detrimental. It curves and is poorly lighted. Irvine Traffic and Irvine Conservancy should be involved and comment as well.

There will certainly be more traffic accidents and violations.

5) What is the background of the person making conclusions on the environmental impact of this project? Common sense knows it will create a significant amount of disruptive noise.

6) The other Irvine stadiums are located in more urban areas. NHS is nestled in the hills. It WILL affect the ecosystem and disturb the wildlife. My request is to have the Irvine Conservancy weigh in on this project.

7) Risk management of the increased traffic and potential accidents, traffic and parking violations, etc. Orchard Hills Drive is a curved, lowly lit road with a dangerous blind spot on the corner of Big Sycamore and Orchard Hills Drive. We urge that the City of Irvine Traffic conduct their own study.

8) EIR does not take into account projection of impact in years and just impact within the first few months.

I10-1

I10-2

I10-3

I10-4

I10-5

I10-6

I10-7

I10-8

We strongly urge you to take each of these concerns very seriously and respect the thousands of residents to be affected.

I10-9

Lastly, we did not receive notice on this, so we are disadvantaged in lead time to respond adequately.

Thank you,

I10-10

Corinne

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 18, 2025, at 11:03 AM, P G [REDACTED]

Greetings to our city leaders!

I am a resident of the Orchard Hills 2 community in Irvine, directly adjacent to NHS.

We are concerned about your upcoming stadium lights and speaker project that may have the following impact on my community.

We have had all our kids in athletics on the wonderful track and field at Northwood, but feel Irvine has enough stadiums at Irvine High, Portola and Crean Lutheran for evening and large events. Irvine, our quiet hills and wildlife don't need more noise and light pollution.

We may also experience significantly increased traffic potentially racing through our residential streets. We already have problems with speeding and issues with safety for walkers, joggers, bikers, strollers, skating. This may add to the issue.

Students and parents already use our private, residential streets as a thoroughfare.

1. **Traffic:** Night games will bring heavy evening traffic through our streets.
2. **Parking:** As the only non-gated community in Orchard Hills, OHVII will absorb event overflow parking—adding to the illegal student parking already occurring daily.
3. **Trespassing and Property Damage:** Students frequently cross through our landscaped areas, causing nearly \$100,000 in repairs and security costs. Night events will invite more property damage and costs, which could increase HOA assessment dues.
4. **Light Pollution:** Stadium lights will be visible across OHVII and as far as Corte Bella.
5. **Noise:** Night events will bring amplified announcements, cheering, and two marching bands (home and away teams) disrupting evening quiet.
6. **Lack of Transparency:** When Northwood was built in 1999, IUSD chose not to install lights to protect nearby homes. Now, with over 4,000 homes in Orchard Hills—including 809 in OHVII—IUSD has failed to extend that same consideration to our community.

I urge you to reconsider the breadth of the project and put in mitigating measures to address the concerns noted above which are shared by my fellow community residents.

Thank you for representing us on the City Council. Irvine is a master planned community priding itself on peaceful green spaces for relaxation, health and well-being. Let's preserve that in as many of our neighborhoods as possible.

Corinne Giesemann

Sent from my iPhone

Kathleen Gil

From:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject:

[EXTERNAL] opposing the IUSD proposal to install stadium lights and loud PA speakers
@ NW High

Importance:

High

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

As longtime beautiful Irvine and Orchard Hills residents, we strongly oppose
the ISSD proposal to install stadium lights and loud PS speakers at
Northwood High School.

I11-1

Best Regards,

Barry Hsieh

[REDACTED]

Kathleen Gil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2025 4:23 PM
To: Katie McEwen; Jeff Kim; Lauren Brooks; Connie Stone; Cyril Yu; Eric Keith; Kathleen Gil; Jazzelle Nava; Melinda Liu Web
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Northwood High Stadium Lights/PA Speakers Proposal

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

IUSD Officials and Board Members,

I am writing to you to voice my objection to the IUSD proposal to install stadium lights and loud PA speakers at Northwood High School. As a 30-plus year resident of Irvine, 10 of which are currently in the Orchard Hills Village II Community, this project would negatively impact our community. We already deal with illegal student parking and frequent damage to our landscaping due to trespassing students resulting in high costs for repairs and security causing increased HOA dues. With the installation of the PA speakers and Stadium lights we would have to contend not only with noise and light pollution, but increased parking issues, and trespassing and damage during evening events at Northwood High. Having lived in the Northwood Pointe community previously, the IUSD chose not to install lights when Northwood High was being built to protect that community. I hope that IUSD would extend that same consideration to the Orchard Hills Village II community.

Thank you.

Regards,
Grace Sibayan-Hsieh

I12-1

Kathleen Gil

From:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooks; Connie Stone; Cyril Yu

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Stadium Lighting and PA System at Northwood High

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. McEwen and Dr. Jeff Kim and members of the IUSD Board, Principle of NHS, Irvine City Planning Team, District 1 City Council Member Ms. Liu

The purpose of this message is to express my opposition to the proposed stadium style lighting and PA system at Northwood High. We purchased our home in the Strada Neighborhood of the Orchard Hills II development in 2016. This is our third residence since we moved to Irvine in 1996. We were attracted to the peaceful rural feel of this neighborhood, and this is the main reason we decided to buy here. The name "Orchard Hills" itself suggests the quiet rural setting that we have enjoyed since moving here. Adding the proposed lights and PA system will surely degrade the quiet enjoyment of our neighborhood. The lights and PA system will be seen and/ or heard from many areas of our neighborhood, and will negatively affect our quiet enjoyment.

I13-1

Another issue of concern is the increased student trespassing and traffic that will in the area during these evening events. Our community has already been dealing with student vandalism, speeding, parking issues, and trespassing in our community as it is. We have spent almost \$100K on fencing, landscaping repairs, security patrol already in an effort to mitigate these issues. NHS Students regularly either park or get dropped off by their parents on our streets so they can climb through our landscaping and climb the school fence. The parking problem at Northwood has become our problem. As an HOA Board Member, I can attest that the student issues are on our Board Meeting agenda every month.

I13-2

I am disappointed that money was spent on a poorly executed Environmental Impact Report that is filled with inaccurate statements and assumptions. Furthermore, there does not seem to be a strong desire to go forward with this according to several school staff members or other stakeholders who were informally queried about this.

I13-3

I am sure most of the Orchard Hills II and surrounding Northwood communities would agree with my position. Please consider the negative impact to the entire surrounding community as well as our home values if the proposal is carried forward.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

I13-4

James Hensley

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Kathleen Gil**From:**

[REDACTED]
To: Kathleen Gil; Katie McEwen; Jeff Kim; Lauren Brooks; Connie Stone; Cyril Yu; Cassie Parham; cc: City of Irvine –; City of Irvine –
Cc: M Hensley
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on the October 20th NHS Lighting Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear USID Board and all members who are part of the decision process for the Northwood High School Stadium Lighting Project

I am sending this email as a response to the meeting held on October 20th at Northwood High School to present the outcome of the Draft Environmental Impact Report. Present at that meeting were HOA Board members from Northwood Point, the Orchard Hills Reserve and Orchard Hills Village 2 communities. Also present were various residents from these communities and the Principal of Northwood High School. I believe there would be more in attendance if there was proper communication about this meeting as well as transparent communication about the project itself. I personally did not know about the project or meeting on Oct. 20th, which I shared in my previous email.

I14-1

Upon hearing the complete presentation, below are my personal conclusions regarding the Lighting and PA project at Northwood High School.

Overview:

- 1) Residents present, including the Principal of NHS, did not request these lights on campus.
- 2) Report focuses on building and not the various residential /public nuances that are significant
- 3) Costs spent by OHVII to mediate student trespassing on private property
- 4) Lighting and PA noise will have a significant impact on the community.
- 5) Why are Great Park fields not being considered? We also have the other high schools in Irvine. Do not need to speed student monies for lighting when there are other uses of the funds.
- 6) Used for non-sporting activities not mentioned in the meeting, however, in the report.
- 7) Use of the IUSD funds on “Life Skills” Program instead for our young adults.

I14-2

Details:

1 - Most people who attended the meeting have students who attended NHS currently or in past years. They were part of sports, and we all do not recall the need for these lights in the past. The games played there were for freshman or sophomore football, soccer etc. The varsity games were played at other high schools and worked well with the schedule. Now we have the Great Park with 24 soccer fields. Additionally there are many baseball and tennis courts.

I14-3

The addition of lights to the field will not add to school spirit. The report listed this as one of the objectives of the project. NHS has always had wonderful school spirit and lights will not make a difference. Students, parents and the school faculty build spirit!

2 – The study focuses primarily on the building / installation of the lighting, and not the impact or result of having lighting in this location. All items that are considered public nuances like noise, aesthetics, safety, traffic etc., are

I14-4

considered NOT a significant impact and therefore not discussed. I totally disagree with this. They do matter and due to the lack of discussion of these areas, it does not seem to be of concern to IUSD. It is for the residents.

3 - As the Orchard Hills Village 2 HOA Landscape Chair, I can share that the HOA has been working on eliminating the traffic / racing on Portola and Orchard Hills Road, the trespassing of students on the HOA landscaping, the climbing of the fence during school hours to get to school, parking on private property for years. These activities have to date resulted in close to \$100K incurred by OHVII community to remediate issues. This project report does not address any of these issues that will impact all the surrounding communities (Reserve, OHVII, Northwood Point and potentially, Eastwood and the Groves)

b: Please note that the Northwood area is supported by approximately 5 IPD traffic officers. They have to cover the entire Northwood area (the square perimeter from Jamboree to 133 Toll Rd and from Northwood to 5 Fwy). Home games in the evening will not only bring additional traffic to the area, but there will not be enough IPD staff or parking. NHS has limited parking. The surrounding communities are private property, and no public parking is allowed. The parking was not discussed or considered significant in the report. It refers to public transportation that is not present to the extent discussed.

c: With the current racing of vehicles occurring on Portola and on Orchard Hills Road, additional introductions to the area will increase this unnecessary racing as they discover the racetrack around NHS - a two-lane street. **PLEASE DO NOT SHARE THIS.**

4) Lighting impact. During the presentation, pictures of the lighting and impact to the community were severely misrepresented. The lights were photoshopped in and did not truly reflect true stadium lights. These lights will illuminate into the Reserves, Northwood Pointe and OHVII residential homes.

4a: Lighting and Glare noted on section 3.1-4

I really do not understand the evaluation comments around Light and Glare. The community around the NHS is completely dark after the sun goes down. This lighting will illuminate the entire area and will be noted by all homes in the area. This will seriously degrade the calm and peacefulness that residents have looked for and found living in Orchard Hills Northwood. This peace and quiet will be degraded by the loud sounds of the PA and traffic brought into the area.

5) I reviewed the home games schedule per the report. Where are the games being played now? There are 24 soccer fields located at the Great Park. There is more space, parking, and lighting at the Great Park. Why are these locations not considered? We also have other high schools we can utilize, this I believe is happening now.

6) The report also states that the school will be used for non-school events, which is a significant issue to our community. This will open a ton of **unknown** issues we do not want to entertain. What are these non-school related activities?

7) Can the IUSD Board please consider utilizing the funds to create a "Life Skills" program for the students. This would include learning the basics around nutrition, health, finances / banking, household repairs, automotive basics, sewing, wood shop etc.

Thank you for reading my email. I appreciate all you all do around our IUSD and hope these comments will help you understand what is not being looked at in this report. Also to emphasize that this project was not very well communicated.

Thank you
Maria

I14-5

I14-6

I14-7

I14-8

I14-9

I14-10

I14-11

I14-12

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Maria Hensley



Kathleen Gil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 12:15 PM
To: Kathleen Gil
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Opposition to Stadium Lights and PA System at Northwood High School

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil,

I am a resident of Orchard Hills Village 2, and I am writing to express my strong opposition to the installation of stadium lights and a PA system at Northwood High School. I15-1

This project is unnecessary and will significantly diminish the quality of life for nearby residents. The proposed lighting and loudspeaker system will generate excessive noise and light pollution, disrupt our evenings, and destroy the peaceful character of our neighborhood. In addition, the increased traffic and lack of parking will lead to congestion and trespassing on private property. Many of us chose this community for its tranquility and safety—qualities that will be lost if this project proceeds. I15-2

Please do not move forward with this plan. Thank you for listening to the concerns of nearby residents. I15-3

Sincerely,
Qiang Ruan

Kathleen Gil

From: Hi Chan [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 3:47 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Against Northwood New Lights and Loud PA

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Hello,

My name is Hi Chan. I'm a resident and owner of a property in Orchard Hills Village II, right behind Norwood High. I've been living in the community for 8 years.

I strongly oppose to the IUSD proposal to install stadium lights and loud PA!!

Sincerely,

Hi

I16-1

Kathleen Gil

From:

[REDACTED]

Subject:

[EXTERNAL] Noise & traffic concerns on the NHS field lighting project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear IUSD board members,

I'm a resident at Northwood Pointe community, specifically Lanes End. When I first read the project half-year ago, I was neutral. I thought the lights are beneficial for NHS students to do night time athlete practice, and it's also safe for the neighbor residents to walk around the area in the night. I17-1

Recently I learned that the project will include amplified PA system, and the field events will open to non-school activities. I17-2

My house is on the other side of Portola Parkway. My bedroom windows face the school and athlete field. In fall season NHS marching band practice wakes me up every morning. It is OK as those are workday mornings. But I cannot imagine loud speakers noise in the night, disrupting my quiet time. I17-3

Traffic will be a problem. There's only 1 winding road driving up to the NHS campus, I will foresee vehicles lining up on the slow driveway, or waiting long line at the traffic light intersection to turn in. Parking is definitely an issue. Whenever I attend a choir or an orchestra concert, at the school theatre, it's hard to find parking. NHS doesn't have enough parking space to accommodate any large event. I17-4

So, if the project, is ONLY to install the lights, and limit to the use of NHS students and doesn't impact neighbor residents, then it shall be fine. I17-5

Please kindly consider the above noise & traffic concerns, and review and revise this proposal.

