



Notice of Preparation of a Draft EIR and Scoping Meeting

Date: May 22, 2021
To: Public Agencies and Interested Parties
Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report and Scoping Meeting
Project Title: First Student School Bus Yards Project

The City of Colton (City), as lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), will prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the First Student School Bus Yards Project (Proposed Project). In accordance with Section 15082 of the CEQA Guidelines, the City has issued this Notice of Preparation (NOP) to provide responsible agencies, trustee agencies, and other interested parties with information describing the Proposed Project and its potential environmental effects.

The purpose of this notice is to:

- 1) Serve as the NOP of an EIR for the Office of Planning and Research (OPR), Responsible Agencies, public agencies involved in funding or approving the Proposed Project, and Trustee Agencies responsible for natural resources affected by the Proposed Project, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15082; and
- 2) Advise and solicit comments and suggestions regarding the preparation of the EIR, environmental issues to be addressed in the EIR, and any other related issues, from interested parties, including interested or affected members of the public.

Project Location and Setting

The Project consists of two separate and noncontiguous sites. The Project sites are located in southwestern Colton near the boundary of the City of Riverside. Site 1 (Key Street Bus Yard), and Site 2 (Main Street Bus Yard) are approximately 1.6 miles west of Interstate 215 (I-215), approximately 1.7 miles north of California State Route 60 (SR-60) and approximately 3.48 miles south of Interstate 10 (I-10). Key Street Bus Yard is located at 2001 West Key Street. Main Street Bus Yard is located at 111 North Main Street.

The Project would be developed on two parcels approximately 1,400 ft apart on a total of 5.4 acres. (Assessor's Parcel Numbers [APNs]: 0227-022-64; 0227-021-14). Both sites are currently being utilized for bus parking and maintenance.

Project Description

The Proposed Project would allow for the development of two separate school bus yard storage and light vehicle maintenance facilities on the 5.4 total acres parcels. The first site, Key Street Bus Yard, is approximately 3 acres and will consist of storage for 174 busses and 3 commercial buildings, totaling

6,052 square feet within the M-1 zone. The Key Street Project Site also includes the addition of perimeter fencing and landscape architectural improvements. The Main Street Bus Yard is approximately 2.4 acres and will consist of storage and parking for 62 school buses and 3 commercial buildings totaling 15,818 square feet also within the M-1 zone.

Primary vehicular access would be provided via Key Street and Main street for both project sites. Key Street Bus Yard has two access points that will be used for the egress and ingress for both busses (drivers) and employees. Main Street Bus Yard will include a three access turn in from Main street and will require employees and busses to enter through an access gate. 52 parking spaces will be made available for employees at both sites with an additional 236 parking stalls created for busses.

Cortese List Notice: Pursuant to Public Resources Code 21092.6(a), the Project site is not included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 (California Department of Toxic Substances Control list of various hazardous sites).

EIR Scope

The City of Colton, as the CEQA lead agency, identified the need for a Focused EIR after an Initial Study (IS) was created. The IS served as a preliminary environmental review which was used to refine the scope of the EIR, identify resource areas that will be eliminated from further analysis, and to solicit public input on the scope of the EIR. The lead agency has determined through the preliminary environmental review process that the following environmental considerations may result in potentially significant effects as a result of the Proposed Project:

- Air Quality
- Cultural Resources
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Transportation
- Tribal Cultural Resources

The Focused EIR will assess the effects of the Proposed Project on the environment, identify potentially significant impacts, identify feasible mitigation measures to reduce or eliminate potentially significant environmental impacts, and discuss potentially feasible alternatives to the Proposed Project that may accomplish basic objectives while lessening or eliminating any potentially significant project impacts.

Project Applicant

Michael Cline, Senior Property Projects Manager
First Student, Inc
600 Vine Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Responsible Agencies

A responsible agency means a public agency other than the lead agency, which has permitting authority or approval power over some aspect of the Proposed Project. This Notice provides a description of the Proposed Project and solicits comments from responsible agencies, trustee agencies, federal, state and local agencies, and other interested parties on the scope and content of the environmental document to be prepared to analyze the environmental impacts of the Proposed Project. Comments received in response to this Notice will be reviewed and considered by the Lead Agency in determining the scope of the EIR.

Due to time limits, as defined by CEQA, your response should be sent at the earliest possible date, but

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no later than thirty (30) days after publication of this notice on June 21, 2021. We need to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information that is germane to you or to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the Proposed Project. Your agency may need to use the EIR prepared by our agency when considering your permit or other approval for the Proposed Project.

