STEM High School at UCR
Questions from Community Informational Meeting No. 01

Transportation/Bussing

1. **Question:** Will there be any police on location to ticket bicycle and vehicle drivers?
   Answer: Traffic and public right-of-way is outside of RUSD's jurisdiction, however, the District intends to work closely with UCR Police Department (UCRPD) and Riverside Police Department (RPD).
2. **Question:** How will part time students get to campus?
   Answer: All part time students will be bussed to and from the STEM High School from their home high school location.
3. **Question:** How does RUSD intend to deal with traffic impacts created by this project? Specifically, in regard to varying enrollment structure of having 400 full time and 800 part time students at the STEM High School?
   Answer: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) analysis of the proposed project will include a traffic impact analysis, which will identify potential significant impacts and mitigation measures to reduce those impacts. At this time, RUSD is developing their transportation management plan, which will include parking policies and bussing options based on enrollment models, which will be a part of the CEQA analysis.
4. **Question:** What is the anticipated traffic during the day and during various hours of the day, created by this project and the mix of full time and part time students?
   Answer: At any given time, 800 students will be on campus. The district is working on a Transportation Management Plan. As indicated above, potential transportation and traffic impacts will be analyzed in the CEQA document in order to identify potential significant impacts and any needed mitigation measures.
5. **Question:** How does RUSD intend to accommodate parking during special events, i.e. graduation?
   Answer: These types of events are typically conducted after hours and/or weekends. RUSD will coordinate with UCR for the use of campus parking and in addition, the District will utilize existing neighborhood schools for overflow parking as needed (i.e. Highland Elementary and North High School).
6. **Question:** When will the traffic study for the project be started and then completed?
   Answer: A traffic analysis will be undertaken to analyze the potential impacts of the proposed project under the requirements of the CEQA as part of the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). This will be done over the next six months and be complete prior to the Public Review of the Draft EIR.

Design

1. **Question:** Why do we have single parking instead of building multi-story parking lot?
   Answer: The cost to build a parking structure is outside of RUSD's project budget.
2. **Question:** Are solar panels being proposed on the roof?
   Answer: The design is not finalized. Solar panels are being considered. In addition, RUSD will comply with UC LEED Silver sustainable and energy efficient design requirements.
3. **Question:** How is the STEM High School going to factor in the construction of the North Campus?
   Answer: The traffic analysis in the CEQA document for the RUSD STEM High School will include, as required under CEQA, a cumulative analysis including all known related projects. The North District project will be one of those related projects.
4. **Question:** Will this school be an open campus vs. a closed campus?
   Answer: This item is currently under discussion and will need to be brought back to the RUSD Board of Education for decision and approval. However, the initial design includes no fencing within the property line. The design will include landscape barriers and buffer areas to limit the public from walking on to the campus and outdoor learning environments. The school building will have the capability of lock-down during emergencies. For clarification: During school hours, students will not be allowed to leave the STEM High School campus. Students are to remain on campus during the school day.

Design (cont.)

5. **Question:** Will there be any future expansion of the STEM High School – are there such plans and possibilities?
   Answer: There are no future expansion plans to the proposed STEM High School. The proposed STEM High School will only be designed for an 800-student capacity.

Site/Location/Fields

1. **Question:** Does the City proposal for bike lanes on Watkins correspond to your exits and entrance?
   Answer: RUSD's design team has been working closely with the City Traffic Engineer to coordinate.
2. **Question:** Will UCR reimburse student fees used to pay for the fields?
   Answer: The recreation fields (part of the Glen Mor phase 1 housing project) were partially paid by Student Recreation reserve funds (i.e. cash) and financed by the project's bond (debt) financing. The project's bond financing is paid via student housing revenues. UCR will be reimbursing through direct replacement by providing new recreation fields somewhere else on the UCR campus. Site reviews are underway.
3. **Question:** Why did RUSD choose the Watkins Site over the Blaine Site?
   Answer: A) The proximity of the Watkins site to the UCR main campus sciences colleges is preferred. B) The proximity to the Riverside STEM Academy 5-8 program. C) Access to the natural green spaces (Foothills) of the botanical gardens and other nearby natural areas for the purpose of hands-on relevant STEM research and activities. D) The Blaine site includes existing easements that limits the full development of the site.