Sincerely regards,

Amy Jian

[REDACTED]

Kathleen Gil

From:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

at Northwood HS

Loud Speakers Installation

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

As a resident of Orchard Hills, I recently learned that the Irvine Unified School District (IUSD) has initiated a project to install stadium lights and speakers at Northwood High School. The approval process moved forward swiftly and quietly, with little to no input sought from neighboring communities. I18-1

This is unfair to taxpayers like us, who fund our local schools through property taxes and expect transparency in return. IUSD owes us the due diligence of a thorough, public evaluation of the project's impacts—including light pollution, noise, traffic, and environmental effects—before proceeding. I18-2

With this in mind, I urge IUSD to cancel the project and redirect the budget toward more pressing needs, such as expanding challenging curricula and hiring additional qualified science teachers.

Sincerely,

Claire Guan

I18-3

Kathleen Gil

From: Wenkai Qin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 3, 2025 9:51 PM
To: Kathleen Gil
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments RE Draft EIR for Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Speakers Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Kathleen,

We are residents and registered voters of the Lanes End community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School's football field on the south side of Portola Parkway. I19-1

Setting aside existing problems with student parking in our neighborhood, this project would create even greater challenges for our community, including overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light spillage, all of which the Draft EIR fails to evaluate from our side of the street. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built? I19-2

The IUSD Board made a wise and considered decision in 1999, when Northwood High School was constructed, not to include lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating. Why change course now, when over 4,000 additional homes have since been built in the surrounding neighborhoods? This proposal appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's long-standing master planning principles, which emphasize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the distinct character of each village. Introducing additional noise, lighting, and traffic impacts would inevitably disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, diminish property values, and increase HOA costs over time. I19-3

Even more concerning, the project scope explicitly allows for non-school related activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no description of what these events are, how often they would occur, or what restrictions or controls would apply. The lack of definition and analysis in the Draft EIR raises serious questions about whether the full scope and impacts of the project have been properly evaluated. I19-4

We find this proposal troubling, as it conflicts with the principles of good neighborliness and responsible community planning. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw this project entirely and uphold the sound precedent set by your predecessors in 1999. I19-5

They made the right decision then, and we urge the Board to show the same careful consideration in deciding this matter now.

We look forward to seeing these concerns registered in the draft EIR comments.

Sincerely,

Dr. Wenkai Qin

I19-6

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Kathleen Gil

From:

[REDACTED]

Subject:

[EXTERNAL] Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project (SCH No. 2025051426)

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

I am writing to express my concerns of the proposed Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project. As a long-time resident of the Northwood neighborhood, I am deeply concerned I20-1 that this project will irreversibly damage the quiet and semi-rural character of our community.

Our neighborhood is a peaceful residential area surrounded by orchard groves and open space, where residents value quite environment, dark night skies, minimal noise, and light evening traffic. The introduction of four 70-foot light poles, an amplified public-address system, and expanded I20-2 nighttime athletic events beyond Northwood High school uses will bring new and ongoing light, noise, and vehicle impacts into an area not designed for this level of activity.

Although the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) concludes that these impacts are “less than significant,” that finding does not reflect the reality our community will experience. The DEIR identifies I20-3 no mitigation measures to address increased lighting, noise, or traffic. Instead, it relies on technical assumptions that underestimate the actual day-to-day disruption these facilities will cause. Without enforceable restrictions on event frequency, hours of operation, or sound levels, there are no real protections for nearby residents.

Furthermore, the public outreach for this project was inadequate. Many affected homeowners were I20-4 unaware of the proposed project. One scoping notice and limited online postings do not constitute meaningful engagement for a project with citywide implications.

With the installation of permanent lighting and a PA system, Northwood High School would effectively become a regional event facility serving the entire City of Irvine, rather than a neighborhood school. The DEIR even acknowledges that the fields would be available for outside user groups under the Civic Center Act. This means our quiet residential area would host large-scale community or city events at night — bringing in additional traffic, parking congestion, and noise far beyond what is appropriate for a neighborhood setting. I20-5

Once these changes are made, the peaceful character of our community cannot be restored. For these reasons, I urge the Irvine Unified School District and the board to reject this project and instead select the **No Project Alternative** outlined in the DEIR. Northwood High can continue to provide outstanding educational opportunities without imposing citywide event impacts on its surrounding neighborhoods. I20-6

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,
Hong Lin

I20-6 cont.

[REDACTED]

Kathleen Gil

From:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Northwood High

Project at

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

I am a resident of Orchard Hills and recently became aware of the proposed Northwood High School field lighting and PA speakers project. I21-1

I am deeply concerned as to why the immediately adjacent neighborhoods were not informed or consulted during the preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The Draft EIR fails to address critical residential neighborhood impacts in several key areas. For example, it overlooks traffic and overflow parking into our communities, which is already a daily problem, and does not analyze peak game-day conditions for noise, traffic, or lighting spillage. The Draft EIR also incorrectly assumes that attendees would use public transportation, even though there is no OCTA bus route along Portola Parkway. It further lacks any plan for security or coordination with the Irvine Police Department to manage illegal parking, trespassing, and loitering in our private neighborhoods, which directly affects residents' quiet enjoyment. I21-2

While the project scope and disclosure filings with the State clearly and repeatedly state that the purpose of the proposed lights and PA speakers includes hosting non-school related events, the Draft EIR provides no explanation of what these "non-school events" are, how often they would occur, or what limits or other restrictions would apply, including traffic control, parking management, and community security. This complete lack of analysis leaves significant uncertainty about the scale and nature of potential uses. I21-3

Even giving the District the benefit of the doubt, and taking the project scope at face value, the cost-benefit analysis does not appear to justify the installation of permanent stadium lights and loudspeakers for only five or six home football games a year. The resulting permanent disruptions, neighborhood impacts, and unnecessary costs to taxpayers cannot be justified by the limited and short-term benefits this project would provide. I21-4

I strongly urge the Board to drop this project or, at minimum, reject the current flawed Draft EIR and require a full redo of the EIR process to correct its fundamental deficiencies, including meaningful consultation with nearby residential communities and a genuine analysis of the true impacts on surrounding neighborhoods. I21-5

Thank you for your reconsideration.

Kate Lin

Kathleen Gil

From: Jing Yang [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 3, 2025 9:07 PM
To: Kathleen Gil
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Opposition to Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Speakers Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms Gil and Members of the Board

I am a resident of Orchard Hills and am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Northwood High School Field Lighting and Loud PA Speakers Project. I believe this project would create significant and long-lasting negative impacts on our community that outweigh its potential benefits. I22-1

The proposed installation of 70-foot light poles and loudspeaker systems would permanently change the character of our neighborhood. The Draft EIR fails to adequately assess critical issues such as: I22-2

- The true extent of nighttime light pollution and glare affecting nearby homes. I22-3
- The cumulative noise impact from amplified sound, crowd activity, and marching band practices. I22-4
- Increased traffic, illegal parking, and trespassing during evening events. I22-4
- Safety risks, reduced quality of life, and potential decline in property values for residents living near the school. I22-5

Furthermore, the Draft EIR does not address ongoing problems our community already faces, including student parking on private property, damage to HOA-maintained landscaping, and congestion at The Reserve's entrance. Allowing expanded nighttime and non-school use of the facility would only intensify these problems. I22-6

I respectfully urge IUSD to reconsider this proposal and either significantly revise the plan or deny approval until a more thorough and accurate Environmental Impact Report is completed. A balanced approach that respects both students' needs and residents' rights is essential for maintaining trust and harmony between the District and the community.

Thank you for your attention and for considering the serious concerns of the Orchard Hills residents. I22-7

Yours Sincerely

Lucy Yang

Kathleen Gil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 3, 2025 10:01 PM
To: Katie McEwen; Jeff Kim; Lauren Brooks; Connie Stone; Cyril Yu; Eric Keith; Kathleen Gil; Jazzelle Nava; 'District 1 – Melinda Liu –'
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Objection to Northwood Field Lighting and Speakers Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents and registered voters of the Lanesend community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School's football field on the south side of Portola Parkway. My house is located off of Winslow Ln, which is within close proximity across the street from the football field of NHS. I23-1

My family has been disturbed/woken up by early morning marching band music over the years. The proposed project will cause even more severe problems for us in (late) evenings as well. We cannot imagine what life will become when IUSD and NON-IUSD events take place until 10PM! We have seniors living in the house who already have sleeping issues and rely on sleeping pills. Speakers and loud noises will severely damage life quality and health for our residents, including senior residents. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built? I23-2

The IUSD Board made a wise and considered decision in 1999, when Northwood High School was constructed, not to include lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating. Why change course now, when over 4,000 additional homes have since been built in the surrounding neighborhoods? This proposal appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's long-standing master planning principles, which emphasize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the distinct character of each village. Introducing additional noise, lighting, and traffic impacts would inevitably disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, diminish property values, and increase HOA costs over time. I23-3

Even more concerning, the project scope explicitly allows for non-school related activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no description of what these events are, how often they would occur, or what restrictions or controls would apply. The lack of definition and analysis in the Draft EIR raises serious questions about whether the full scope and impacts of the project have been properly evaluated. I23-4

We find this proposal deeply disturbing in many ways, as it conflicts with the principles of good neighborliness and responsible community planning. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw this project entirely and uphold the sound precedent set by your predecessors in 1999. They made the right decision then, and we urge the Board to show the same careful consideration in deciding this matter now. I23-5

We look forward to seeing these concerns registered in the draft EIR comments.

Sincerely,

Michael

I23-6

Kathleen Gil

From: Peter Tan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 3, 2025 6:54 PM
To: Katie McEwen; Jeff Kim; Lauren Brooks; Connie Stone; Cyril Yu; Cassie Parham; Kathleen Gil; Eric Keith; [REDACTED]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Objections to Draft EIR for Lights and Loud Speakers Installation Project at Northwood High

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen, Members of the IUSD Board of Education, Mayor Agran, and District 1 Council Member Liu,

As a **resident of Orchard Hills**, I am writing to express significant concerns regarding the recently proposed Northwood High School field lighting and Public Address (PA) speaker project, specifically in relation to the **Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)**. I24-1

It is profoundly troubling that the immediate adjacent residential neighborhoods were neither directly informed nor consulted during the preparation of the Draft EIR. This document exhibits fundamental deficiencies by failing to adequately address critical impacts on the surrounding residential communities in several key areas: I24-2

- **Traffic and Parking:** The report overlooks existing daily issues and does not analyze the substantial increase in **traffic congestion** or **overflow parking** into private communities, particularly during peak, high-attendance game-day conditions. I24-3
- **Noise and Light Spill:** A thorough analysis of peak-event **noise levels** and **light spillage** onto residential properties is absent. I24-4
- **Public Transportation:** The Draft EIR incorrectly assumes attendee reliance on public transportation, despite the absence of an **OCTA bus route** along Portola Parkway, undermining the viability of this mitigation measure. I24-5
- **Security and Public Safety:** The document lacks any cohesive plan for **security protocols** or coordination with the Irvine Police Department to manage potential increases in illegal parking, trespassing, and loitering, which directly compromise residents' **quiet enjoyment** of their properties. I24-6

Furthermore, the project scope and disclosure filings repeatedly affirm that the purpose of the proposed lights and PA speakers includes hosting **non-school related events**. However, the Draft EIR provides no explanation detailing the nature or frequency of these "non-school events," nor does it outline any limits, restrictions, or required mitigation measures concerning traffic control, parking management, or community security. This complete omission of analysis creates significant ambiguity regarding the true scale and potential impact of future uses. I24-7

Even accepting the project's stated educational purpose at face value, the current **cost-benefit analysis** appears to be disproportionate. The installation of permanent stadium infrastructure, resulting in enduring community disruptions and neighborhood impacts, cannot be justified by the limited and short-term benefits derived from hosting an estimated five to six home football games per year. The resulting **unnecessary costs to taxpayers** and the scale of permanent disruption are difficult to reconcile with the project's limited utility. I24-8

I strongly urge the Board to **discontinue this project** entirely. At minimum, I request the **rejection of the current flawed Draft EIR** and the mandated initiation of a complete re-do of the EIR process. This revised process must fundamentally correct all deficiencies, include **meaningful consultation** with nearby residential I24-9

communities, and incorporate a genuine, comprehensive analysis of the true impacts on surrounding neighborhoods.

Thank you for your careful consideration of these serious matters.

Peter Tan

I24-9 cont

Comment Letter I25

Kathleen Gil

From: Rebecca Dai | Isaac and Rebecca Photography [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 3, 2025 7:33 PM
To: Katie McEwen; Jeff Kim; Lauren Brooks; Connie Stone; Cyril Yu; Cassie Parham; Kathleen Gil; Eric Keith
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] OBJECTION! RE DRAFT EIR for Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Speakers Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents of the Lanes End community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School. We have serious concerns regarding the proposed stadium project and the insufficient Draft EIR. I15-1

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate the project's most significant impacts on our community: increased overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light spillage. As a community that existed before the high school, we question why these critical quality-of-life issues were overlooked. I25-2

The Board's 1999 decision to build Northwood High without lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating was a prudent one. Reversing this decision now, after the addition of thousands of new homes, contradicts Irvine's commitment to quality of life and neighborhood integrity. The resulting disruption, potential devaluation of our properties, and increased HOA costs are unacceptable. I25-3

Additionally, the allowance for undefined "non-school related activities" in the project scope, without any analysis in the EIR, is a major oversight. It suggests the project's true impacts have not been properly considered. I25-4

We believe this project is ill-advised and urge you to withdraw it entirely, upholding the wise precedent set by your predecessors. We request that these concerns be fully documented in the EIR comments. I25-5

Sincerely,

Rebecca, Residents of the Lanes End Community

Kathleen Gil

From:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject:

[EXTERNAL] Objections to Draft EIR for Lights and Loud Speakers Installation Project at Northwood High

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen, Members of the IUSD Board of Education, Mayor Agran, and District 1 Council Member Liu,

I26-1

I am a resident of Orchard Hills and recently became aware of the proposed Northwood High School field lighting and PA speakers project.

It is extremely concerning that the immediate adjacent neighborhoods were not informed or consulted during the preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The Draft EIR fails to address critical residential neighborhood impacts in several key areas. For example, it overlooks traffic and overflow parking into our communities, which is already a daily problem, and does not analyze peak game-day conditions for noise, traffic, or lighting spillage. The Draft EIR also incorrectly assumes that attendees would use public transportation, even though there is no OCTA bus route along Portola Parkway. It further lacks any plan for security or coordination with the Irvine Police Department to manage illegal parking, trespassing, and loitering in our private neighborhoods, which directly affects residents' quiet enjoyment.