Opportunity for Public Review and Comment

This Notice of Preparation is available for public review on the City of Colton's website at:

<https://www.ci.colton.ca.us/779/Environmental-Documents>

Scoping Meeting

The CEQA process encourages environmentally-related comments and questions from the public throughout the planning process. **Consistent with Section 21083.9 of the CEQA statute, a virtual Public Scoping Meeting will be held to solicit environmentally-related public comments on the scope and content of the EIR.** The meeting will be held via Zoom on **June 9, 2021** from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. In order to participate in the meeting, please use the following link on the day and time of the meeting:

<https://coltonca-gov.zoom.us/j/91713947484?tk=VbouyyxgLUFPihCR652-0RpNwCB5URRGwhqeAWohAxs>

Or iPhone one-tap :

US: +16699006833,,91713947484# or +12532158782,,91713947484#

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 929 436 2866

Webinar ID: 917 1394 7484

Participant ID 475730

Comments

The public comment period for this Notice of Preparation is from May 22, 2021 to June 21, 2021. Please submit your comments by 5:00 p.m. on June 21, 2021 to:

Steve Gonzalez, Associate Planner
City of Colton
659 N. La Cadena Drive
Colton, CA 92324

Phone: (909) 370-5527
Email: sgonzales@coltonca.gov

Please include the name, phone number, and address of your agency's contact person in your response.

Attachments:

Exhibit 1 – Regional Location

Exhibit 2 – Project Vicinity

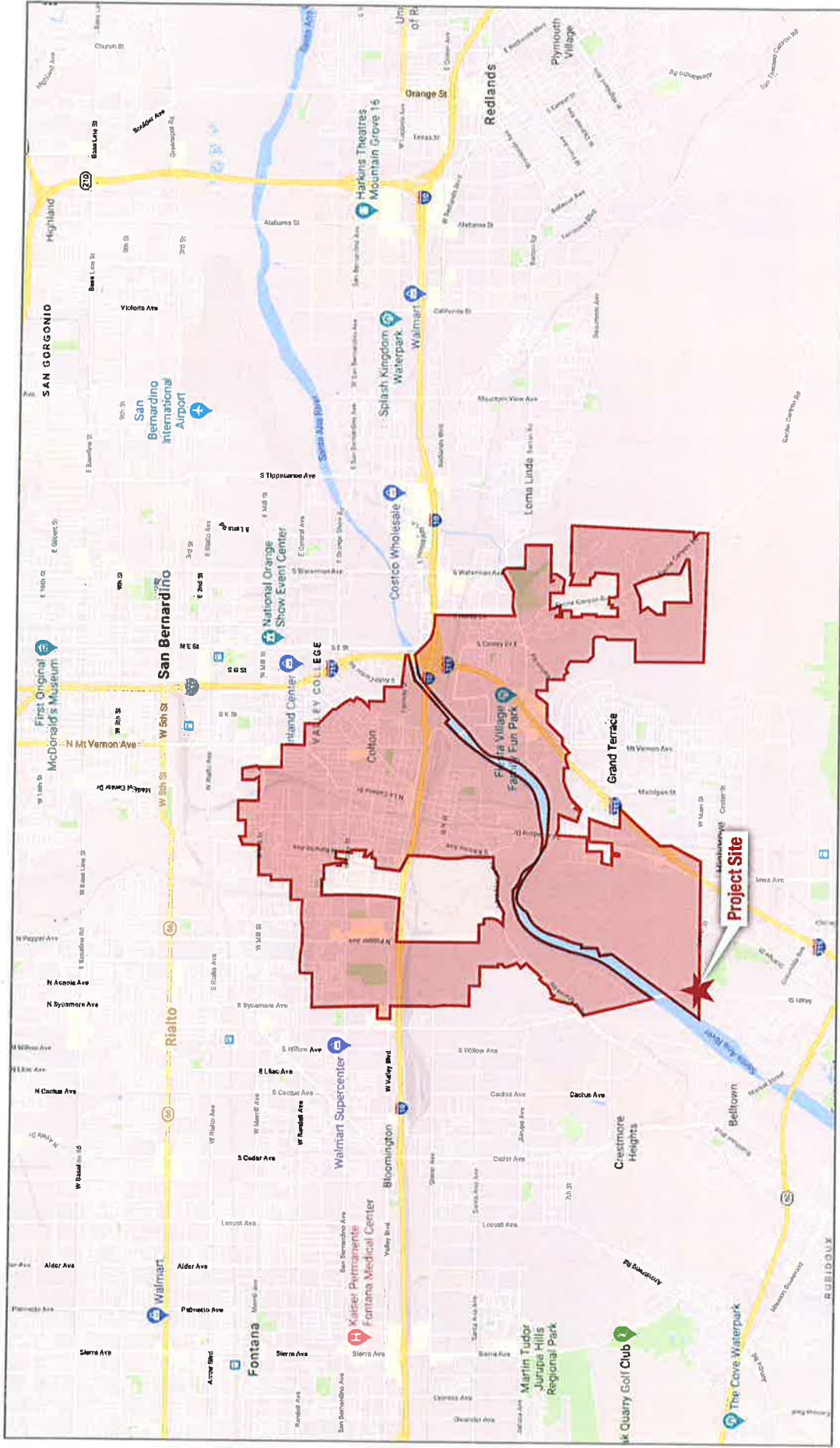


EXHIBIT 1: Regional Location
 First Student School Bus Yards Project
 City of Colton



