

Fremont Unified School District

Resolution No. 007-1617

Support for Reducing the Negative Impacts of Unrestricted Land Development on Fremont Schools

Whereas, Fremont Unified School District (FUSD) has been experiencing strong year-over-year enrollment increases as a direct result of the City of Fremont approving new housing developments that generate large numbers of new students to the school district, and

Whereas, FUSD's existing schools are at capacity and the increasing enrollment has to be addressed by leasing temporary classrooms and building new classrooms, at significant cost, at school sites that have to forfeit valuable open space, and

Whereas, when new and temporary classrooms are added at existing schools, those sites are unable to increase the capacities of the necessary supporting infrastructures such as Multi-Use Rooms, cafeteria space, parking, staff prep rooms, and

Whereas, the City of Fremont, citing various legal directives, refuses to consider the adverse impact these new developments have on FUSD's already strained-to-capacity schools and classrooms, and

Whereas, FUSD does not have the necessary funds to purchase the needed land for new schools or the necessary funds to build new schools, and

Whereas, the voters of Fremont, agreeing with the need to protect our existing and aging schools and classrooms, have supported FUSD's immediate repair and renovation strategies with a successful bond that produced \$650,000,000 for such repairs and renovations at existing sites, and

Whereas, the City of Fremont and FUSD have a strong common desire to continue to keep Fremont at the top of numerous studies and surveys that accurately describe "Fremont as a Great Place to Live", "A Great Place to Raise a Family", and a "Very High Performing School District", and

Whereas, if the City of Fremont were to immediately suspend approving any and all new housing projects, FUSD would still need years to "catch up" addressing the immediate need for more classrooms and more schools, and

Whereas, there is an immediate threat to the physical and mental well-being of the students of Fremont specifically, and the citizens of Fremont by continuing to overburden our schools with crowded classrooms, and,

Whereas, the challenges of traffic in Fremont are complicated by the ongoing approval of housing developments, while not expanding the capacity of our streets. From the appalling congestion of our main thoroughfares (such as Fremont Blvd, Paseo Padre Parkway, Mission Blvd., Peralta Blvd., Stevenson Blvd., Decoto Road, and the 880 freeway) during the critical times of the start of school and the end of school to the constant dangers of accidents due to speeding and driver inattention near our schools are putting students', parents', and teachers' lives at risk, and

Whereas, the growing number of mental health referrals for FUSD students is exacerbated by the crowding of our existing schools, the anxiety caused by our traffic challenges, and increasing overload problem that prohibits many students from attending their neighborhood school, and

Whereas, the growing traffic challenges are contrary to the City of Fremont’s expressed desire for healthy pathways to school for our students and cleaner air quality for all of Fremont’s citizens, and

Whereas, FUSD has an immediate need for funds to acquire land and build new schools to address the increasing enrollment caused by the City of Fremont’s ongoing approval of housing developments that generate these students, and

Whereas, the City of Fremont owns and controls significant vacant and underutilized properties--such as the nearly five acres of land located adjacent to Washington High School--and recognizes the dire need to provide land to mitigate overcrowding in FUSD schools, and

Whereas, in the spirit of cooperation that the City of Fremont constantly speaks of when referencing FUSD, and

Whereas, the following organizations [insert names here] have unified in their support to this resolution to reduce the aforementioned negative impacts of unrestricted land development on Fremont schools,

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, FUSD formally requests a full accounting of all available property owned or controlled by the City of Fremont, and is asking the City of Fremont to suspend further approval of all developments until the land and/or funds are provided to FUSD to build the new schools needed to house the students generated by the developments approved by the City of Fremont.

Passed and Adopted at a meeting of the FUSD Governing Board held in Fremont, California, on the 26th day of October, 2016, by the following vote:

AYES: _____

NOES: _____

ABSENT: _____

ABSTAINED: _____

Larry Sweeney, President

Ann Crosbie, Vice President

Yang Shao, Clerk

Michele Berke, Member

Desrie Campbell, Member