I26-2

While the project scope and disclosure filings with the State clearly and repeatedly state that the purpose of the proposed lights and PA speakers includes hosting non-school related events, the Draft EIR provides no explanation of what these "non-school events" are, how often they would occur, or what limits or other restrictions would apply, including traffic control, parking management, and community security. This complete lack of analysis leaves significant uncertainty about the scale and nature of potential uses.

I26-3

Even giving the District the benefit of the doubt, and taking the project scope at face value, the cost-benefit analysis does not appear to justify the installation of permanent stadium lights and loudspeakers for only five or six home football games a year. The resulting permanent disruptions, neighborhood impacts, and unnecessary costs to taxpayers cannot be justified by the limited and short-term benefits this project would provide.

I26-4

I strongly urge the Board to drop this project or, at minimum, reject the current flawed Draft EIR and require a full redo of the EIR process to correct its fundamental deficiencies, including meaningful consultation with nearby residential communities and a genuine analysis of the true impacts on surrounding neighborhoods.

I26-5

Thank you for your reconsideration.

Sabina Lin

Kathleen Gil

From:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

PA Speakers Project

School Field Lighting and

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents of the Lanes End community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood I27-1 High School. We have serious concerns regarding the proposed stadium project and the insufficient Draft EIR.

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate the project's most significant impacts on our community: increased overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light spillage. As a community that existed before the I27-2 high school, we question why these critical quality-of-life issues were overlooked.

The Board's 1999 decision to build Northwood High without lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating was a prudent one. Reversing this decision now, after the addition of thousands of new homes, I27-3 contradicts Irvine's commitment to quality of life and neighborhood integrity. The resulting disruption, potential devaluation of our properties, and increased HOA costs are unacceptable.

Additionally, the allowance for undefined "non-school related activities" in the project scope, without any analysis in the EIR, is a major oversight. It suggests the project's true impacts have not been I27-4 properly considered.

We believe this project is ill-advised and urge you to withdraw it entirely, upholding the wise precedent set by your predecessors. We request that these concerns be fully documented in the EIR comments. I27-5

Sincerely,

Xiao Dai, Residents of the Lanes End Community

Kathleen Gil

From:

[REDACTED]

Subject:

[EXTERNAL] Comments RE DRAFT EIR for Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Speakers Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are writing as residents of the Lanes End community in Northwood Pointe, located directly across from Northwood High School's football field. I28-1

While our neighborhood already contends with student parking issues, this proposed project would significantly exacerbate these challenges. The Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) fails to adequately assess the impacts of overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light pollution on our community. It is troubling that these critical quality-of-life factors were not evaluated for a neighborhood that predates the high school itself. I28-2

We note that in 1999, during the construction of Northwood High School, the IUSD Board wisely and deliberately chose to forgo stadium lights, loudspeakers, and expanded seating. This considered decision has served our community well. Reversing this precedent now is particularly concerning given the substantial growth—over 4,000 additional homes—in the surrounding area. The proposed project appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's core planning principles, which prioritize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the unique character of each village. The introduction of increased noise, light, and traffic would disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, potentially diminish property values, and raise long-term HOA costs. I28-3

Furthermore, we are deeply concerned that the project scope explicitly allows for non-school activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no details on the nature, frequency, or operational controls for such events. This lack of definition and analysis raises serious doubts about whether the project's full impacts have been properly evaluated. I28-4

This proposal conflicts with the principles of responsible planning and being a good neighbor. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw it and uphold the sound precedent established in 1999. That decision reflected careful consideration for the community, and we ask you to demonstrate the same foresight today. I28-5

We trust that our significant concerns will be formally entered into the public record for the Draft EIR. I28-6

Sincerely,

Xiao, Resident of the Lanes End Community

I28-6 cont

Kathleen Gil

From: Y Wang [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 3, 2025 9:39 PM
To: Katie McEwen; Jeff Kim; Lauren Brooks; Connie Stone; Cyril Yu; Eric Keith; Kathleen Gil; Jazzelle Nava; District 1 – Melinda Liu –
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Objection to Northwood Field Lighting and Speakers Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents and registered voters of the Lanesend community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School's football field on the south side of Portola Parkway. My house is located off of Winslow Ln, I29-1 which is within close proximity across the street from the football field of NHS.

My family has been disturbed/woken up by early morning marching band music over the years. The proposed project will cause even more severe problems for us in (late) evenings as well. We cannot imagine what life will become when IUSD and NON-IUSD events take place until 10PM! We have seniors living in the house who already I29-2 have sleeping issues and rely on sleeping pills. Speakers and loud noises will severely damage life quality and health for our residents, including senior residents. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built?

The IUSD Board made a wise and considered decision in 1999, when Northwood High School was constructed, not to include lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating. Why change course now, when over 4,000 additional homes have since been built in the surrounding neighborhoods? This proposal appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's long-standing master planning principles, which emphasize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the distinct character of each village. Introducing additional noise, lighting, and traffic impacts would inevitably disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, diminish property values, and increase HOA costs over time. I29-3

Even more concerning, the project scope explicitly allows for non-school related activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no description of what these events are, how often they would occur, or what restrictions or controls would apply. The lack of definition and analysis in the Draft EIR raises serious questions about whether the full scope and impacts of the project have been properly evaluated. I29-4

We find this proposal deeply disturbing in many ways, as it conflicts with the principles of good neighborliness and responsible community planning. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw this project entirely and uphold the sound precedent set by your predecessors in 1999. They made the right decision then, and we urge the Board to show the same careful consideration in deciding this matter now. I29-5

We look forward to seeing these concerns registered in the draft EIR comments.

Sincerely,

Yu (resident in LanesEnd)

I29-6

Kathleen Gil

From:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject:

Jeff Kim; Connie Stone; Cassie Parham; Lauren Brooks; Eric Keith; Kathleen Gil; Cyril Yu
[EXTERNAL] Orchard Hill Community Serious Concerns - Draft EIR for Lights and Loud Speakers Installation at Northwood HS

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines §§15126 and 15143, I respectfully submit the following comments regarding the adequacy and completeness of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project. The issues outlined below identify areas where the DEIR fails to adequately evaluate environmental, safety, accessibility, and community impacts as required under CEQA.

I30-1

1. Parking and Traffic Analysis

The DEIR's parking analysis substantially underestimates attendance and vehicle generation for athletic events. The analysis does not account for peak-attendance scenarios, such as homecoming or playoff football games, which can attract well over 500–700 vehicles based on data from onsite parking attendance on the October 17 Northwood homecoming game held at Irvine High School. The DEIR's assumption of 250 attendees is implausible given that the marching band alone exceeds 250–300 members, excluding athletes, cheer teams, visiting teams, and spectators. The DEIR must disclose how parking demand was calculated and provide a contingency plan for overflow parking, crowd management, and prevention of illegal parking or trespassing in surrounding neighborhoods.

I30-2

2. Noise and Lighting Impact Analysis

The DEIR measured both noise and lighting impacts only at the athletic field and along Portola Parkway, omitting residential areas where true environmental effects will occur. CEQA requires that the analysis include real-world operational conditions, including public address (PA) system use, marching band activity, spectator noise, and vehicular noise. Lighting impacts must also consider nearby communities such as Northwood Pointe and the Corte Bella neighborhood of Orchard Hills, where residents are likely to experience significant light spill and glare.

I30-3

3. Existing Ambient Noise Conditions

Residents already experience elevated background noise from daily campus operations, including bells, whistles from swimming classes, and student activities. Audible chatter from the swimming pool area can be heard from the Stallion cul-de-sac, indicating that baseline noise levels are already high. Any additional nighttime use amplified by lighting and PA systems will cause a cumulative and measurable increase in noise levels for nearby homes

I30-4

4. Undefined Non-School Events

I30-5

The DEIR fails to define or analyze potential non-school-related uses of the proposed lighted field. Without specifying the types and frequency of non-school activities, the DEIR cannot accurately assess cumulative or after-hours impacts related to parking, lighting, noise, or security. This omission is a material deficiency under CEQA Guidelines §15126.2(a).

5. Community Impact Considerations

The DEIR lacks meaningful evaluation of impacts to the residential community. The omission of a localized analysis suggests that surrounding neighborhoods were not considered in the modeling of operational impacts. The EIR I30-6 should be revised to include real-world conditions representative of community exposure, residential noise receptors, and nighttime illumination patterns.

6. Omission of Local Fire Authority (LFA) Review and California Building Code (CBC) Accessibility Compliance

The Draft EIR (DEIR) does not demonstrate that the proposed project has been reviewed or approved by the Local Fire Authority (City of Irvine Fire Department). The DEIR (Section 2.7.1 and Table 2-3) indicates that no local agency approval would be needed and only lists the Division of the State Architect (DSA) as a responsible agency. This omission is inconsistent with standard practice and requirements under the California Fire Code (Title 24, Part 9), which mandates Fire Department review for public-assembly areas, electrical installations, and emergency vehicle access. The absence of LFA consultation or permit verification raises concerns about compliance with Public Resources Code §21080.3(a), which requires coordination with responsible agencies having jurisdiction by law over public safety. I30-7

In addition, while the DEIR references the California Building Code (CBC) in the context of seismic safety (Section 3.4, Geology and Soils), it fails to address disability access compliance under CBC Chapter 11B and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The DEIR does not identify whether the proposed bleachers, pathways, or spectator areas meet DSA accessibility standards or whether the DSA has issued preliminary approval of the access design. Omission of this analysis represents a substantive deficiency under CEQA Guidelines §15126.2(a), which requires the EIR to evaluate potentially significant physical impacts related to safety and accessibility. I30-8

7. Recommendation – Defer Project Approval Pending LFA and DSA Certification

IUSD should defer project approval until the Local Fire Authority (LFA) and Division of the State Architect (DSA) issue written approvals confirming compliance with fire-safety and accessibility standards. Proceeding otherwise would constitute a procedural defect under CEQA §§15090–15091. I30-9

8. ADA Safety and Emergency Evacuation Preparedness for Game and Non-School Events

The DEIR fails to evaluate ADA life-safety conditions and emergency evacuation procedures under event scenarios involving large crowds during both school-sponsored and non-school events. I30-10

i. ADA Safety During Events – The DEIR does not show how accessible egress routes, wheelchair seating, and emergency access aisles will be maintained during large gatherings. No diagrams or references to CBC Chapter 11B §§11B-403.5 and 11B-1008 are provided. There is no evidence of audible/visual emergency notification systems for individuals with disabilities.

ii. Non-School Event Oversight – The DEIR fails to establish management and oversight standards for non-school events. Without a responsible entity identified for safety and ADA compliance, the project risks violating Title II of the ADA concerning program accessibility in public facilities. I30-11

ii. Emergency Evacuation and Lighting Failure Scenarios – The DEIR omits any analysis of emergency evacuation in the event of lighting failure or earthquake during night events. It should evaluate whether backup power, egress I30-12

illumination, and PA system override capabilities are in place to enable safe evacuation. The absence of an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) coordinated with the Local Fire Authority and Orange County Emergency Management Division is a major safety oversight. I30-12cont

iv. Requested Revisions – The Final EIR must include a comprehensive ADA Safety and Emergency Evacuation Plan that:

- Identifies accessible evacuation routes and assembly points for all event types;
- Specifies backup power and lighting provisions compliant with CBC §1008.3;
- Requires written approval from the LFA and DSA before occupancy.

I30-13

Until these measures are addressed, the DEIR fails to ensure equitable evacuation and safety for all attendees in compliance with CEQA §15126.2(a) and CBC Chapters 10 and 11B.

Thank you for considering these comments. The DEIR must be revised to include realistic, data-supported analysis that fully reflects community, life-safety, and accessibility requirements.

Sincerely,

Raymond

[REDACTED]

From: Suzanne Wong [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 4:50 PM
To: Katie McEwen; Lauren Brooks; Connie Stone; Cyril Yu; Cassie Parham; Kathleen Gil; Jeff Kim
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Community Concerns - Draft EIR for Lights and Loud Speaker Installation at Northwood HS

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents of Orchard Hills writing to express our deep concerns regarding IUSD's proposal to install stadium lights and loud PA speakers at Northwood High School. I31-1

As nearby residents who will be impacted by this project, we were not properly informed about this project, and the Draft EIR does not take into account the impacts on nearby residential communities. Our understanding is that Northwood High School did not request these lights or speakers. It is one matter to accommodate after-school practices, but we are greatly concerned about the District's stated intent to allow non-school related activities, as cited in the project scope. I31-2

Our communities already face ongoing issues such as illegal student drop-offs and pick-ups that block our private streets, as well as trespassing and damage to community-maintained landscaping. Night events, particularly those unrelated to school activities, would only exacerbate these existing problems. I31-3

Many of us purchased our homes in Orchard Hills for the quiet enjoyment and the quality of life the community offers. Nighttime activities would bring additional noise, lighting, traffic, and overflow parking into our neighborhoods, permanently altering that balance and character of our community. I31-4

Although we are unable to attend the November 4 IUSD Board meeting, please register our objections to the current Draft EIR for the reasons outlined above. We support the educational mission of Northwood High School and IUSD, but strongly urge the District to consider the ongoing burdens this project would impose on nearby residents who have invested our life's savings to live in this quiet community. I31-5

We respectfully request that IUSD withdraw the current project or, at minimum, revise the Draft EIR to fully evaluate its impacts on surrounding residential neighborhoods. Please take into consideration the consequences of your decision-making on residents and voters in our Orchard Hills and Northwood Pointe communities. I31-6

Sincerely,

Suzanne Wong

Kathleen Gil

From:

John Cui [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject:

[EXTERNAL] Comments RE Draft EIR for Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA
Speakers Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents and registered voters of the Lanes End community in Northwood Pointe, I132-1 directly across from Northwood High School's football field on the south side of Portola Parkway.

Setting aside existing problems with student parking in our neighborhood, this project would create even greater challenges for our community, including overflow parking, traffic I132-2 congestion, noise, and light spillage, all of which the Draft EIR fails to evaluate from our side of the street. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built?