Enrollment/Capacity/Program

1. **Question:** Does our neighborhood high school give our neighborhood youth priority in entering this school?
   Answer: Yes. We conduct a lottery for students living in the previous Hyatt Boundary.
2. **Question:** Will the existing STEM school reduce its population if the High School component is being removed?
   Answer: The current STEM Academy capacity is 650, when the new STEM High School is completed, the existing Riverside STEM Academy will house up to 650 5th-8th grade students.
3. **Question:** Why is RUSD planning to bus high school students into STEM while they have a policy in place that if a parent elects to enroll their child in a specialty school the parent has to provide the student their own transportation?
   Answer: The proposed STEM High School is intended to be available to all RUSD students selected to attend. In an effort to increase equity throughout the District, the Board of Education has committed to offer transportation.
4. **Question:** How is this project beneficial to all of the RUSD students?
   Answer: The purpose of the RUSD STEM High School is to promote, foster, and enrich an early college environment, stimulating a greater student interest in science, technology, engineering, and math. RUSD STEM High School will provide opportunities for students to experience high-level interdisciplinary coursework that targets the mastery of a STEM theme integrated with content from one or more of the following areas: English, history/social science and/or math. By focusing on collaboration, multiple use, and hands-on learning designed for the real world, the RUSD STEM High School will be a model for best practices in applied learning – from design to prototype.
5. **Question:** What time of day will the school start and end?
   Answer: The STEM High School bells times include 7:30 AM start and 3:30 PM end time. While some students will arrive as early as 7:30 and some students will stay as late as 3:30, most students will be on campus between 8:20 am and 2:40 pm.
6. **Question:** How will student be selected to attend the STEM High School?
   Answer: Students will be selected to attend the STEM High School based on a lottery similar to current practice at Riverside STEM Academy (RSA).

UCR Resources

1. **Question:** Will STEM High School students have access to professors at UCR?
   Answer: RUSD STEM High School students will have the same access to UCR faculty as they do now, which is on a voluntary basis. For example, currently there are UCR faculty members who welcome RUSD STEM High School students in their labs to do science fair or science research projects or to generally help out on a volunteer basis. Additionally, this can be a fun and rewarding opportunity for both UCR undergraduate and graduate students to help mentor RUSD STEM High School students. In the aggregate, the number of RUSD STEM students with access to UCR faculty has been low, and a faculty member might have one high school student at any given time. It is entirely up to UCR faculty to determine if she or he will work with an RUSD STEM High School student and there is no requirement for UCR faculty to work with any RUSD STEM High School students.

2. **Question:** How have UCR students been made aware of the STEM High School proposal and how can they be a part of the process moving forward?
   Answer: When the UCR-RUSD partnership was established in September of 2015, paving the way for an RUSD presence on the UCR campus, the announcement and event were covered by both UCR Today and the Highlander. On September 22, 2015, the Highlander wrote an editorial applauding the partnership and its potential. Most recently, on February 14th of this year, Chancellor Wilcox sent a "Message to the Campus Community" with an update on the RUSD-UCR STEM Center. The project has now progressed to a point where campus administration, along with RUSD, have reached out to both ASUCR Leadership and GSA Leadership to bring them in to the discussion, much like the faculty senate and the external community, for their input and feedback.

Settlement Agreement

1. **Question:** Was the first meeting on September 25, 2018 a violation of the Settlement of Agreement with Smart Neighbors for Smart Growth (SNSG)?
   Answer: UC Riverside believes the first community meeting for the RUSD STEM High School project is compliant with the Settlement Agreement between the Smart Neighbors for Smart Growth and The Board of Regents of the University of California.

Project Schedule for UCR and RUSD

1. What activities and approvals is UCR responsible for on this project?
   a. 1st Community Review Meeting held on September 25, 2018.
   b. 2nd Community Review Meeting held on November 1, 2018.
   c. UCR Design Review Board (DRB) scheduled for November 6, 2018
   d. CEQA process targeted to start in November 2018.
   e. Discussion Item (Non-Actionable Item) presented to University of California (UC), Board of Regents is currently targeted for July 17, 2019.
   f. Approval Items for the Ground Lease and CEQA presented for approval to the UC Board of Regents is targeted for January 21, 2020.
   g. UC Board of Regents execution of the ground lease is targeted for February 28, 2020.
2. What activities and approvals is RUSD responsible for on this project?
   a. Schematic Design: May - August 2018
   b. District/UCR DRB Review: August - November 2018
   c. Design Development: November 2018 - March 2019
   d. Construction Documents: March 2019 - July 2019
   e. Board of Education & CEQA Project Approval: February 2020
   f. California Department of Education Site Approval: February 2020
   g. California Department of Education Plan Approval: February 2020

h. Division of the State Architect Review: July 2019 - February 2020
i. Bidding & Award: March 2020 - May 2020
j. Construction: June 2020 - August 2022