

INITIAL STUDY FOR:

Silverado Transfer of Territory

prepared by:

ORANGE COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

Contact:

*Wendy Benkert, Ed.D
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200 Kalmus Drive
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
714.966.4229*

SEPTEMBER 2010

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1. Introduction

A group of citizens from the unincorporated community of Silverado, California (“Petitioner”) has petitioned the Orange County Committee on School District Organization (“County Committee”) to approve the petition to transfer inhabited territory from the Orange Unified School District (OUSD) to the Saddleback Valley Unified School District (SVUSD). The area in question is approximately 60 square miles and is located in the Santa Ana Mountains in eastern Orange County, California. The transfer of territory would shift the school district boundary line to include Silverado, Black Starr, Ladd, Williams and Modjeska Canyons from OUSD to SVUSD jurisdiction. The Petitioner’s stated the request for changing the boundaries of the school districts is based on geographic distance and shared community interests.

The County Committee has the primary approval authority over the proposed petition and as such, is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This Initial Study evaluates only the potential environmental impacts of this transfer of territory, which would have the effect of shifting the schools attended by the students living within the transfer area from schools located to the north in OUSD to schools located south within SVUSD.

Education Code Section 35753(a) establishes the criteria to be used by the County Committee in making its decision on the appropriateness of this petition. These criteria are outside the purview of CEQA and will not be addressed in this Initial Study.

This Initial Study has been prepared in accordance with CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines to determine if the transfer of territory could have a significant impact on the environment. This analysis will provide the County Committee with information to document the potential impacts of the proposed transfer and determine whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), a Negative Declaration, or a Negative Declaration with mitigation measures.

1.1 PROJECT LOCATION

The Petitioner proposes to transfer a territory, roughly 60 square miles, currently located within the school district boundaries of the OUSD to the school district boundaries of the SVUSD. The Petitioner has defined the area as the unincorporated community of Silverado, California including Silverado, Black Starr, Ladd, Williams and Modjeska Canyons as bounded on the north by the Riverside County line and Black Starr Canyon Road extending south along Black Star Canyon Road to the intersection of Silverado Canyon Road, then west to the intersection of Silverado Canyon Road and Santiago Canyon Road, which is the western boundary. The territory then follows Santiago Canyon Road south to the SVUSD boundary line, then east to the Riverside County line.

The project’s regional location is shown on Figure 1. Figure 2, *Local Vicinity*, shows the specific location of the proposed transfer of territory. Figure 3, *Aerial Photograph*, provides an aerial view of the transfer territory and surrounding area. Figure 4 is a copy of the Transfer of Territory Petition and Map submitted to the County Committee.

Figures 5 and 6, *Map and Listing of OUSD and SVUSD School Locations*, shows the location of schools by level and by district. Schools from the OUSD are shown in blue and schools from the SVUSD are shown in red.

1. Introduction

1.2 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

1.2.1 Existing Land Use

The area identified in the petition roughly consists of 60 square miles located in the Santa Ana Mountains in Orange County, California. The area includes Silverado, Black Starr, Ladd, Williams and Modjeska Canyons. The majority of the area is located within the boundaries of the Cleveland National Forest.

Silverado Canyon is roughly a 2,500 foot deep gorge with a creek that runs approximately 5 miles long. Its main branch is Ladd Canyon, which is just over 3 miles long. The town of Silverado is located in the canyon. The town is mostly residential with a few stores, two fire stations, a library and a post office. Modjeska Peak is to the south, Bald Peak to the east, and Bedford Peak to the north. Modjeska Canyon is a rural community of several hundred residents, with a small park and a volunteer fire station. Black Star Canyon is a rural community with a few residents and is a popular site for mountain bikers.

Silverado Elementary School, located just off of Santiago Canyon Road, was closed in June 2009. The school, at the time of closure, served 75 students from the Silverado and Modjeska Canyon area.

1.2.2 Surrounding Land Use

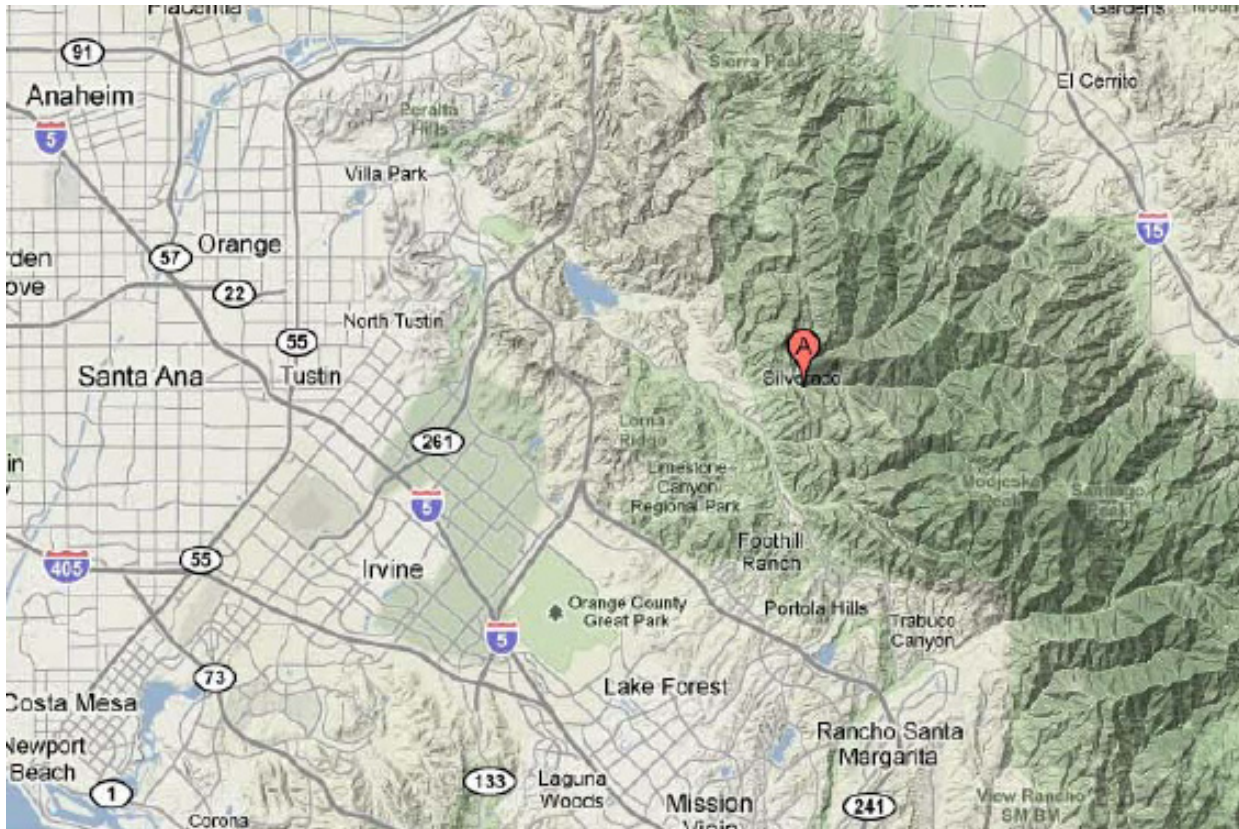
The petition area is currently located within the jurisdiction of the Orange Unified School District. The OUSD serves approximately 30,230 students in 38 school sites in grades kindergarten through 12th, and encompasses all or part of the cities of Anaheim, Garden Grove, Orange, Santa Ana, and Villa Park.