The IUSD Board made a wise and considered decision in 1999, when Northwood High School was constructed, not to include lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating. Why change course now, when over 4,000 additional homes have since been built in the surrounding neighborhoods? This proposal appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's long-standing I132-3 master planning principles, which emphasize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the distinct character of each village. Introducing additional noise, lighting, and traffic impacts would inevitably disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, diminish property values, and increase HOA costs over time.

Even more concerning, the project scope explicitly allows for non-school related activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no description of what these events are, how often they would occur, or what restrictions or controls would apply. The lack of definition and analysis in the Draft I132-4 EIR raises serious questions about whether the full scope and impacts of the project have been properly evaluated.

We find this proposal troubling, as it conflicts with the principles of good neighborliness and responsible community planning. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw this project I132-5 entirely and uphold the sound precedent set by your predecessors in 1999. They made the

right decision then, and we urge the Board to show the same careful consideration in deciding this matter now.

We look forward to seeing these concerns registered in the draft EIR comments.

Sincerely,

Name: JUN CUI

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Kathleen Gil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 11:48 AM
To: Katie McEwen
Cc: Jeff Kim; Lauren Brooks; Connie Stone; Cyril Yu; Cassie Parham; Kathleen Gil; Eric Keith; [REDACTED]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Draft Environmental Impact Report

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

I am a resident of Orchard Hills and recently became aware of the proposed Northwood High School field lighting and PA speakers project.

I33-1

I am deeply concerned as to why the immediately adjacent neighborhoods were not informed or consulted during the preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The Draft EIR fails to address critical residential neighborhood impacts in several key areas. For example, it overlooks traffic and overflow parking into our communities, which is already a daily problem, and does not analyze peak game-day conditions for noise, traffic, or lighting spillage. The Draft EIR also incorrectly assumes that attendees would use public transportation, even though there is no OCTA bus route along Portola Parkway. It further lacks any plan for security or coordination with the Irvine Police Department to manage illegal parking, trespassing, and loitering in our private neighborhoods, which directly affects residents' quiet enjoyment.

I33-2

While the project scope and disclosure filings with the State clearly and repeatedly state that the purpose of the proposed lights and PA speakers includes hosting non-school related events, the Draft EIR provides no explanation of what these "non-school events" are, how often they would occur, or what limits or other restrictions would apply, including traffic control, parking management, and community security. This complete lack of analysis leaves significant uncertainty about the scale and nature of potential uses.

I33-3

Even giving the District the benefit of the doubt, and taking the project scope at face value, the cost-benefit analysis does not appear to justify the installation of permanent stadium lights and loudspeakers for only five or six home football games a year. The resulting permanent disruptions, neighborhood impacts, and unnecessary costs to taxpayers cannot be justified by the limited and short-term benefits this project would provide.

I33-4

I strongly urge the Board to drop this project or, at minimum, reject the current flawed Draft EIR and require a full redo of the EIR process to correct its fundamental deficiencies, including meaningful consultation with nearby residential communities and a genuine analysis of the true impacts on surrounding neighborhoods.

I33-5

Thank you for your reconsideration.

Elizabeth Mancuso

[REDACTED]

I33-5 cont

Kathleen Gil

From: James Mancuso [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Objections to Draft EIR for Lights and Loud Speakers Installation Project at Northwood High

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

I34-1

I am a resident of Orchard Hills and recently became aware of the proposed Northwood High School field lighting and PA speakers project.

I am deeply concerned as to why the immediately adjacent neighborhoods were not informed or consulted during the preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The Draft EIR fails to address critical residential neighborhood impacts in several key areas. For example, it overlooks traffic and overflow parking into our communities, which is already a daily problem, and does not analyze peak game-day conditions for noise, traffic, or lighting spillage. The Draft EIR also incorrectly assumes that attendees would use public transportation, even though there is no OCTA bus route along Portola Parkway. It further lacks any plan for security or coordination with the Irvine Police Department to manage illegal parking, trespassing, and loitering in our private neighborhoods, which directly affects residents' quiet enjoyment.

I34-2

While the project scope and disclosure filings with the State clearly and repeatedly state that the purpose of the proposed lights and PA speakers includes hosting non-school related events, the Draft EIR provides no explanation of what these "non-school events" are, how often they would occur, or what limits or other restrictions would apply, including traffic control, parking management, and community security. This complete lack of analysis leaves significant uncertainty about the scale and nature of potential uses.

I34-3

Even giving the District the benefit of the doubt, and taking the project scope at face value, the cost-benefit analysis does not appear to justify the installation of permanent stadium lights and loudspeakers for only five or six home football games a year. The resulting permanent disruptions, neighborhood impacts, and unnecessary costs to taxpayers cannot be justified by the limited and short-term benefits this project would provide.

I34-4

I strongly urge the Board to drop this project or, at minimum, reject the current flawed Draft EIR and require a full redo of the EIR process to correct its fundamental deficiencies, including meaningful consultation with nearby residential communities and a genuine analysis of the true impacts on surrounding neighborhoods.

I34-5

Thank you for your reconsideration.

Sincerely,
James Mancuso
[REDACTED]

Comment Letter I35

From:

Date:

Attachments:

[REDACTED] re: NHS Stadium light, noise pollution and traffic concerns
Sunday, October 19, 2025 9:26:34 PM
[Outlook-eou3ez55.png](#)
[Outlook-zdhozr3z.png](#)

Fyi

Katie McEwen
Board of Education
Irvine Unified School District



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Concerns re: NHS Stadium light, noise pollution and traffic concerns

Your quick reply is much appreciated, Katie.

I'd love to understand what we gain in adding lights and a PA system. I know it would increase the times available for events to be held. It seems we have enough facilities including Uni to accommodate those needs.

I35-1

Thank you,

Corinne

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 19, 2025, at 4:15 PM, Katie McEwen <KatieMcEwen@iusd.org> wrote:

Dear Corinne,

Thank you for taking the time to share your concerns regarding the proposed lighting project at Northwood High School. The Board of Education values the

engagement of our community members, and we appreciate you taking the time to share your perspective.

Please know that all members of the IUSD Board of Education have received your message. However, in keeping with the Brown Act, which governs how elected boards may communicate outside of public meetings, I am responding on behalf of the Board in my capacity as Board President.

As with all facility-related projects, the Board carefully considers the needs of our students, staff, and surrounding community. We take into account the full range of perspectives, including concerns shared by residents, as we make decisions that best support equitable access to programs and facilities across all of our schools.

We understand that change can bring questions and concerns, and we are committed to ensuring that any improvements made to our campuses, such as the proposed addition of athletic field lighting, are implemented thoughtfully and with consideration for both our students and our neighboring communities.

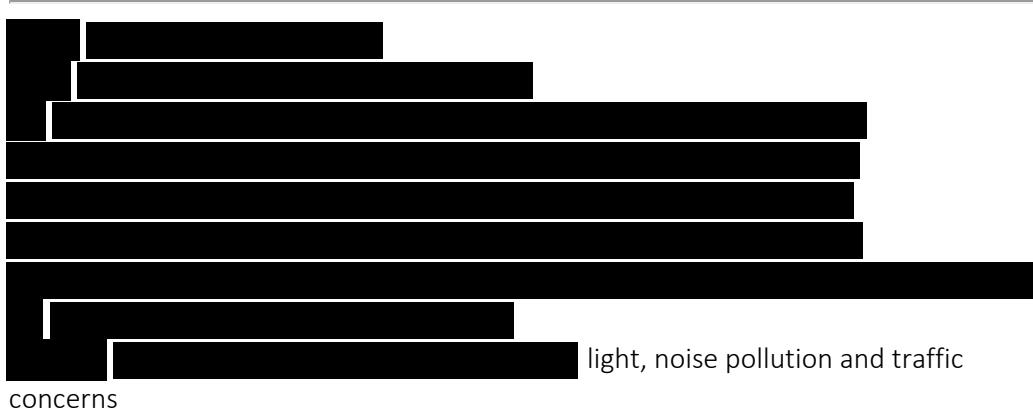
Thank you again for your engagement and for being an active member of the Irvine Unified community.

Best,

Katie McEwen
Board of Education
Irvine Unified School District



IRVINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



light, noise pollution and traffic

concerns

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Greetings to our city leaders!

I am a resident of the Orchard Hills 2 community in Irvine, directly adjacent to NHS.

We are concerned about your upcoming stadium lights and speaker project that may have the following impact on my community.

We have had all our kids in athletics on the wonderful track and field at Northwood, but feel Irvine has enough stadiums at Irvine High, Portola and Crean Lutheran for evening and large events.

Irvine, our quiet hills and wildlife don't need more noise and light pollution.

We may also experience significantly increased traffic potentially racing through our residential streets. We already have problems with speeding and issues with safety for walkers, joggers, bikers, strollers, skating. This may add to the issue. Students and parents already use our private, residential streets as a thoroughfare.

1. **Traffic:** Night games will bring heavy evening traffic through our streets.
2. **Parking:** As the only non-gated community in Orchard Hills, OHVII will absorb event overflow parking—adding to the illegal student parking already occurring daily.
3. **Trespassing and Property Damage:** Students frequently cross through our landscaped areas, causing nearly \$100,000 in repairs and security costs. Night events will invite more property damage and costs, which could increase HOA assessment dues.
4. **Light Pollution:** Stadium lights will be visible across OHVII and as far as Corte Bella.
5. **Noise:** Night events will bring amplified announcements, cheering, and two marching bands (home and away teams) disrupting evening quiet.
6. **Lack of Transparency:** When Northwood was built in 1999, IUSD chose not to install lights to protect nearby homes. Now, with over 4,000 homes in Orchard Hills—including 809 in OHVII—IUSD has failed to extend that same consideration to our community.

I urge you to reconsider the breadth of the project and put in mitigating measures to address the concerns noted above which are shared by my fellow community residents.

Thank you for representing us on the City Council. Irvine is a master planned community priding itself on peaceful green spaces for relaxation, health and well-being. Let's preserve that in as many of our neighborhoods as possible.

Corinne Giesemann

Sent from my iPhone

From:

Date:

Attachments:



Re: Concerns re: NHS Stadium light, noise pollution and traffic concerns

Monday, October 20, 2025 9:15:00 PM

[Outlook-vyj0xyw4.png](#)

fyi

Katie McEwen
Board of Education
Irvine Unified School District



From:

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Concerns re: NHS Stadium light, noise pollution and traffic concerns

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Thank you, Kathleen, for the meeting this evening.

Melinda, Jeff, Katie and IUSD Board members, I'd like to point out some additional concerns:

1) Fiscal responsible allocation of tax payer dollars. There is not a pressing need for extended time on the athletic fields at this time. The 4 lighted fields (IHS, PHS, UHS, Crean Lutheran + Beckman HS) provide adequate facilities.

2) Parking concerns: Back-to-School might already produces significant overflow traffic into the surrounding community requiring shuttles. This will be reproduced many times over with large events. The HOA has spent a great deal of money with trash all over our community from students trespassing into our community. We will continue to foot the cost for the littering and damage to landscaping.

3) We hear normal noises (band in the AM, bells) already, which is nice in the daytime. We

hear fireworks from Anaheim. They echo through our hills. The wildlife in the preserved hills will No Doubtedly be affected. Animals and residents NEED a quiet place to retreat to at night.

All biological beings NEED a dark, quiet place at night. We know that to keep our circadian rhythm on track and cortisol levels healthy. This is important for the well-being of our students.

4) The current EIR study takes into consideration only “athletic” noise. It DOES NOT take into account BAND, MUSIC, PA system noise. It also does not take into account traffic and speeding which already occurs on Orchard Hills Drive. When other high school students “discover” this street to speed on, it will be detrimental. It curves and is poorly lighted. Irvine Traffic and Irvine Conservancy should be involved and comment as well.

There will certainly be more traffic accidents and violations.

5) What is the background of the person making conclusions on the environmental impact of this project? Common sense knows it will create a significant amount of disruptive noise.

6) The other Irvine stadiums are located in more urban areas. NHS is nestled in the hills. It WILL affect the ecosystem and disturb the wildlife. My request is to have the Irvine Conservancy weigh in on this project.

7) Risk management of the increased traffic and potential accidents, traffic and parking violations, etc. Orchard Hills Drive is a curved, lowly lit road with a dangerous blind spot on the corner of Big Sycamore and Orchard Hills Drive. We urge that the City of Irvine Traffic conduct their own study.

8) EIR does not take into account projection of impact in years and just impact within the first few months.

We strongly urge you to take each of these concerns very seriously and respect the **thousands** of residents to be affected.

Lastly, we did not receive notice on this, so we are disadvantaged in lead time to respond adequately.

Thank you,

Corinne

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 18, 2025, at 11:03 AM, P G [REDACTED] wrote:

Greetings to our city leaders!

I am a resident of the Orchard Hills 2 community in Irvine, directly adjacent to

NHS.

We are concerned about your upcoming stadium lights and speaker project that may have the following impact on my community.

We have had all our kids in athletics on the wonderful track and field at Northwood, but feel Irvine has enough stadiums at Irvine High, Portola and Crean Lutheran for evening and large events.

Irvine, our quiet hills and wildlife don't need more noise and light pollution.

We may also experience significantly increased traffic potentially racing through our residential streets. We already have problems with speeding and issues with safety for walkers, joggers, bikers, strollers, skating. This may add to the issue. Students and parents already use our private, residential streets as a thoroughfare.

1. **Traffic:** Night games will bring heavy evening traffic through our streets.
2. **Parking:** As the only non-gated community in Orchard Hills, OHVII will absorb event overflow parking—adding to the illegal student parking already occurring daily.
3. **Trespassing and Property Damage:** Students frequently cross through our landscaped areas, causing nearly \$100,000 in repairs and security costs. Night events will invite more property damage and costs, which could increase HOA assessment dues.
4. **Light Pollution:** Stadium lights will be visible across OHVII and as far as Corte Bella.
5. **Noise:** Night events will bring amplified announcements, cheering, and two marching bands (home and away teams) disrupting evening quiet.
6. **Lack of Transparency:** When Northwood was built in 1999, IUSD chose not to install lights to protect nearby homes. Now, with over 4,000 homes in Orchard Hills—including 809 in OHVII—IUSD has failed to extend that same consideration to our community.

