



## Los Angeles Unified School District

Aspen has held an On-call Environmental Services Contract since 1998 assisting the LAUSD with one of the largest public works projects in the country, including the planning and construction of more than 100 new schools and the expansion of dozens of existing schools, which are intended to create approximately 200,000 new seats by the year 2020. Aspen prepares CEQA documentation (EIRs and IS/MNDs) for Primary Centers, Elementary Schools, Middle Schools, and High Schools, which have a total student enrollment of over 800,000. These documents address impacts associated with air quality emission, on-site hazards and hazardous materials, project-generated noise, land use and planning, and traffic and transportation. Aspen also prepares for and participates in public hearings and community outreach for its projects. In addition, Aspen has provided historic resources consulting services and conducted Health Risk Assessments for various LAUSD projects.

### Selected Project Examples:

**New School Construction Program EIR.** Aspen was awarded the largest Work Authorization in February of 2003 from the LAUSD for preparation of the Program EIR for Phases II, III, and IV of the LAUSD's new school construction program. Phases I through IV of the LAUSD School Construction Program represent the largest school facilities improvement project in the country, and are intended to create approximately 200,000 new seats by the year 2020 for schools within the LAUSD boundary, which include the City of Los Angeles and 27 contiguous jurisdictions. The Program EIR addressed all environmental issue areas and documented site selection, design, construction, and operation measures that the LAUSD agreed to implement, as applicable, on all projects.

**Valley New High School No. 1 (CSUN) EIR.** Proposed on the campus of the California State University Northridge (CSUN), this project was highly controversial with the neighboring community and required extensive interaction with the Los Angeles Department of Transportation to address traffic concerns. In addition to EIR preparation, Aspen assisted with public meetings and participated in the public scoping meeting and public hearing on the Draft EIR.

**East Valley High School No. 2 (Gemco) EIR.** This EIR addressed concerns with traffic and parking, and Aspen worked with the LAUSD and the Los Angeles Department of Transportation to develop feasible mitigation measures. Although this fast-track project required a quick turnaround in order to secure funding, the project was certified on time and executed on schedule.

**East Valley Middle School No. 2 EIR.** This EIR focused on impacts associated with air quality, hazards and hazardous materials, noise, land use and planning, and traffic and transportation. Major issues of concern included traffic and noise generated by school operation activities, for which LAUSD design measures were employed to minimize environmental impacts.

**South Region Middle School No. 6 EIR.** Aspen prepared an EIR for a new middle school that would provide 1,404 two-semester seats in 52 classrooms. The EIR focused on air quality, noise, transportation and traffic, pedestrian safety, and cultural resources.

**South Region Elementary School No. 7 IS/MND or EIR.** Aspen is in the process of preparing an IS to assess the impacts of building a new elementary school on a 5.08-acre site developed with residential and commercial uses. Potential impacts would either be mitigated through the preparation of an MND, or would be carried forward for analysis in an EIR.

**South Region Elementary School No. 1 IS/MND.** Aspen prepared an IS/MND for a new elementary school that would accommodate 1,050 students in 42 classrooms. The project included the vacation of a portion of a public street and the construction of a new public street as a student drop-off and pick-up area. Pedestrian safety was one of the project's key issues of concern.

**Central Region Elementary School No. 16 and Early Childhood Education Center No. 1 IS/MND.** Aspen completed the IS/MND for this proposed campus that would accommodate 675 elementary students and 175 early education students. Key issues for this project included pedestrian safety, hazards and hazardous materials, and transportation and traffic.

**Central Region Middle School No. 7 IS/MND.** Aspen prepared an IS/MND in support of a new middle school that involved the relocation of commercial businesses and residences. An abandoned rail line was located along the southern boundary of the site, which required a rail safety study to be conducted.

**Central Region Elementary School No. 14 IS/MND.** This IS/MND addressed impacts from the construction of the proposed 3.4-acre elementary school. This project was controversial as it involved the removal of several 100-year old Craftsman style homes. Additional issues of concern included pedestrian safety, public services, and transportation and traffic.

**Canoga Park New Elementary School IS/MND.** As a "Turn-Key" project, this Charter Elementary School was developed by New Economics for Women (NEW) and sold to the LAUSD for operation. The IS/MND addressed key issues such as pedestrian safety, traffic, air quality, noise, and land use.

**Narbonne High School Lighting Project MND Addendum.** Prior to the approval of this project, changes were made to the stadium design (e.g., bleacher seating, other improvements). Aspen prepared a Subsequent IS/MND to document these changes and to demonstrate that they did not have any significant impacts as required by CEQA.

**School Addition Projects.** Aspen has prepared or is in the process of preparing an IS/MND or EIR for the following school addition projects. Many of these projects have generated public controversy in regards to potential impacts to traffic and parking, requiring careful consideration of community concerns and tailored mitigation measures.

- Wonderland Ave. Elementary School Master Addition IS/MND
- Aldama Elementary School Master Addition IS/MND
- Hamilton High School Master Addition IS/MND
- Mt. Washington Elementary School Multi-Purpose Room Addition Project IS/MND
- Maclay Elementary School Addition IS/MND
- Valley Region Montague Charter Academy Addition IS/MND or EIR

**Portable Classroom Projects.** Aspen was issued 11 separate work authorizations to prepare the following IS/MND documents for portable classroom addition projects proposed at existing high schools. These projects required substantial detail with regard to traffic and parking, air quality, and noise assessments.

- Cleveland High School Portable Addition IS/MND
- Kennedy High School Portable Addition IS/MND
- Locke High School Portable Additions IS/MND
- Venice Senior High School Portable Addition IS/MND
- Reseda Senior High School Portable Addition IS/MND
- Westchester High School Portable Additions IS/MND
- Narbonne High School Portable Addition IS/MND
- Wilson High School Portable Addition IS/MND
- Polytechnic Senior High School Portable Addition IS/MND
- Washington Senior High School Portable Addition IS/MND
- Fairfax Senior High School Portable Addition IS/MND

### **Long Beach Unified School District**

Currently, Aspen serves as CEQA/NEPA consultant to the Long Beach Unified School District's (LBUSD) to provide advice on the required procedures of both the State and federal laws regarding environmental clearance. As a pre-qualified consultant, Aspen's role includes assisting the LBUSD with the investigation, acquisition, and development of school sites and other properties. Environmental clearance documentation tasks include preparation of: all required notices; Initial Studies; Notices of Exemption; Negative Declarations; Notices of Preparation; Environmental Impact Reports; Notices of Completion; Responses to Comments; Mitigation Monitoring Plans; and Findings. Additional tasks include conducting public meetings for the environmental review process (e.g., scoping, etc.), and development of feasible alternatives and mitigation measure to help reduce proposed project impacts.

**For more information**  
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