The Saddleback Valley Unified School District, located south of the petition area, serves approximately 31,466 students in 35 school sites in grades kindergarten through 12th, and encompasses all or part of the cities of Foothill Ranch, Laguna Hills, Lake Forest, Mission Viejo, Rancho Santa Margarita and Trabuco Canyon.

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1. Introduction

Figure 1 Regional Location



Source: Google Earth 2010


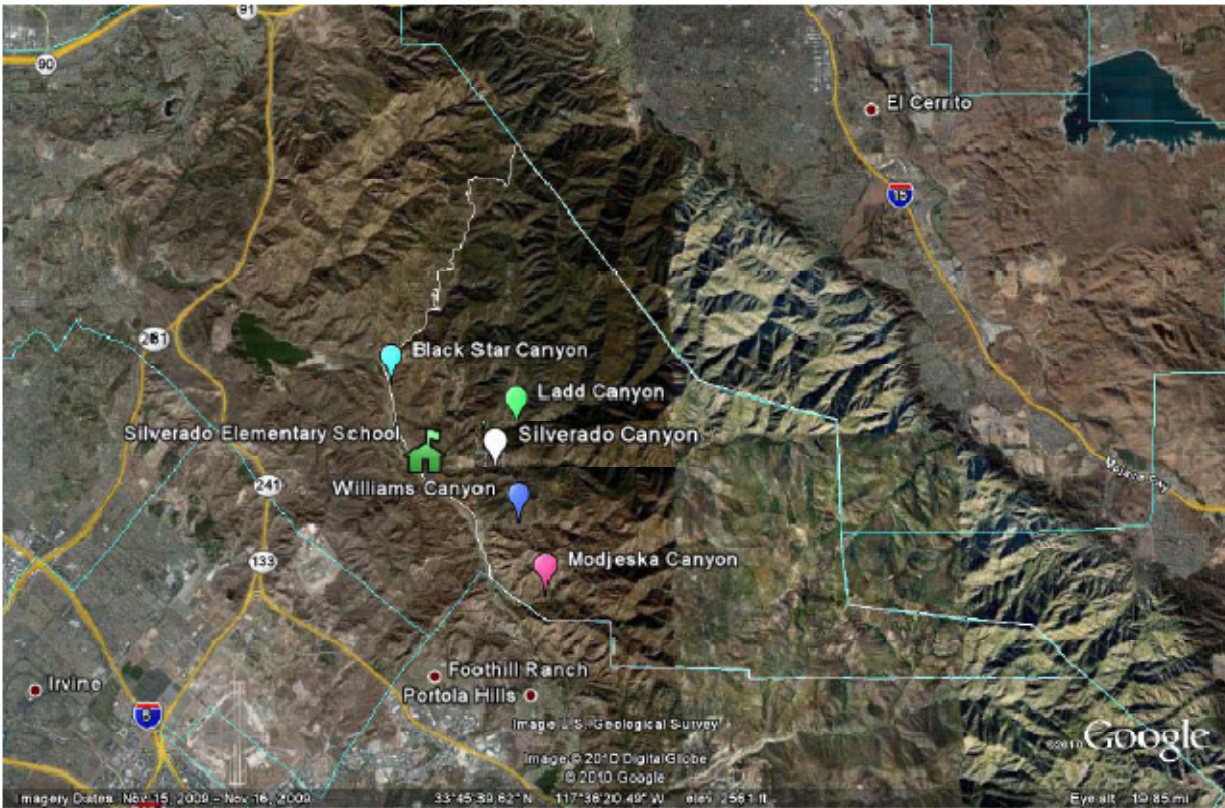







 Silverado, CA

Figure 2 Local Vicinity



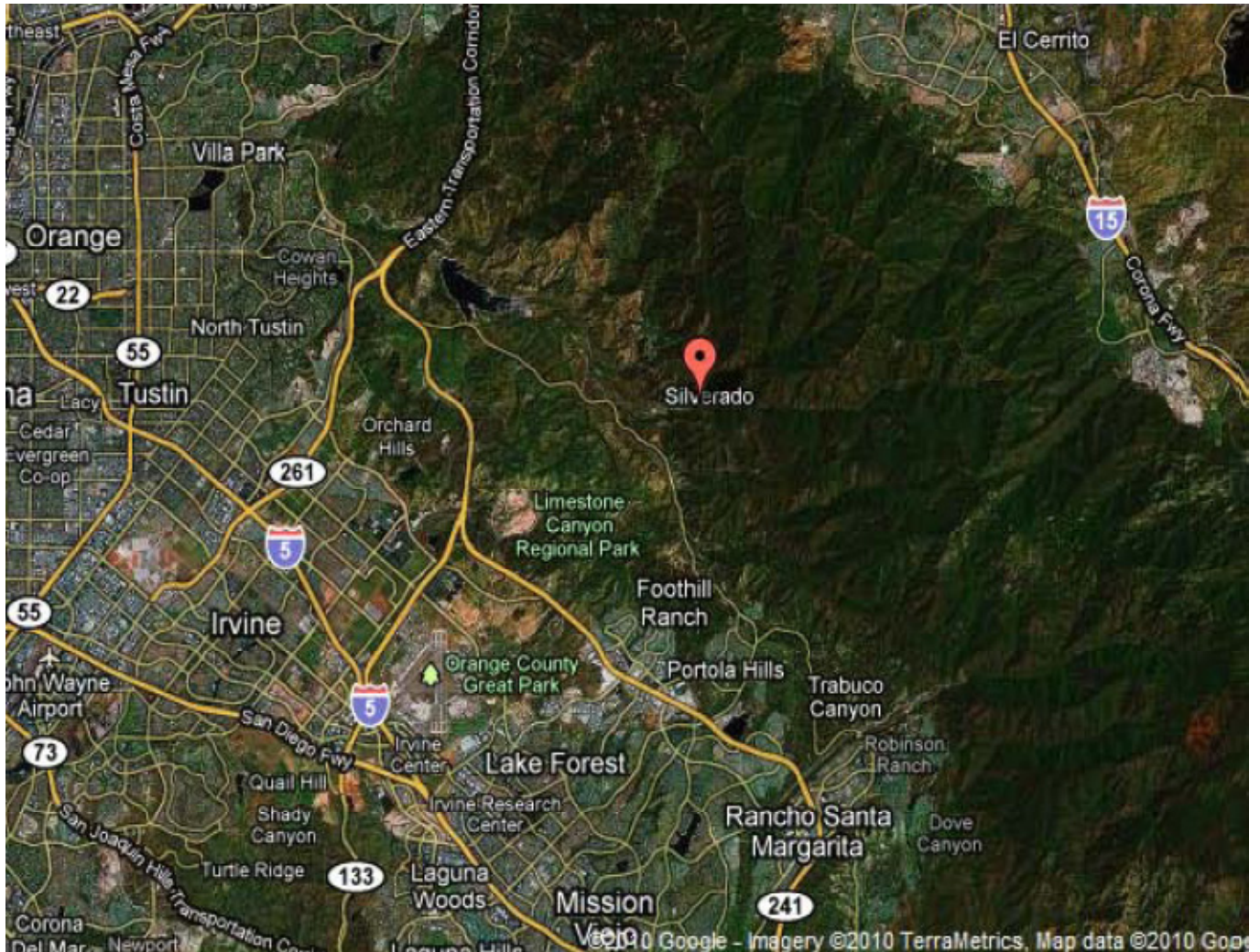
Source: Google Earth 2010

-  Black Star Canyon
-  Ladd Canyon
-  Williams Canyon
-  Modjeska Canyon
-  Silverado Canyon
-  Silverado Elementary School (closed 2009)
-  School District Boundaries

The proposed transfer area is outlined in white.

1. Introduction

Figure 3 Aerial Photograph



Source: Google Earth 2010



Silverado, CA

Figure 4 Transfer of Territory Petition and Map

PETITION FOR TRANSFER OF TERRITORY

To the Superintendent of Schools of Orange County:

Pursuant to *Education Code* Section 35700, subdivision (a), the undersigned, constituting at least 25 percent (25%) of the registered electors residing in the territory proposed to be transferred, petition that the boundaries of the Orange Unified School District be changed to eliminate from the Orange Unified School District the territory hereinafter described. The undersigned persons petition that the described territory be transferred to and included within the Saddleback Valley Unified School District.

The property to be transferred is described as follows:

The unincorporated community of Silverado, California 92676, including Silverado, Black Star, Ladd, Williams and Modjeska canyons, as bounded on the north starting at the Riverside County line and Black Star Canyon Road extending south along Black Star Canyon Road to the intersection of Silverado Canyon Road, then west to the Intersection of Silverado Canyon Road and Santiago Canyon Road which is the western boundary. The territory then follows Santiago Canyon Road south to the Saddleback Valley Unified School District boundary line, then east to the Riverside County line. See the attached map of this territory.

The undersigned request the changes in the respective boundaries of the school districts for the following reasons:

- 1. Geographic distance.** The territory to be transferred is significantly closer to Saddleback Valley Unified (SVUSD) schools than it is to Orange Unified schools (OUSD). The nearest SVUSD elementary school is 2.5 miles from Modjeska Canyon compared to 11.5 miles for the nearest OUSD elementary school.
- 2. Children as young as kindergarten now ride the bus much more than three hours every day.** With the closure of Silverado Elementary School, our children have been forced to board buses as early as 6:30 a.m. to arrive in time for an 8 a.m. class.
- 3. Shared community interests.** One canyon community, Trabuco Canyon, already belongs to SVUSD. Our hope is to create a K-8 school serving all canyon residents.

The Chief Petitioners for the purpose of receiving notices and so forth are:

- | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Deborah L. Johnson | 29772 Silverado Canyon Rd. | Silverado, CA 92676 |
| 2. Laura Futerman | 28832 Silverado Canyon Rd. | Silverado, CA 92676 |
| 3. Chalynn M. Peterson | 14931 Wildcat Canyon Road | Silverado, CA 92676 |

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC. THIS PETITION MAY BE CIRCULATED BY A PAID SIGNATURE GATHERER OR VOLUNTEER. YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO ASK.