I urge you to reconsider the breadth of the project and put in mitigating measures to address the concerns noted above which are shared by my fellow community residents.

Thank you for representing us on the City Council. Irvine is a master planned community priding itself on peaceful green spaces for relaxation, health and well-being. Let's preserve that in as many of our neighborhoods as possible.

Corinne Gieseemann

Sent from my iPhone

Comment Letter I36

From: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Opposition – Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Improvement Project (Draft Environmental Impact Report)
Date: Thursday, October 23, 2025 1:49:10 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-d5tyaxsr.png](#)

Dear Sarah,

The IUSD Board has received your email and letter and will take into consideration your feedback. As Board President, I am responding for the Board in order to comply with The Brown Act, which governs how elected boards may communicate outside of public meetings.

Thank you for taking the time to share your concerns and we appreciate your sharing your perspective.

Best,

Katie McEwen
Board of Education
Irvine Unified School District



From: Sarah [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2025 5:50 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Opposition – Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Improvement Project (Draft Environmental Impact Report)

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen, Members of the IUSD Board, and City Leaders,

I am writing as a concerned resident of The Groves at Orchard Hills to respectfully oppose the proposed field lighting and loudspeaker project at Northwood High School. This project is unnecessary, unwanted, and deeply disruptive to our surrounding neighborhoods of more than 4,000 homes. I36-1

Northwood High School did not request this project. The Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) is deeply flawed, overlooking the real impacts of noise, lighting, traffic, and parking on I36-2

nearby communities such as Orchard Hills and Northwood Pointe. Our neighborhoods already face ongoing issues with Northwood students' illegal parking, student drop-offs, trespassing onto landscaped areas, and property damage, which have cost residents thousands of dollars in repairs, re-landscaping, fencing, and security.

I36-2 cont

This project is a wasteful use of taxpayer money. Existing problems remain unresolved by the District, and this proposed project would only make them worse. It would further diminish the quality of life and reduce property values for hundreds of families who live closest to the school. We elect our leaders to solve community issues, not to create new ones.

I36-3

I respectfully urge the Board to withdraw the DEIR and to work collaboratively with our community to find solutions that both support students and respect the rights of residents who live here.

Sincerely,

I36-4

Best regards,
Sarah Le

Comment Letter I37

From: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Objection to the stadium lights built at NHS.
Date: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 8:02:41 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-uq31q3qq.png](#)

fyi

Katie McEwen
Board of Education
Irvine Unified School District



From: Sierra Xie [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 7:53 PM
To: Katie McEwen [REDACTED]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Objection to the stadium lights built at NHS.

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Katie,

I am a resident at Orchard Hill II. The reason I am writing this email to you is to let you know that I do not like the idea of building stadium lights at NHS. It is not necessary and will ruin the quality of life we enjoy here at Orchard Hills. There is no parking, and will promote more trespassing on our properties. Strong objections from me and my family.

Best regards,

Feng XIE

I37-1

Comment Letter I38

From: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: IUSD's proposal to install stadium lights and loud stadium speakersystems at the Northwood High School sports fields
Date: Thursday, October 30, 2025 1:55:18 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

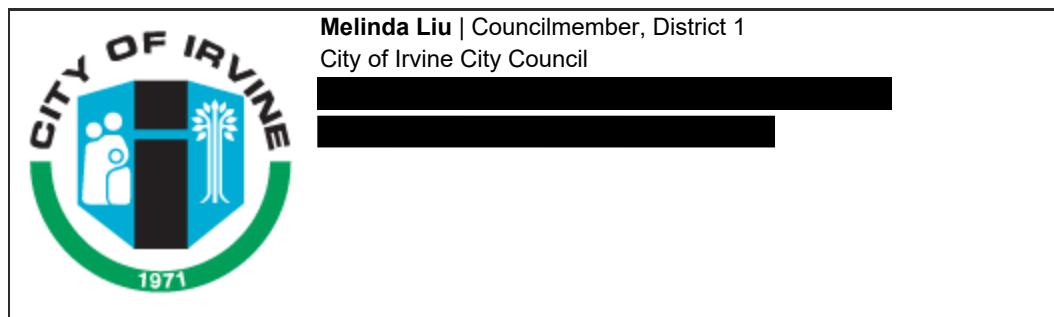
I don't know if you received this - I actually didn't even though my name is on the email
Melinda liu sent it to me
Lauren Brooks
Board of Education,
Irvine Unified School District

Sent from my iPhone.
Please excuse all typos.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Melinda Liu Web [REDACTED]
Date: October 30, 2025 at 12:38:08 PM PDT
To: Lauren Brooks [REDACTED]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: IUSD's proposal to install stadium lights and loud stadium speakersystems at the Northwood High School sports fields

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.



From: Shu Liping [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: IUSD's proposal to install stadium lights and loud stadium speakersystems at the Northwood High School sports fields

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL

Dear all,

My name is Liping Shu, and I live in Lanes End in Northwood Pointe, right next to Portola Parkway. I recently heard about the IUSD proposal to install stadium lights and loud stadium speaker systems at the Northwood High School sports fields, and this has made me very anxious and worried. I38-1

I live with my 80-year-old mother, who is very sensitive to noise and already suffers from severe sleep and rest issues. The installation of high-volume sound equipment so close to our home would have a significant negative impact on her health and well-being. I38-2

I sincerely hope that the district will seek more input from nearby residents and handle this matter with great care. Thank you very much for your willingness to listen to the concerns of the community.

Best regards,

Liping Shu I38-3

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

殳丽萍
Annie Liping Shu

Comment Letter I39

From:

Subject:

Date:

Attachments:

[REDACTED]
Re: [EXTERNAL] Installation of stadium lights and speakers at the Northwood High School
Friday, October 31, 2025 8:00:15 AM
[Outlook-3utw1gdv.png](#)

Dear Cindy,

The IUSD Board has received your email and letter and will take into consideration your feedback. As Board President, I am responding for the Board in order to comply with The Brown Act, which governs how elected boards may communicate outside of public meetings.

Thank you for taking the time to share your concerns and we appreciate your sharing your perspective.

Best,

Katie McEwen
Board of Education
Irvine Unified School District



[REDACTED]

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Repeited Board Members of the IUSD,

We would like to express our concerns regarding the proposal of putting in additional stadium lights and speakers at the Northwood High School.

As residents on Mustang of Corte Bella, we hear the school sport activities (and the coaches' commands) with the current sound system. We are afraid that with the

I39-1

I39-2

proposed additional broadcasts and lightings system, our peace and quiet will be much more affected. In addition, we do not want to see more invalid parking of cars on the neighborhood streets due to increased school sports.

I39-2 cont

We appreciate your kind attention to this matter. Thank you.

Cindy and Don Bai

I39-3

[REDACTED]

Kathleen Gil

From: Jesse Barron
Sent: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 8:15 AM
To: Kathleen Gil
Cc: Kelvin Okino
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Comments RE Draft EIR for Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Speakers Project

Hi Kathleen,

Please add the below email if you have not already received for the Northwood HS Field Lighting Project.

Thank you,

Jesse Barron
Coordinator, Facilities Planning | Irvine Unified School District



From: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Comments RE Draft EIR for Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Speakers Project

From: Cassie Parham [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 4:46 AM
To: Raianna Chavez [REDACTED] >
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Comments RE Draft EIR for Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Speakers Project

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From: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments RE Draft EIR for Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Speakers Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Cassie,

We are residents and registered voters of the Lanes End community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School's football field on the south side of Portola Parkway. I40-1

Setting aside existing problems with student parking in our neighborhood, this project would create even greater challenges for our community, including overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light spillage, all of which the Draft EIR fails to evaluate from our side of the street. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built? I40-2

The IUSD Board made a wise and considered decision in 1999, when Northwood High School was constructed, not to include lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating. Why change course now, when over 4,000 additional homes have since been built in the surrounding neighborhoods? This proposal appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's long-standing master planning principles, which emphasize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the distinct character of each village. Introducing additional noise, lighting, and traffic impacts would inevitably disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, diminish property values, and increase HOA costs over time. I40-3

Even more concerning, the project scope explicitly allows for non-school related activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no description of what these events are, how often they would occur, or what restrictions or controls would apply. The lack of definition and analysis in the Draft EIR raises serious questions about whether the full scope and impacts of the project have been properly evaluated. I40-4

We find this proposal troubling, as it conflicts with the principles of good neighborliness and responsible community planning. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw this project entirely and uphold the sound precedent set by your predecessors in 1999. They made the right decision then, and we urge the Board to show the same careful consideration in deciding this matter now. I40-5

We look forward to seeing these concerns registered in the draft EIR comments.

Sincerely,

Dr. Wenkai Qin I40-6

[REDACTED]

Kathleen Gil**From:**KK Chen [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]**Subject:**

[EXTERNAL] Concern regarding Northwood High Lighting Projects

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Members of the Board,

I am writing to express my concerns of the proposed Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project. As a long-time resident of the Northwood neighborhood, I am deeply concerned that this project will irreversibly damage the quiet and semi-rural character of our community. I41-1

Our neighborhood is a peaceful residential area surrounded by orchard groves and open space, where residents value quite environment, dark night skies, minimal noise, and light evening traffic. The introduction of four 70-foot light poles, an amplified public-address system, and expanded nighttime athletic events beyond Northwood High school uses will bring new and ongoing light, noise, and vehicle impacts into an area not designed for this level of activity. I41-2

Although the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) concludes that these impacts are “less than significant,” that finding does not reflect the reality our community will experience. The DEIR identifies no mitigation measures to address increased lighting, noise, or traffic. Instead, it relies on technical assumptions that underestimate the actual day-to-day disruption these facilities will cause. Without enforceable restrictions on event frequency, hours of operation, or sound levels, there are no real protections for nearby residents. I41-3

Furthermore, the public outreach for this project was inadequate. Many affected homeowners were unaware of the proposed project. One scoping notice and limited online postings do not constitute meaningful engagement for a project with citywide implications. I41-4

With the installation of permanent lighting and a PA system, Northwood High School would effectively become a regional event facility serving the entire City of Irvine, rather than a neighborhood school. The DEIR even acknowledges that the fields would be available for outside user groups under the Civic Center Act. This means our quiet residential area would host large-scale community or city events at night — bringing in additional traffic, parking congestion, and noise far beyond what is appropriate for a neighborhood setting. I41-5

Once these changes are made, the peaceful character of our community cannot be restored. For these reasons, I urge the Irvine Unified School District and the board to reject this project and instead select the No Project Alternative outlined in the DEIR. Northwood High can continue to provide outstanding educational opportunities without imposing citywide event impacts on its surrounding neighborhoods. I41-6

Thank you for considering my comments.

Best Regards,

Katie Chen

Kathleen Gil

From:

[REDACTED]

Subject:

[EXTERNAL] Objections to Draft EIR for Lights and Loud Speakers Installation Project at Northwood High

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

I42-1

I am a resident of Orchard Hills and recently became aware of the proposed Northwood High School field lighting and PA speakers project.

I am deeply concerned as to why the immediately adjacent neighborhoods were not informed or consulted during the preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The Draft EIR fails to address critical residential neighborhood impacts in several key areas. For example, it overlooks traffic and overflow parking into our communities, which is already a daily problem, and does not analyze peak game-day conditions for noise, traffic, or lighting spillage. The Draft EIR also incorrectly assumes that attendees would use public transportation, even though there is no OCTA bus route along Portola Parkway. It further lacks any plan for security or coordination with the Irvine Police Department to manage illegal parking, trespassing, and loitering in our private neighborhoods, which directly affects residents' quiet enjoyment.

I42-2

While the project scope and disclosure filings with the State clearly and repeatedly state that the purpose of the proposed lights and PA speakers includes hosting non-school related events, the Draft EIR provides no explanation of what these "non-school events" are, how often they would occur, or what limits or other restrictions would apply, including traffic control, parking management, and community security. This complete lack of analysis leaves significant uncertainty about the scale and nature of potential uses.

I42-3

Even giving the District the benefit of the doubt, and taking the project scope at face value, the cost-benefit analysis does not appear to justify the installation of permanent stadium lights and loudspeakers for only five or six home football games a year. The resulting permanent disruptions, neighborhood impacts, and unnecessary costs to taxpayers cannot be justified by the limited and short-term benefits this project would provide.

I42-4

I strongly urge the Board to reject the current flawed Draft EIR and require a full redo of the EIR process to correct its fundamental deficiencies, including meaningful consultation with nearby residential communities and a genuine analysis of the true impacts on surrounding neighborhoods.

I42-5

Thank you for your reconsideration.