Not to scale



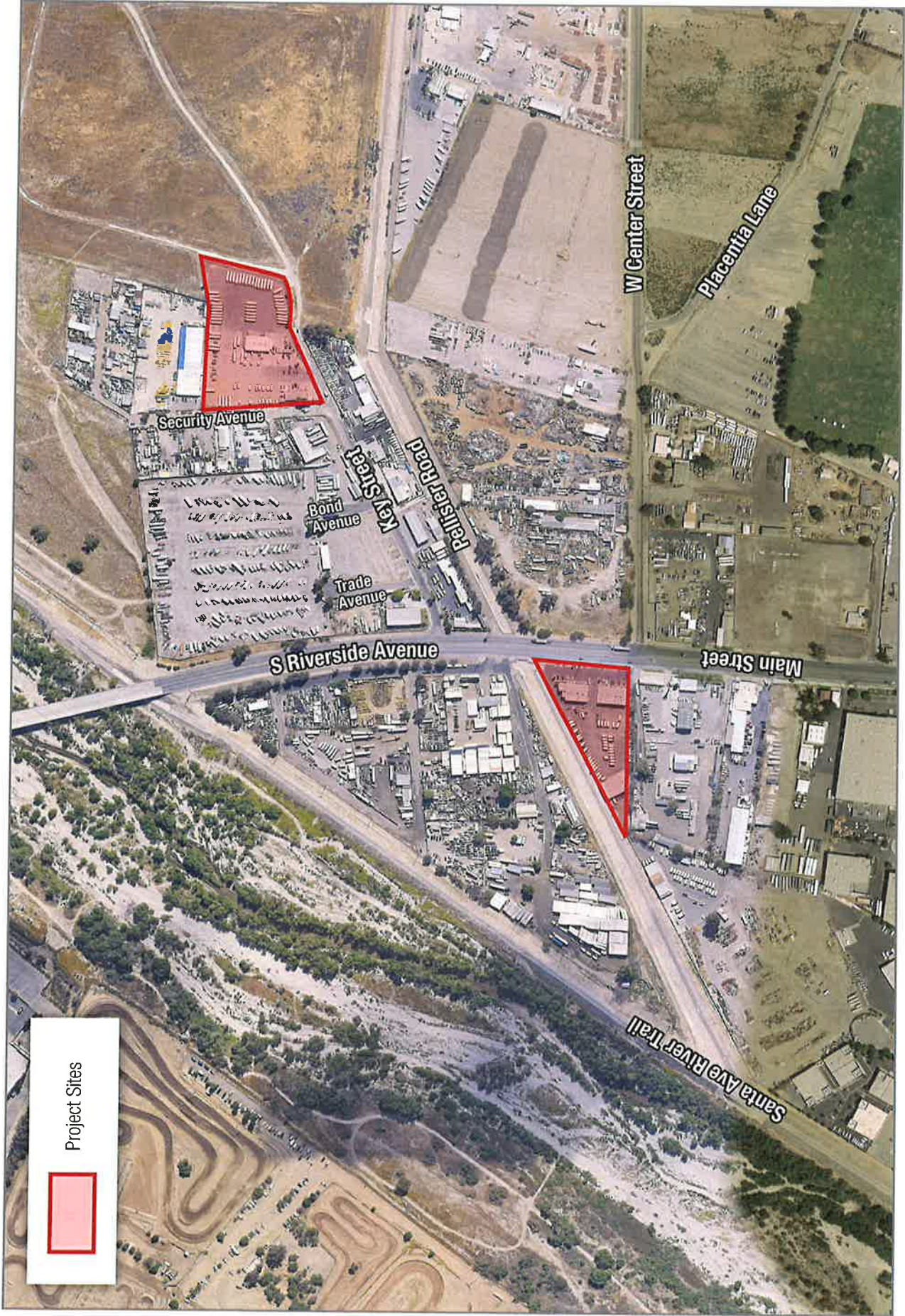


EXHIBIT 2: Project Vicinity
First Student School Bus Yards Project
City of Colton



Not to scale