1. Introduction

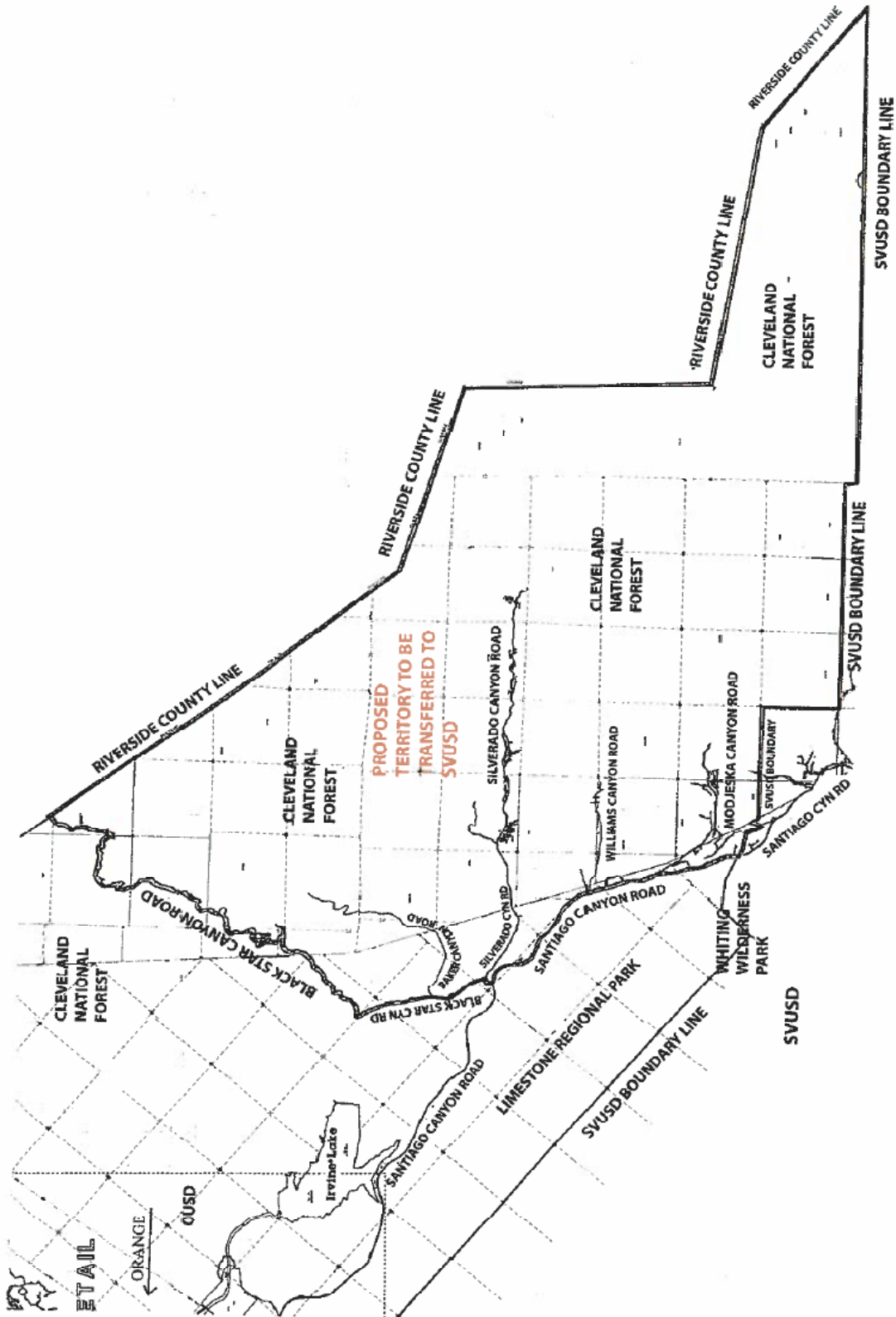
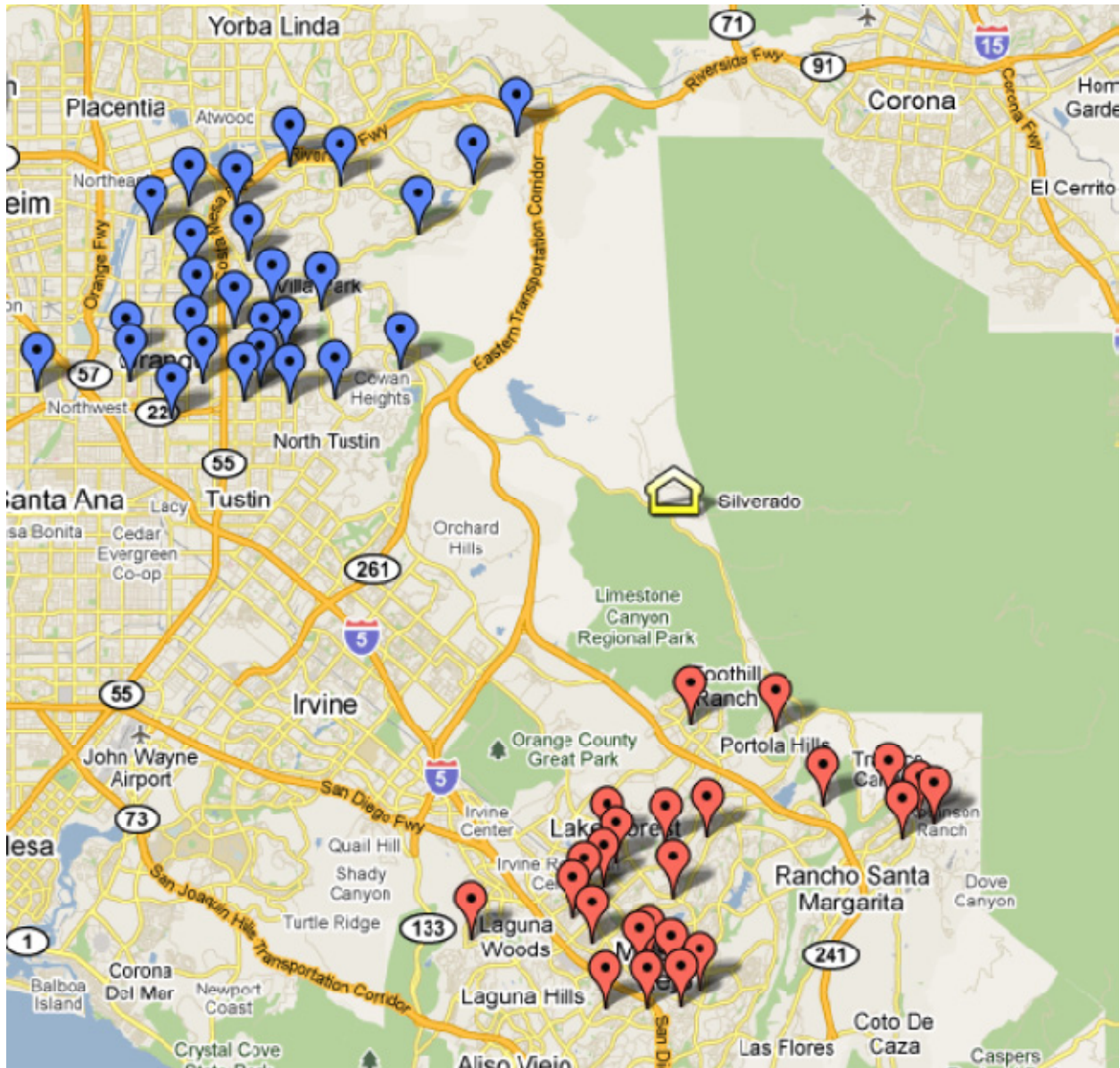