Sincerely,
Grace Ouy

Kathleen Gil

From: Nancy Valuch [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 10, 2025 4:21 PM
To: Jeff Kim; Lauren Brooks; Cyril Yu; Cassie Parham; Kathleen Gil; Eric Keith
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Concern Regarding Northwood High School Stadium Lights and PA System
Attachments: schoollitesboard.pdf

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Please see attached letter. We are original owners of the LanesEnd community and are very concerned about the proposed Northwood High School Lights and PA System, especially the impact on parking in our community. We have parking available ONLY on one side of each street. The other side is designated as a FIRE LANE with towing as a solution throughout the community.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents and registered voters of the Lanesend community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School's football field on the south side of Portola Parkway. I43-2

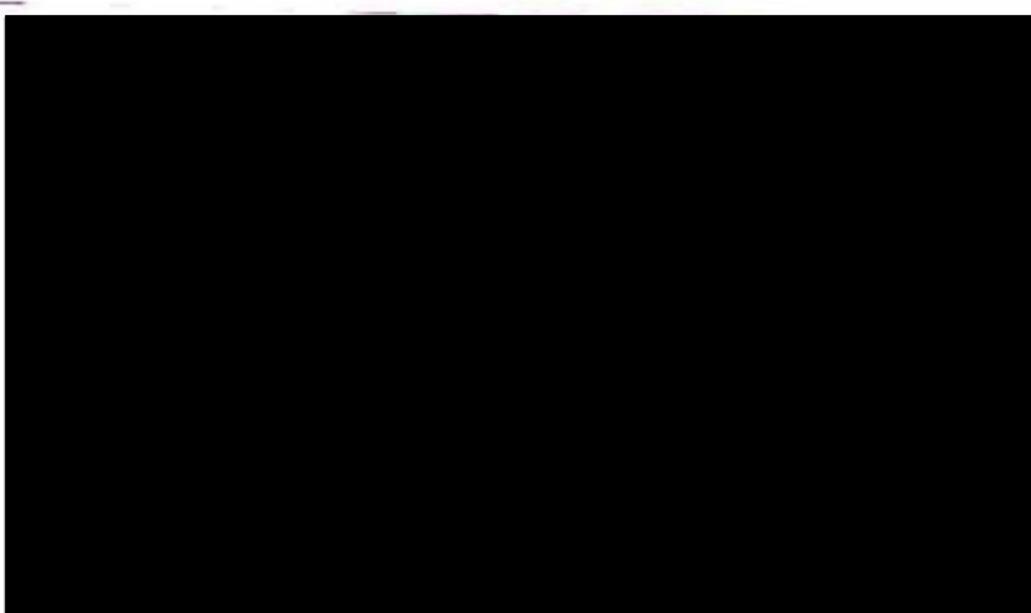
Setting aside existing problems with student parking in our neighborhood, this project would create even greater challenges for our community, including overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light spillage, all of which the Draft EIR fails to evaluate from our side of the street. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built? I43-3

The IUSD Board made a wise and considered decision in 1999, when Northwood High School was constructed, not to include lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating. Why change course now, when over 4,000 additional homes have since been built in the surrounding neighborhoods? This proposal appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's long-standing master planning principles, which emphasize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the distinct character of each village. Introducing additional noise, lighting, and traffic impacts would inevitably disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, diminish property values, and increase HOA costs over time. I43-4

Even more concerning, the project scope explicitly allows for non-school related activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no description of what these events are, how often they would occur, or what restrictions or controls would apply. The lack of definition and analysis in the Draft EIR raises serious questions about whether the full scope and impacts of the project have been properly evaluated. I43-5

We find this proposal troubling, as it conflicts with the principles of good neighborliness and responsible community planning. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw this project entirely and uphold the sound precedent set by your predecessors in 1999. They made the right decision then, and we urge the Board to show the same careful consideration in deciding this matter now. I43-6

We look forward to seeing these concerns registered in the draft EIR comments. I43-7



Kathleen Gil

From: Jacquelyn Chiong [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments Re: Draft EIR for Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Speakers Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents and registered voters of the Lanesend community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood I44-1 High School's football field on the south side of Portola Parkway.

Setting aside existing problems with student parking in our neighborhood, this project would create even greater challenges for our community, including overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light spillage, all of which the Draft I44-2 EIR fails to evaluate from our side of the street. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built?

The IUSD Board made a wise and considered decision in 1999, when Northwood High School was constructed, not to include lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating. Why change course now, when over 4,000 additional homes have since I44-3 been built in the surrounding neighborhoods? This proposal appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's long-standing master planning principles, which emphasize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the distinct character of each village. Introducing additional noise, lighting, and traffic impacts would inevitably disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, diminish property values, and increase HOA costs over time.

Even more concerning, the project scope explicitly allows for non-school related activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no I44-4 description of what these events are, how often they would occur, or what restrictions or controls would apply. The lack of definition and analysis in the Draft EIR raises serious questions about whether the full scope and impacts of the project have been properly evaluated.

We find this proposal troubling, as it conflicts with the principles of good neighborliness and responsible community I44-5 planning. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw this project entirely and uphold the sound precedent set by your predecessors in 1999. They made the right decision then, and we urge the Board to show the same careful consideration in deciding this matter now.

We look forward to seeing these concerns registered in the draft EIR comments. I44-6

Sincerely,
Jacquelyn Chiong

Kathleen Gil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 11, 2025 7:16 PM
To: Katie McEwen; Jeff Kim; Lauren Brooks; Connie Stone; Cyril Yu; Cassie Parham; Kathleen Gil; Eric Keith
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments Re: Draft EIR for Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Speakers Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We are residents and registered voters of the Lanesend community in Northwood Pointe, directly across from Northwood High School's football field on the south side of Portola Parkway. I45-1

Setting aside existing problems with student parking in our neighborhood, this project would create even greater challenges for our community, including overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light spillage, all of which the Draft EIR fails to evaluate from our side of the street. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built? I45-2

The IUSD Board made a wise and considered decision in 1999, when Northwood High School was constructed, not to include lights, loudspeakers, or stadium seating. Why change course now, when over 4,000 additional homes have since been built in the surrounding neighborhoods? This proposal appears inconsistent with the City of Irvine's long-standing master planning principles, which emphasize quality of life, neighborhood safety, and the distinct character of each village. Introducing additional noise, lighting, and traffic impacts would inevitably disrupt our community's quiet enjoyment, diminish property values, and increase HOA costs over time. I45-3

Even more concerning, the project scope explicitly allows for non-school related activities, yet the Draft EIR provides no description of what these events are, how often they would occur, or what restrictions or controls would apply. The lack of definition and analysis in the Draft EIR raises serious questions about whether the full scope and impacts of the project have been properly evaluated. I45-4

We find this proposal troubling, as it conflicts with the principles of good neighborliness and responsible community planning. We strongly urge the Board to withdraw this project entirely and uphold the sound precedent set by your predecessors in 1999. They made the right decision then, and we urge the Board to show the same careful consideration in deciding this matter now. I45-5

We look forward to seeing these concerns registered in the draft EIR comments. I45-6

Sincerely,
Brian Gerstein

Kathleen Gil

From: Shu Liping [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 11, 2025 9:07 PM
To: Katie McEwen; Jeff Kim; Lauren Brooks; Connie Stone; Cyril Yu; Eric Keith; Kathleen Gil; Jazelle Nava; District 1 – Melinda Liu –
Cc: John Duong (OHVII)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 回复: IUSD's proposal to install stadium lights and loud stadium speakersystems at the Northwood High School sports fields
Attachments: Lanes End Signature 11072025.pdf

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear all,

Following my attendance at the recent district meeting, I took the opportunity to speak with several of my neighbors. To my surprise, almost none of them were aware of the district's plan to install loudspeakers and lighting equipment at Northwood High School. After I shared the information, many expressed deep concern that such installations could disrupt the peace and quiet of our neighborhood.

Our community includes a significant number of elderly residents who live alone and tend to retire early in the evening. The potential noise from the loudspeakers, in particular, could have a serious impact on their rest and overall well-being.

I am forwarding to you a petition signed by these concerned residents. We respectfully ask that the district carefully consider the impact of this project on the quality of life of those living nearby before proceeding with any installation. I plan to continue collecting signatures from our neighborhood and will share them with you as soon as they are available.

Thank you very much for your understanding and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

殳丽萍
Annie Liping Shu

主题: IUSD's proposal to install stadium lights and loud stadium speakersystems at the Northwood High School sports fields

Dear all,

My name is Liping Shu, and I live in Lanes End in Northwood Pointe, right next to Portola Parkway. I recently heard about the IUSD proposal to install stadium lights and loud stadium speaker systems at the Northwood High School sports fields, and this has made me very anxious and worried.

I live with my 80-year-old mother, who is very sensitive to noise and already suffers from severe sleep and rest issues. The installation of high-volume sound equipment so close to our home would have a significant negative impact on her health and well-being.

I sincerely hope that the district will seek more input from nearby residents and handle this matter with great care. Thank you very much for your willingness to listen to the concerns of the community.

Best regards,

Liping Shu

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Subject: Comments RE Draft EIR for Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Speakers Project

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

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Setting aside existing problems with student parking in our neighborhood, this project would create even greater challenges for our community, including overflow parking, traffic congestion, noise, and light spillage, all of which the Draft EIR fails to evaluate from our side of the street. Why were these significant quality of life factors not taken into account, especially for a community that existed prior to the high school being built?

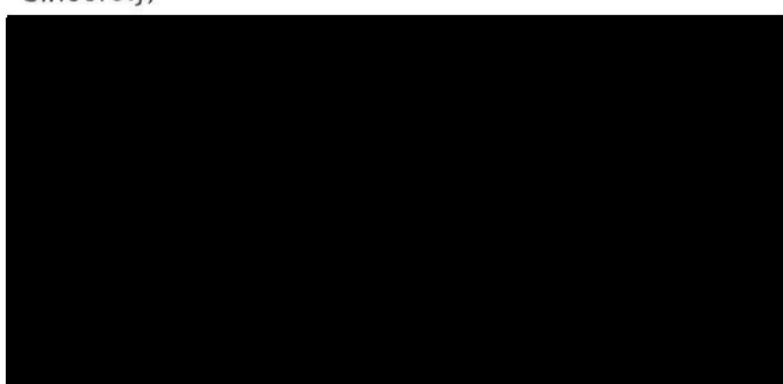
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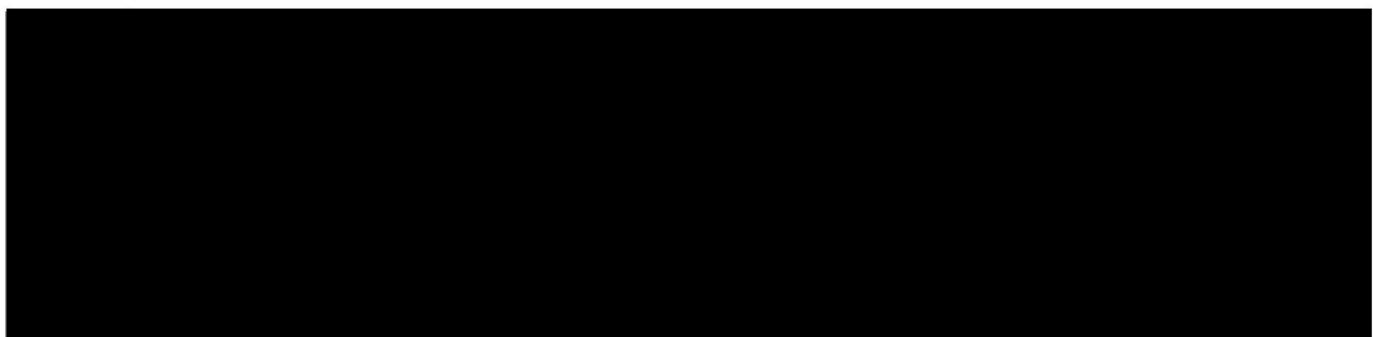
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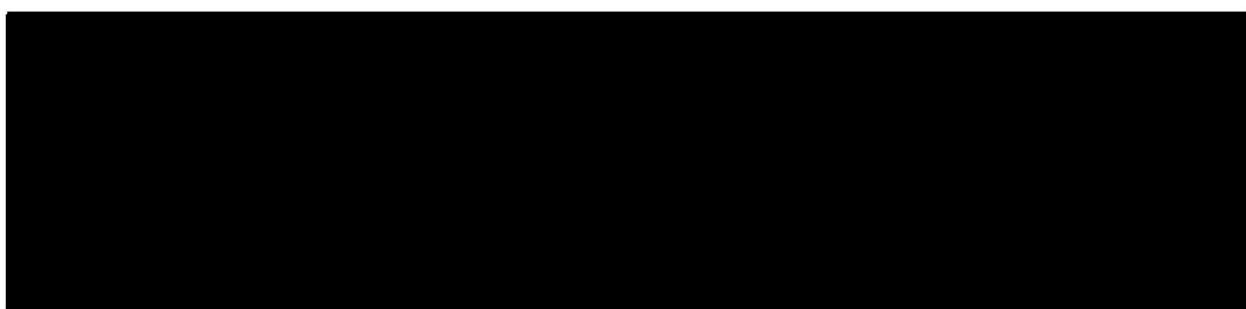
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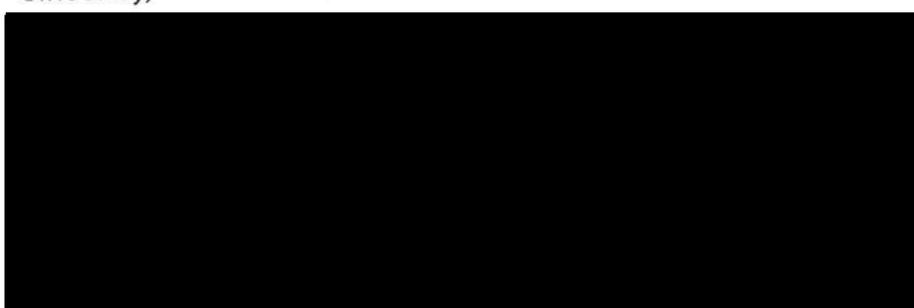
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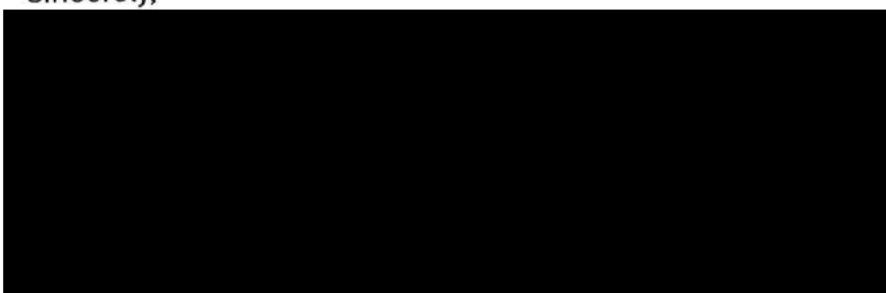
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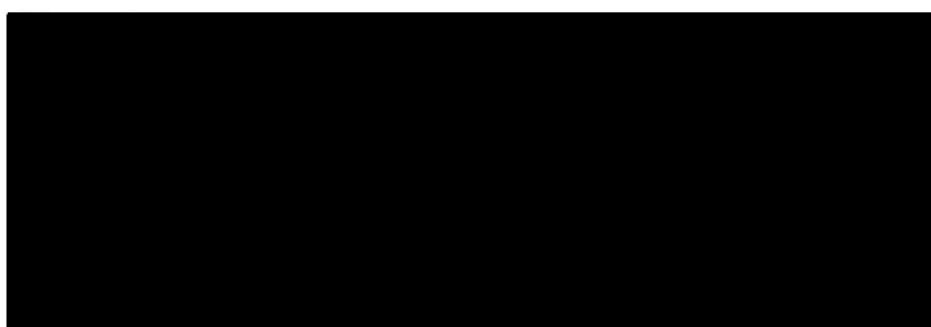
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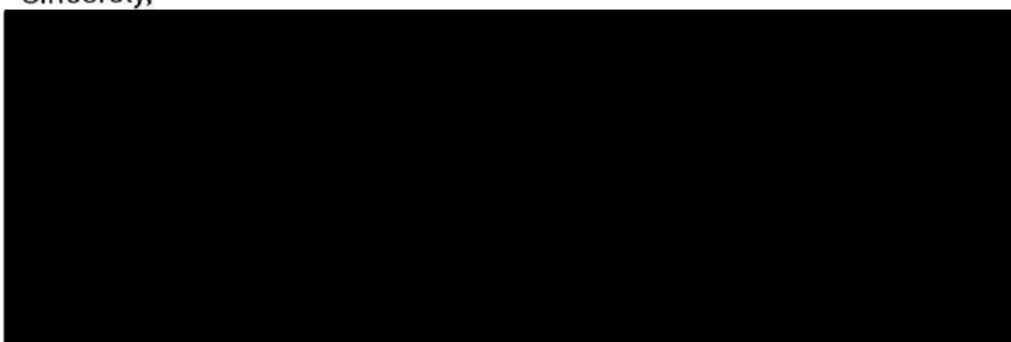
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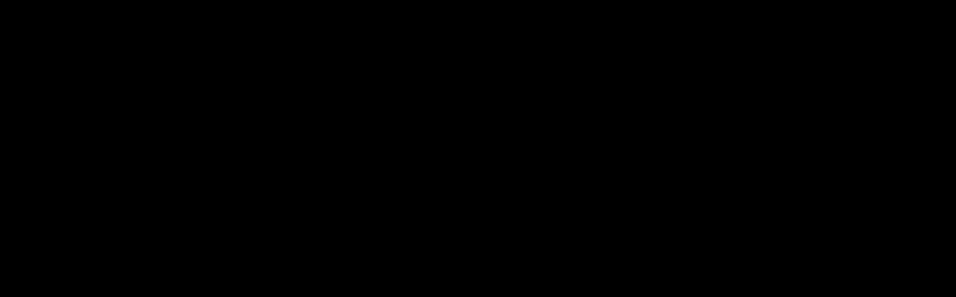
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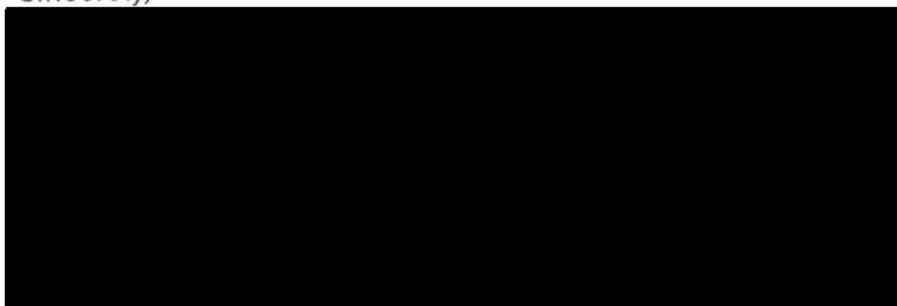
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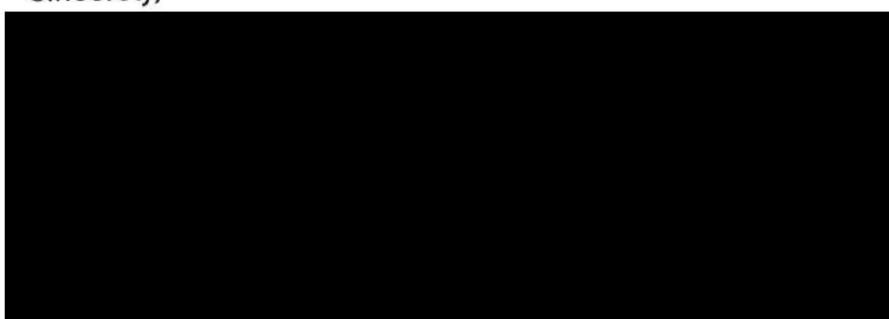
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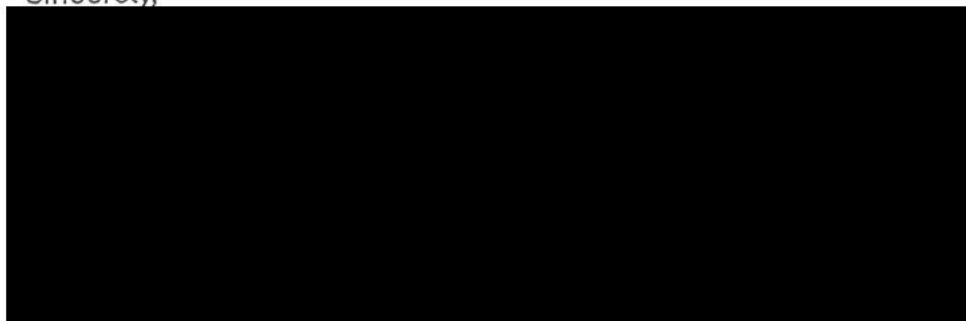
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Kathleen Gil

From:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject:

[EXTERNAL] Re: Community Concerns - Draft EIR for Lights and Loud Speakers Installation at Northwood High School

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

We, residents of Orchard Hills, are writing to express our deep concerns regarding IUSD's proposal to install stadium lights and a loud PA system at Northwood High School. I47-1

As nearby residents who will be impacted by this project, we were not properly informed about it, and the Draft EIR does not adequately account for the impacts on nearby residential communities. Our understanding is that Northwood High School did not request these lights or speakers. It is one matter to accommodate after-school practices. Still, we are greatly concerned about the District's stated intention to permit non-school-related activities, as outlined in the project scope. I47-2

Our communities already face ongoing issues such as illegal student drop-offs and pick-ups that block our private streets, as well as trespassing and damage to community-maintained landscaping. Night events, particularly those unrelated to school activities, would only exacerbate these existing problems. I47-3

Many of us purchased our homes in Orchard Hills for the quiet enjoyment and the quality of life the community offers. Nighttime activities would bring additional noise, lighting, traffic, and overflow parking into our neighborhoods, permanently altering that balance and character of our community. I47-4

Although we are unable to attend the November 4 IUSD Board meeting, we would like to register our objections to the current Draft EIR for the reasons outlined above. We support the educational mission of Northwood High School and IUSD, but strongly urge the District to consider the ongoing burdens this project would impose on nearby residents who have invested their life's savings to live in this quiet community. I47-5

We respectfully request that IUSD withdraw the current project or, at a minimum, revise the Draft EIR to fully evaluate its impacts on surrounding residential neighborhoods. Please consider the consequences of your decision-making on residents and voters in our Orchard Hills and Northwood Pointe communities. I47-6

Sincerely,
Christina Shaw

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Kathleen Gil

From: Kisung Kim [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Project

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Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. While we strongly support Northwood High School's mission and the education of its students, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, specifically regarding evening events that would result in permanent nighttime impacts on nearby neighborhoods.

We are already experiencing issues stemming from insufficient student parking during regular school days. Students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Since our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly bearing the cost of upkeep and repair for areas affected by this activity.

The proposed major nighttime events would significantly increase these existing problems for residents in Orchard Hills, Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding permanent nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by introducing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours.

Critically, the Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze the resulting noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, thereby ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The Draft EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures, such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community.

We support the goal of providing student-athletes with safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to the existing operating hours for the tennis courts and swimming pools. However, we oppose permitting large evening events that involve amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seating.

We respectfully urge the Irvine Unified School District (IUSD) to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. Additionally, the Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts.

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community.

Sincerely,

Kisung Kim



Kathleen Gil

From:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Subject:

[EXTERNAL] Comments on Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Project (Draft EIR)

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Subject: Comments on Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Project (Draft EIR)

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods.

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours.

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community.

We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts.

I49-1

I49-2

I49-3

I49-4

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community. I49-5

Sincerely,
Ivy Chang

[Redacted]

Kathleen Gil

From:

Lighting and PA Project (Draft

EIR)

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods.

I50-1

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I50-2

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I50-3

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I50-4

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community.

I50-5

Sincerely,
Daphne Kent
Orchard Hills Resident

Kathleen Gil

From: Carlos Takbron [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2025 3:51 PM
To: Kathleen Gil
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Northwood HS Field Lighting and PA Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods.

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We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community.

Sincerely,
Carlos Bravo

Orchard Hills Resident

Kathleen Gil

From:





EIR)

Lighting and PA Project (Draft

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Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

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We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community.

I52-1

I52-2

I52-3

I52-4

I52-5

Sincerely,
Mingyu Joo
Orchard Hills Resident

Kathleen Gil**From:**

[REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and PA Project (Draft

EIR)

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission I53-1 to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods.

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours. I53-2

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We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community. I54-5

Sincerely,
Keumjoo Ahn
Orchard Hills Resident

Kathleen Gil

From:**Subject:**

[EXTERNAL] Comments on Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Project

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Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods.

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We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community.

Sincerely,

Matt Chow
Orchard Hills Resident

Kathleen Gil

From:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Lighting and PA Project (Draft

EIR)

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Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

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I55-1

I55-2

I55-3

I55-4

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community. I55-5

Jim

James P Calpin
Orchard Hills Property Owner

Kathleen Gil**From:**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Yu; Cassie Parham; Eric Keith;

Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We have been homeowners in Irvine for nearly 40 years and are voters of the Orchard Hills community. We recently became aware of the planned lights and public address system project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High (and many other IUSD schools) and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods. I56-1

Currently, there is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise intrusion, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours. I56-2

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We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts. I56-4

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community. I56-5

Sincerely,
Rack and Myung Hong
Orchard Hills Resident

Kathleen Gil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2025 4:14 PM
To: Kathleen Gil
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Subject: Comments on Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods.

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We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community.

Sincerely,

Batool Peykarestan
Orchard Hills resident

Kathleen Gil

From: Jean Chow [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2025 4:33 PM
To: Kathleen Gil
Cc: Jeff Kim
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Northwood

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods.

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We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community.

Sincerely,
Jean Chow

Orchard Hills Resident

Kathleen Gil

From:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Cassie Parham; Eric Keith; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject:

[EXTERNAL] Fwd: Subject: Comments on Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Project

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Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods.

I59-1

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I59-2

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I59-3

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I59-4

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community.

I59-5

Sincerely,
Hossein Zarei
Orchard Hills resident

Kathleen Gil

From: Dennis Lo <[REDACTED]>
[REDACTED]
To: Kathleen Gil
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project
Attachments: Response to EIR.pdf

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms Gil,

Please see attached as response to the project's EIR.

Thanks.

November 12, 2025

Irvine Unified School District

Attn: Kathleen Gil, Facilities Planner



RE: Public Comment – Draft EIR for Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Improvement Project

Dear Ms. Gil,

As the resident of Orchard Hills Village III Community Association, also known as The Reserve, I write to share many residents' concerns regarding the proposed installation of stadium lighting and a public address system at Northwood High School. We appreciate the District's commitment to supporting student programs and athletics, and we recognize the importance of providing safe and equitable facilities. However, this project introduces significant burdens for the surrounding neighborhoods that deserve serious consideration.

I60-1

Our community of more than 1,000 homes relies on Orchard Hills Drive as its main ingress and egress. We already experience daily traffic congestion from school-related activity, especially during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up periods. Vehicles frequently queue along Orchard Hills Drive and use our primary entrances as waiting areas, often restricting access and causing inconvenience for residents and friction with our on-site security personnel. These conditions exist today under normal daytime operations and would only worsen with evening events and amplified activities.

I60-2

The Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is severely deficient in many areas and not technically sound in its analysis. It fails to present accurate or complete data regarding lighting, noise, and traffic impacts. No lighting or sound measurements were taken from nearby residential vantage points, and the EIR does not address the cumulative effects of event parking, on-street congestion, and the lack of adequate onsite parking. In addition, it fails to

I60-3

evaluate peak-event impacts, when traffic volumes, lighting use, and noise levels would be at their highest, or to consider the need for parking and traffic controls, as well as appropriate security measures for both event attendees and nearby residents. These omissions render the report incomplete under the intent and standards of CEQA.

I60-3 cont

Our residents are not opposed to allowing student athletic practices, and it would be reasonable for such activities to continue until approximately 7:30 p.m., similar to existing use at the school's tennis courts and swimming pool. However, any expansion into "stadium-style" use carries the risk of incremental additions such as spectator seating and amplified events that could permanently alter the nature of the facility, and therefore have real negative impacts on our residential neighborhoods. We strongly urge the District to remove any intention of creating or evolving toward stadium-level use.

I60-4

Furthermore, the proposed inclusion of "non-school" related activities in the project scope is undefined and unexamined in the Draft EIR. There is no discussion of what these uses entail, how often they might occur, or what impacts they may have on nearby communities. To maintain transparency and public trust, the District must remove this provision entirely. Doing so would reassure residents that the project's intent is limited to legitimate school purposes and not open-ended community or commercial uses.

I60-5

We respectfully request that the District reconsider this project and revise the Draft EIR to include a complete, data-driven evaluation of lighting, noise, parking, traffic, and security impacts, including cumulative and peak-event conditions. We also ask that IUSD engage directly with affected homeowners' associations to ensure meaningful dialogue and collaborative problem-solving before any final determinations are made.

I60-6

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your continued service to our students and the Irvine community.

Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact a signature.