Figure 5 Maps of OUSD and SVUSD School Locations

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

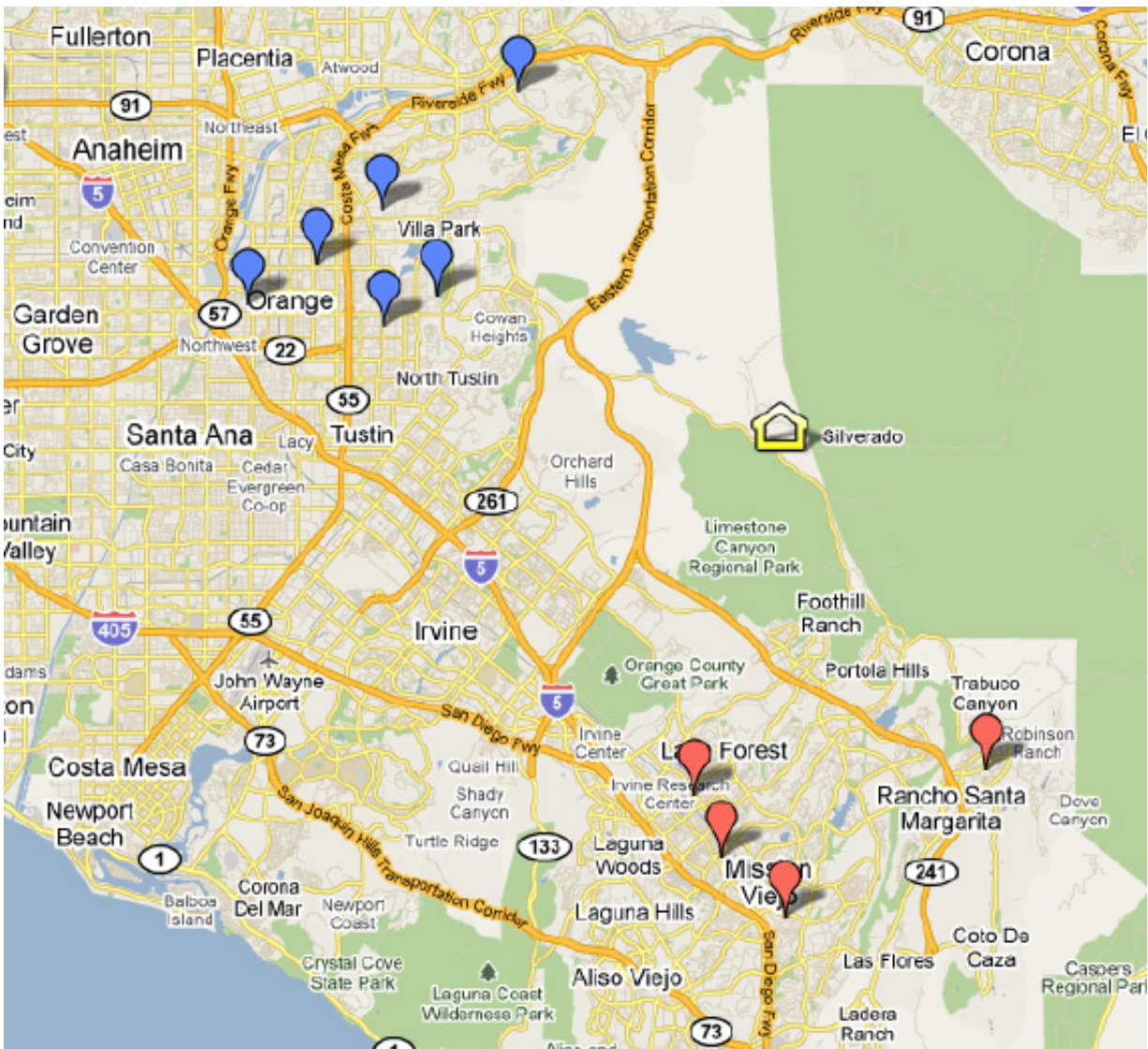


Source: Google Maps

-  Silverado Elementary School (closed 2009)
-  OUSD Elementary Schools
-  SVUSD Elementary Schools

1. Introduction

MIDDLE SCHOOLS



Source: Google Maps



Silverado Elementary School (closed 2009)