Kathleen Gil

From: Xiangli Liu [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2025 4:41 PM
To: Kathleen Gil
Subject: [EXTERNAL] concerns of the proposed Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

I am writing to express my concerns of the proposed Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project. As a long-time resident of the Northwood neighborhood, I am deeply concerned that this project will irreversibly damage the quiet and semi-rural character of our community. I61-1

Our neighborhood is a peaceful residential area surrounded by orchard groves and open space, where residents value quite environment, dark night skies, minimal noise, and light evening traffic. The introduction of four 70-foot light poles, an amplified public-address system, and expanded nighttime athletic events beyond Northwood High school uses will bring new and ongoing light, noise, and vehicle impacts into an area not designed for this level of activity. I61-2

Although the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) concludes that these impacts are “less than significant,” that finding does not reflect the reality our community will experience. The DEIR identifies no mitigation measures to address increased lighting, noise, or traffic. Instead, it relies on technical assumptions that underestimate the actual day-to-day disruption these facilities will cause. Without enforceable restrictions on event frequency, hours of operation, or sound levels, there are no real protections for nearby residents. I61-3

Furthermore, the public outreach for this project was inadequate. Many affected homeowners were unaware of the proposed project. One scoping notice and limited online postings do not constitute meaningful engagement for a project with citywide implications. I61-4

With the installation of permanent lighting and a PA system, Northwood High School would effectively become a regional event facility serving the entire City of Irvine, rather than a neighborhood school. The DEIR even acknowledges that the fields would be available for outside user groups under the Civic Center Act. This means our quiet residential area would host large-scale community or city events at night — bringing in additional traffic, parking congestion, and noise far beyond what is appropriate for a neighborhood setting. I61-5

Once these changes are made, the peaceful character of our community cannot be restored. For these reasons, I urge the Irvine Unified School District and the board to reject this project and instead select the No Project Alternative outlined in the DEIR. Northwood High can continue to provide outstanding educational opportunities without imposing citywide event impacts on its surrounding neighborhoods. I61-6

Thank you for considering my comments.

Kathleen Gil

From: Xiangli Liu [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2025 4:44 PM
To: Kathleen Gil
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Concerns of the proposed Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

I am writing to express my concerns of the proposed Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project. As a long-time resident of the Northwood neighborhood, I am deeply concerned that this project will irreversibly damage the quiet and semi-rural character of our community.

Our neighborhood is a peaceful residential area surrounded by orchard groves and open space, where residents value quite environment, dark night skies, minimal noise, and light evening traffic. The introduction of four 70-foot light poles, an amplified public-address system, and expanded nighttime athletic events beyond Northwood High school uses will bring new and ongoing light, noise, and vehicle impacts into an area not designed for this level of activity.

Although the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) concludes that these impacts are “less than significant,” that finding does not reflect the reality our community will experience. The DEIR identifies no mitigation measures to address increased lighting, noise, or traffic. Instead, it relies on technical assumptions that underestimate the actual day-to-day disruption these facilities will cause. Without enforceable restrictions on event frequency, hours of operation, or sound levels, there are no real protections for nearby residents.

Furthermore, the public outreach for this project was inadequate. Many affected homeowners were unaware of the proposed project. One scoping notice and limited online postings do not constitute meaningful engagement for a project with citywide implications.

With the installation of permanent lighting and a PA system, Northwood High School would effectively become a regional event facility serving the entire City of Irvine, rather than a neighborhood school. The DEIR even acknowledges that the fields would be available for outside user groups under the Civic Center Act. This means our quiet residential area would host large-scale community or city events at night — bringing in additional traffic, parking congestion, and noise far beyond what is appropriate for a neighborhood setting.

Once these changes are made, the peaceful character of our community cannot be restored. For these reasons, I urge the Irvine Unified School District and the board to reject this project and instead select the No Project Alternative outlined in the DEIR. Northwood High can continue to provide outstanding educational opportunities without imposing citywide event impacts on its surrounding neighborhoods.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Xiangli Liu

Kathleen Gil

From: H C [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2025 4:38 PM
To: Kathleen Gil
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Northwood High School Field Lighting and PA Project (Draft EIR)

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We are residents and voters of the Orchard Hills community and recently became aware of the planned lights and speakers project at Northwood High School. We have always supported Northwood High and its mission to educate and develop our students. However, we have serious concerns regarding the intended use of the athletic fields, particularly evening events that would bring permanent nighttime impacts to nearby neighborhoods.

As you may or may not know, there currently is not enough student parking available at Northwood High School during regular school days. As a result, students without parking permits routinely park illegally within our non-gated community and trespass across HOA-maintained landscaped areas to access the school. Because our streets are maintained through HOA assessments, residents are directly paying for the upkeep and repair of areas affected by this activity. Any major nighttime events, as proposed, would only increase these problems for us and for residents in the Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza communities. These issues are already costly to repair and disruptive to residents' privacy and security. Adding nighttime lighting and amplified sound will further compound these burdens by bringing higher traffic volumes at later hours, greater light and noise pollution, and increased security risks from visitors circulating through our private residential areas after school hours.

The Draft EIR fails to evaluate any of these issues. It does not analyze noise, lighting, traffic congestion, overflow parking, or safety impacts to the surrounding residential areas. Its study area is limited to the school site and Portola Parkway, ignoring the nearby homes that directly experience these conditions today. The EIR also omits any discussion of mitigation measures such as a traffic control plan, event security, parking management, or enforceable limits on event hours and frequency. Without such measures, the project will impose permanent and unmitigated burdens on the surrounding community.

We support student-athletes having safe, lighted facilities for practice until 7:30 p.m., similar to existing tennis courts and swimming pools. However, large evening events with amplified sound, field lights, and stadium seatings should not be permitted. We respectfully urge IUSD to remove non-school related activities from the project entirely and to limit nighttime practices to 7:30 p.m. The Draft EIR should be redone to include a complete and technically sound analysis of all affected residential areas, including noise, lighting, traffic, parking, security, and safety impacts.

I urge you to put yourself in our shoes. We are the ones that are paying for costly repairs. We are the ones that will have our peaceful and serene living conditions disrupted.

I62-1

I62-2

I62-3

I62-4

I62-5

We appreciate your time and attention and thank you for your continued service to our students and the community.

I62-5 cont

Sincerely,
Henry Cheng, M.D.
Family Medicine Physician
Orchard Hills Resident

From: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: IUSD Northwood High Stadium Lighting Project
Date: Thursday, November 13, 2025 4:30:16 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-2gcx4y0m.png](#)

Dear Albert,

The IUSD Board has received your email and letter and will take into consideration your feedback. As Board President, I am responding for the Board in order to comply with The Brown Act, which governs how elected boards may communicate outside of public meetings.

Thank you for taking the time to share your concerns and we appreciate your sharing your perspective.

Best regards,

Katie McEwen
Board of Education
Irvine Unified School District



High Stadium Lighting Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Ms. Gil and Members of the Board,

We want to make you aware of the Irvine Unified School District's (IUSD) proposed project to install stadium lighting and a public address system at Northwood High School. The District has released a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR), and

today is the final day to submit public comments.

This project matters greatly to our community. It introduces permanent nighttime operations beyond the school's current use and will intensify ongoing traffic, parking, and noise issues that have already cost our association nearly \$100,000 over the years in added fencing, security, landscape replacement, and parking-related expenses. Homes in Corte Bella, Vista Scena, Entrata, and Terrazza will be closest to the field and most directly affected by noise, light, traffic, and parking impacts.

I63-2

The Draft EIR is severely deficient in its analysis. It fails to evaluate any residential impacts, including noise, light spillage, traffic congestion, overflow parking, security, or speeding concerns. Measurements were limited to the football field and Portola Parkway, ignoring surrounding neighborhoods entirely.

I63-3

Thank you,
Albert Liu
Orchard Hill Resident

Comment Letter I64

From: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Objections to Draft EIR for Lights and Loud Speakers Installation Project at Northwood High
Date: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 9:30:06 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-u13uf3qm.png](#)

Dear Daniel,

The IUSD Board has received your email and letter and will take into consideration your feedback. As Board President, I am responding for the Board in order to comply with The Brown Act, which governs how elected boards may communicate outside of public meetings.

Thank you for taking the time to share your concerns and we appreciate your sharing your perspective.

Best regards,

Katie McEwen
Board of Education
Irvine Unified School District



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] cassieparham@iisd.org>; Kathleen Gil <kathleengil@iisd.org>; Eric Keith <erickeith@iisd.org>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Objections to Draft EIR for Lights and Loud Speakers Installation Project at Northwood High

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear President McEwen and Members of the IUSD Board of Education,

I am a resident of Northwood Pointe and recently became aware of the proposed
Northwood High School field lighting and PA speakers project.

I64-1

I am deeply concerned as to why the immediately adjacent neighborhoods were not informed or consulted during the preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The Draft EIR fails to address critical residential neighborhood impacts in several key areas. For example, it overlooks traffic and overflow parking into our communities, which is already a daily problem, and does not analyze peak game-day conditions for noise, traffic, or lighting spillage. The Draft EIR also incorrectly assumes that attendees would use public transportation, even though there is no OCTA bus route along Portola Parkway. It further lacks any plan for security or coordination with the Irvine Police Department to manage illegal parking, trespassing, and loitering in our private neighborhoods, which directly affects residents' quiet enjoyment.

I64-2

While the project scope and disclosure filings with the State clearly and repeatedly state that the purpose of the proposed lights and PA speakers includes hosting non-school related events, the Draft EIR provides no explanation of what these "non-school events" are, how often they would occur, or what limits or other restrictions would apply, including traffic control, parking management, and community security. This complete lack of analysis leaves significant uncertainty about the scale and nature of potential uses.

I64-3

Even giving the District the benefit of the doubt, and taking the project scope at face value, the cost-benefit analysis does not appear to justify the installation of permanent stadium lights and loudspeakers for only five or six home football games a year. The resulting permanent disruptions, neighborhood impacts, and unnecessary costs to taxpayers cannot be justified by the limited and short-term benefits this project would provide.

I64-4

I strongly urge the Board to drop this project or, at minimum, reject the current flawed Draft EIR and require a full redo of the EIR process to correct its fundamental deficiencies, including meaningful consultation with nearby residential communities and a genuine analysis of the true impacts on surrounding neighborhoods.

I64-5

Thank you for your reconsideration.

Sincerely,
Daniel Yafei Guo

Comment Letter I65

From: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Concern About Northwood High School Field Lighting Project
Date: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 1:00:07 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-esdctrol.png](#)

Dear Shiqi,

The IUSD Board has received your email and will take into consideration your feedback. As Board President, I am responding for the Board in order to comply with The Brown Act, which governs how elected boards may communicate outside of public meetings.

Thank you for taking the time to share your concerns and we appreciate your sharing your perspective.

Best regards,

Katie McEwen
Board of Education
Irvine Unified School District



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Concern About Northwood High School Field Lighting Project

CAUTION: Verify the sender before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Members of the Board,

I am writing to express my concerns of the proposed Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project. As a long-time resident of the Northwood neighborhood, I am deeply concerned that this project will irreversibly damage the quiet and semi-rural character of our

I65-1

community.

I65-1 cont

Our neighborhood is a peaceful residential area surrounded by orchard groves and open space, where residents value quite environment, dark night skies, minimal noise, and light evening traffic. The introduction of four 70-foot light poles, an amplified public-address system, and expanded nighttime athletic events beyond Northwood High school uses will bring new and ongoing light, noise, and vehicle impacts into an area not designed for this level of activity.

I65-2

Although the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) concludes that these impacts are “less than significant,” that finding does not reflect the reality our community will experience. The DEIR identifies no mitigation measures to address increased lighting, noise, or traffic. Instead, it relies on technical assumptions that underestimate the actual day-to-day disruption these facilities will cause. Without enforceable restrictions on event frequency, hours of operation, or sound levels, there are no real protections for nearby residents.

I65-3

Furthermore, the public outreach for this project was inadequate. Many affected homeowners were unaware of the proposed project. One scoping notice and limited online postings do not constitute meaningful engagement for a project with citywide implications.

I65-4

With the installation of permanent lighting and a PA system, Northwood High School would effectively become a regional event facility serving the entire City of Irvine, rather than a neighborhood school. The DEIR even acknowledges that the fields would be available for outside user groups under the Civic Center Act. This means our quiet residential area would host large-scale community or city events at night — bringing in additional traffic, parking congestion, and noise far beyond what is appropriate for a neighborhood setting.

I65-5

Once these changes are made, the peaceful character of our community cannot be restored. For these reasons, I urge the Irvine Unified School District and the board to reject this project and instead select the No Project Alternative outlined in the DEIR. Northwood High can continue to provide outstanding educational opportunities without imposing citywide event impacts on its surrounding neighborhoods.

I65-6

Thank you for considering my comments.

Best Regards,

Shiqi Chen [REDACTED]

Comment Letter CC1

COMMENT CARD
Community Meeting

Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project
October 20, 2025

Name: Maria Hensley
Affiliation: Orchard Hills Village II - Resident
Address: [REDACTED]
Comments: [REDACTED]

- Noise along Portola from cars will be increased \Rightarrow this is not significant is a false statement.

CC1-1

- Speeding - cars use Portola & Orchard Hills Rd as racetrack
- Mitigation in the meeting discussed were just around the construction

CC1-2

CC1-3

- where is money coming from to pay for this project when it is not needed.

CC1-4

COMMENT CARD
Community Meeting
 Northwood High School Field Lighting Improvement Project
 October 20, 2025

Name: Corinne Gieremann

Affiliation: Resident, Prior parent

Address: 92 Thoroughbred Allocation of our tax dollars.

Comments: ① concern re: Finance Cost. Probably better to allocate funds to more pressing needs.

CC2-1

our athletes have had plenty & adequate accommodation @ our 4t Fields (lighted) in Irvine: UHS, IHS, PHS, Cross Lutheran, Beckman

② Affect on Ecosystem: Would like study on affect on wildlife with light, noise, traffic.

CC2-2

③ concern re: speeding along Orchard Hill Drive (occurs currently)

CC2-3

Written comments must be received no later than November 12, 2025 at the following address:

Irvine Unified School District
 [REDACTED]

Attention: Kathleen Gil, Facilities Planner

CC2-4

④ overflow parking Back to school night traffic already overflows into →

① Find it hard to believe

Less-insignificant noise - we hear fireworks from
Anaheim to other cities.

- not signif
- who?

- They echo through our hills. - noise
- The wildlife in the Orchard Hills -
preserves are most definitely
to be impacted.
- This analysis only took into account construction
noise.
- Athletic noise would not have signif. impact but
the PA system would, (music/Band)
- Traffic (speeding on the Orchard Hills Rd) can
be heard already. It is likely to increase

CC2-5

Thank you.

surrounding residential communities.

CC2-4 cont.