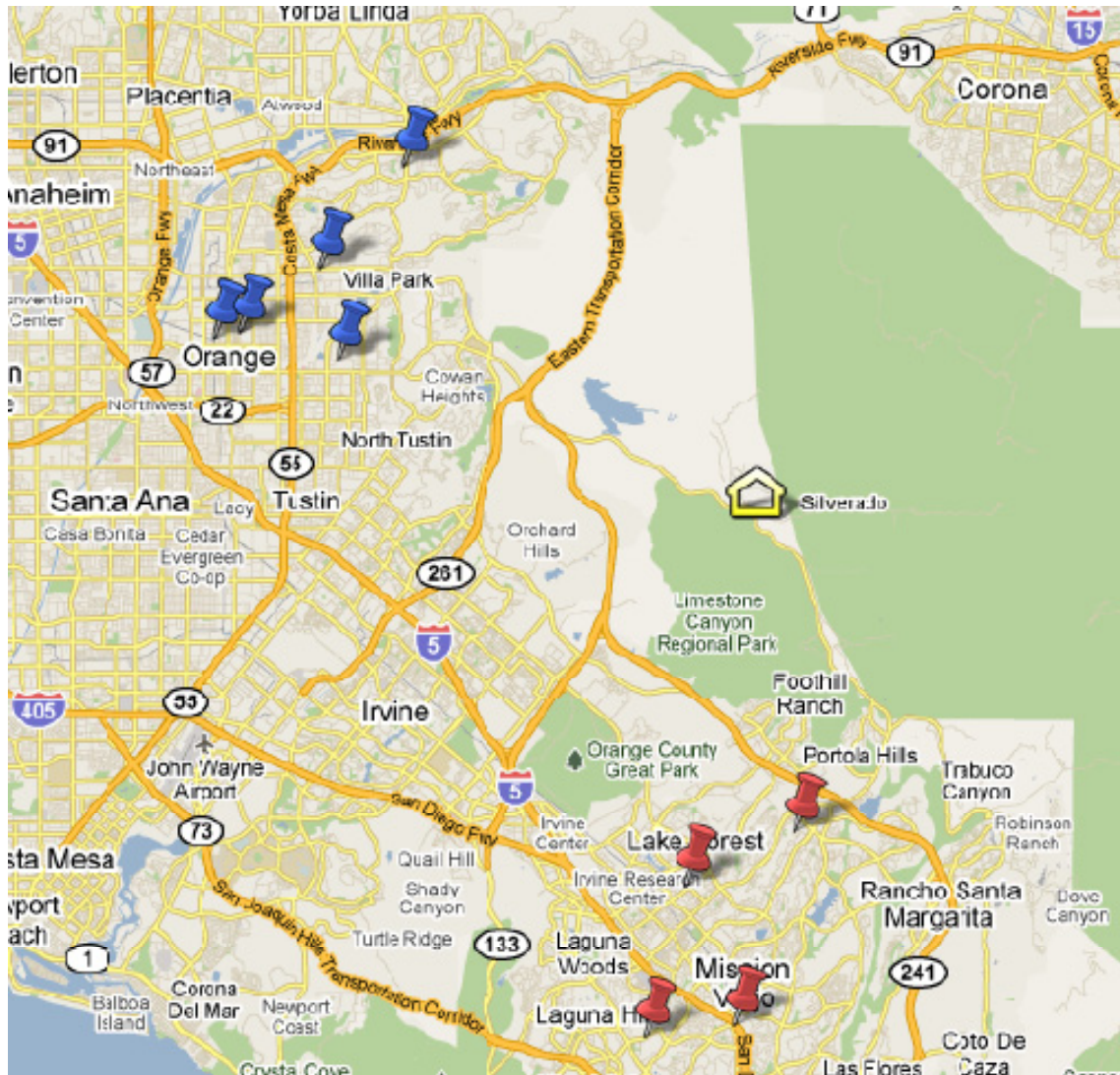


OUSD Middle Schools






SVUSD Middle Schools

HIGH SCHOOLS



Source: Google Maps

-  Silverado Elementary School (closed 2009)
-  OUSD High Schools
-  SVUSD High Schools

1. Introduction

Figure 6 Listing of OUSD and SVUSD School Locations

ORANGE USD			
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS		ADDRESS	DISTANCE FROM SILVERADO ELEMENTARY
1	Silverado Elementary School (closed)	7531 Santiago Canyon Road, Silverado, CA 92676	0.0
2	Panorama Elementary School	10512 Crawford Canyon Rd., Santa Ana, CA 92705	9.8
3	Chapman Hills Elementary School	170 N. Aspen St., Orange, CA 92869	10.2
4	Esplanade Elementary School	381 N. Esplanade St., Orange, CA 92869	10.4
5	Jordan Elementary School	4319 E. Jordan Ave., Orange, CA 92869	10.5
6	Linda Vista Elementary School	1200 N. Cannon St., Orange, CA 92869	10.7
7	Prospect Elementary School	379 N. Virage St., Orange, CA 92869	10.8
8	McPherson Magnet K-8	333 S. Prospect St., Orange, CA 92869	11.1
9	La Veta Elementary School	2800 E. La Veta Ave., Orange, CA 92869	11.3
10	Villa Park Elementary School	10551 Center Dr., Villa Park, CA 92861	11.4
11	Palmyra Elementary School	1325 E. Palmyra Ave., Orange, CA 92869	11.9
12	Handy Elementary School	860 N. Handy St., Orange, CA 92867	12.3
13	Cambridge Elementary School	425 N. Cambridge St., Orange, CA 92866	12.4
14	Serrano Elementary School	17741 Serrano Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861	12.5
15	Imperial Elementary School	400 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807	12.7
16	Anaheim Hills Elementary School	6450 E. Serrano Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807	13.0
17	California Elementary School K-5	1080 N. California St., Orange, CA 92867	13.2
18	Fairhaven Elementary School	1415 Fairhaven Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92705	13.3
19	West Orange K-5 Elementary School	243 Bush St., Orange, CA 92868	13.4
20	Sycamore Elementary School	340 N. Main St., Orange, CA 92868	13.7
21	Taft Elementary School	1829 N. Cambridge St., Orange, CA 92865	13.8
22	Nohl Canyon Elementary School	4100 E. Nohl Ranch Rd., Anaheim, CA 92807	14.1
23	Crescent Elementary School	5001 E. Gerda Dr., Anaheim, CA 92807	14.3
24	Olive Elementary School	3038 Magnolia Ave., Orange, CA 92865	14.4
25	Fletcher Elementary School	515 W. Fletcher St., Orange, CA 92865	14.8
26	Canyon Rim Elementary School	1090 S. The Highlands Dr., Anaheim, CA 92808	14.9
27	Lampson Elementary School K-5	13321 Lampson Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840	16.2
28	Running Springs Elementary School	8670 E. Running Springs Dr., Anaheim, CA 92808	16.7
MIDDLE SCHOOLS			
29	McPherson Magnet	333 S. Prospect St., Orange, CA 92869	11.1
30	Santiago Charter Middle School	515 N. Rancho Santiago Blvd., Orange, CA 92869	12.0
31	Cerro Villa Middle School	17852 Serrano Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861	12.2
32	Yorba Academy of the Arts Middle School	935 N. Cambridge St., Orange, CA 92867	13.3
33	Portola Middle School 6-7-8	270 N. Palm Dr., Orange, CA 92868	13.7
34	El Rancho Charter Middle School	181 S. Del Giorgio Dr., Anaheim, CA 92808	15.2
HIGH SCHOOLS			
35	Villa Park High School	18042 Taft Ave., Villa Park, CA 92861	12.1
36	El Modena High School	3920 Spring St., Orange, CA 92869	12.4
37	Orange High School	525 N. Shaffer St., Orange, CA 92867	12.7
38	Canyon High School	220 S. Imperial Hwy., Anaheim, CA 92807	12.9
39	Richland Continuation High School	615 N. Lemon St., Orange, CA 92867	13.3

Saddleback VUSD

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS		ADDRESS	DISTANCE FROM SILVERADO ELEMENTARY
A	Portola Hills Elementary School	19422 Saddleback Ranch Road, Trabuco Canyon, 92679	6.0
B	Foothill Ranch Elementary School	1 Torino, Foothill Ranch, 92610	8.4
C	Del Lago Elementary School	27181 Entidad, Mission Viejo, 92691	8.9
D	Lake Forest Elementary School	21801 Pittsford, Lake Forest, 92630	9.9
E	Melinda Heights Elementary School	21001 Rancho Trabuco, Rancho Santa Margarita, 92688	10.1
F	Rancho Cañada Elementary School	21801 Winding Way, Lake Forest, 92630	10.7
G	La Madera Elementary School	25350 Serrano Road, Lake Forest, 92630	10.9
H	Robinson Elementary School	21400 Lindsay Drive, Trabuco Canyon, 92679	11.2
I	Glen Yermo Elementary School	26400 Trabuco Road, Mission Viejo, 92691	11.4
J	Cielo Vista Elementary School	21811 Ave Fundadores, Rancho Santa Margarita, 92688	11.8
K	Santiago Elementary School	24982 Rivendell Drive, Lake Forest, 92630	12.0
L	Montevideo Elementary School	24071 Carrillo Drive, Mission Viejo, 92691	12.0
M	Trabuco Mesa Elementary School	21301 Ave. de las Flores, Rancho Santa Margarita, 92688	12.0
N	De Portola Elementary School	27031 Preciados, Mission Viejo, 92691	12.2
O	Cordillera Elementary School	25952 Cordillera Drive, Mission Viejo, 92691	12.4
P	Trabuco Elementary School	31052 Trabuco Canyon, Trabuco Canyon, 92678	12.4
Q	Aliso Elementary School	22882 Loumont Drive, Lake Forest, 92630	12.7
R	Olivewood Elementary School	23391 Dune Mear Road, Lake Forest, 92630	12.7
S	Del Cerro Elementary School	24382 Regina Street, Mission Viejo, 92691	12.8
T	Gates, Ralph A. Elementary School	23882 Landisview Avenue, Lake Forest, 92630	12.9
U	Linda Vista Elementary School	25222 Pericia Drive, Mission Viejo, 92691	12.9
V	Lomarena Elementary School	25100 Earhart Road, Laguna Hills, 92653	13.9
W	Valencia Elementary School	25661 Paseo de Valencia, Laguna Hills, 92653	14.6
X	San Joaquin Elementary School	22182 Barbera, Laguna Hills, 92653	15.6
MIDDLE SCHOOLS			
Y	Serrano Intermediate School	24642 Jeronimo, Lake Forest, 92630	11.4
Z	RSM Intermediate School	21931 Alma Aldea, RSM, 92679	12.0
AA	Los Alisos Intermediate School	25171 Moor Avenue, Mission Viejo, 92691	12.3
BB	La Paz Intermediate School	25151 Pradera Drive, Mission Viejo, 92691	12.7
HIGH SCHOOLS			
CC	El Toro High School	25255 Toledo Way, Lake Forest, 92630	11.3
DD	Trabuco Hills High School	27501 Mustang Run, Mission Viejo, 92691	11.4
EE	Mission Viejo High School	25025 Chrisanta Drive, Mission Viejo, 92691	13.3
FF	Laguna Hills High School	25401 Paseo de Valencia, Laguna Hills, 92653	14.5

1. Introduction

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1.3 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Petitioners from the unincorporated community of Silverado, California, want to transfer inhabited territory from the Orange Unified School District (OUSD) to the Saddleback Valley Unified School District (SVUSD). The area in question is approximately 60 square miles and is located in the Santa Ana Mountains in eastern Orange County, California. The transfer of territory would shift the school district boundary line to include Silverado, Black Starr, Ladd, Williams and Modjeska Canyons from OUSD to SVUSD jurisdiction.

The Petitioners stated the request for changing the boundaries of the school districts was based on geographic distance and shared community interests. They stated the area to be transferred is closer to the schools in the SVUSD than to the schools in the OUSD and that one canyon community, Trabuco Canyon, already belongs to the SVUSD.

The “project” as defined for this Initial Study involves only the environmental consequences of changing the school boundaries as described previously. Under the current boundary alignment, current (and future) students within the transfer area attend OUSD schools and under the proposed transfer of territory, they would attend SVUSD schools.

Table 1 identifies the schools in OUSD where the area students are currently assigned; the schools in SVUSD that have been identified as potential new locations; and their distance from the Silverado Elementary School that was closed June 2009. Silverado Elementary School is located at 7531 Santiago Canyon Road, Silverado, CA 92676. The SVUSD schools listed below were identified in the district’s response to a request for information from the County Committee on the nine criterion used in determining approval or disapproval of a transfer of territory. However, during the public hearings held on August 4, 2010 Saddleback Valley Unified Superintendent Steve Fish explained that the district could not guarantee which school students would attend should the transfer of territory be approved by the County Committee. Several other schools in the district were mentioned, but for the purpose of this Initial Study and analysis, we will use the schools listed below for SVUSD.

Table 1
Distances to Surrounding Schools

School	Grades Served	Distance
OUSD Schools		
Chapman Hills Elementary School	Elementary	10.2 miles
Santiago Middle School	Middle/Intermediate	12.0 miles
El Modena High School	High	12.4 miles
SVUSD Schools		
Trabuco Elementary School	Elementary	12.4 miles
Serrano Intermediate School	Middle/Intermediate	11.4 miles
Trabuco Hills High School	High	11.4 miles

Source: Google Maps

1. Introduction

Table 2 provides a summary of the number of students within the proposed transfer area and the schools they currently attend in the Orange Unified School District.

Table 2
OUSD Schools Currently Attended

OUSD Schools Currently Attended by Silverado Area Students	Current Number of Students
Elementary School	
Chapman Hills Elementary School	38
Esplanade Elementary School	1
Linda Vista Elementary School	2
Panorama Elementary School	2
Serrano Elementary School	1
Villa Park Elementary School	2
McPherson Elementary School	2
Total	48
Middle/Intermediate School	
McPherson Middle School	1
Portola Middle School	1
Santiago Middle School	8
Total	10
High School	
El Modena High School	34
Villa Park High School	3
Total	37
Home School	
Home School	4
Total	4
Currently on Interdistrict Transfer to SVUSD	
Elementary Level Students	17
Middle/Intermediate School Level Students	1
Total	18
GRAND TOTAL	
	117

Source: OUSD

Number of students as of September 3, 2010

Table 3 provides the current enrollments and capacities for the three schools where the students within the transfer area are currently assigned by OUSD and the three schools identified by SVUSD for the proposed transfer of territory.

Table 3
OUSD and SVUSD Existing Enrollments and Capacities

School	Current Enrollment	Current Capacity
OUSD Schools		
Chapman Hills Elementary School	440	600
Santiago Middle School	1,009	1,287
El Modena High School	2,178	2,640
SVUSD Schools		
Trabuco Elementary School	72	112
Serrano Intermediate School	1,378	1,807
Trabuco Hills High School	3,347	3,352

Source: OUSD and SVUSD

Bus Policies

Both school districts currently have established bus policies. Copies of each district’s policy was included with their response to the County Committee’s request for information on the nine criterion used in determining approval or disapproval of a transfer of territory. Neither district provides free transportation for its students; rather, students in some areas of the districts can ride the bus for a fee.

The OUSD currently has three buses that service the proposed transfer area. During the public hearings held on August 4, 2010 Saddleback Valley Unified Superintendent Steve Fish SVUSD stated that the district would not provide any bus services to the proposed transfer area if approved.

1.4 AGENCY APPROVALS

The Orange County Committee on School District Organization has the primary approval authority over the proposed transfer of territory petition and as such is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The Committee held public hearings in both Orange Unified School District and Saddleback Valley USD on August 4, 2010 pursuant to Education Code Section 35705 and 35705.5. Comments received from agencies and the public are available for viewing and/or downloading on the Committee’s website at <http://ccsdo.ocde.us/Home.htm>.

1. Introduction

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2. *Environmental Checklist*

2.1 BACKGROUND

1. **Project Title:** Silverado Transfer of Territory

2. **Lead Agency Name and Address:**
Orange County Committee on School District Organization
200 Kalmus Drive
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

3. **Contact Person and Phone Number:**
Wendy Benkert, Ed.D.
Secretary to the County Committee
714-966-4229

4. **Project Location:** The project proposes to move school district attendance boundaries from Orange Unified School District to include Silverado, Black Starr, Ladd, Williams and Modjeska Canyons to the Saddleback Valley Unified School District.

5. **Project Sponsor's Name and Address:**
Orange County Committee on School District Organization
200 Kalmus Drive
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

6. **General Plan Designation:** Not applicable

7. **Zoning:** Not applicable

8. **Description of Project (Describe the whole action involved, including but not limited to, later phases of the project, and any secondary, support, or off-site features necessary for its implementation. Attach additional sheets if necessary):**

See Section 1.3

9. **Surrounding Land Uses and Setting (Briefly describe the project's surroundings):**

See Section 1.2.2

10. **Other Public Agencies Whose Approval Is Required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement):**

The Orange County Committee on School District Organization has the primary approval authority over the proposed petition and, as such, is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

2. Environmental Checklist

2.2 ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact," as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural and Forest Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology / Soils |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology / Water Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use / Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Population / Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation / Traffic | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities / Service Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |

2.3 DETERMINATION (TO BE COMPLETED BY THE LEAD AGENCY)

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.


Signature

Wendy Benkert

Printed Name


Date

Secretary, Orange County Committee
on School District Organization

For

2.4 EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

- 1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except “No Impact” answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A “No Impact” answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A “No Impact” answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors, as well as general standards (e.g., the project would not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
- 2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- 3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. “Potentially Significant Impact” is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more “Potentially Significant Impact” entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- 4) “Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated” applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from “Potentially Significant Impact” to a “Less Than Significant Impact.” The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level.
- 5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
 - a) **Earlier Analyses Used.** Identify and state where they are available for review.
 - b) **Impacts Adequately Addressed.** Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
 - c) **Mitigation Measures.** For effects that are “Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated,” describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
- 6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated. A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
- 7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.

2. Environmental Checklist

- 8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
- 9) The explanation of each issue should identify:
 - a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
 - b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significant.

2. Environmental Checklist

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS. Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?				X
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				X
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?				X
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?				X
II. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES. In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?				X
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				X
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?				X
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				X
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				X
III. AIR QUALITY. Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?				X
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?			X	
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?			X	
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?			X	
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?				X

2. Environmental Checklist

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES. Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				X
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				X
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				X
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?				X
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				X
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				X
V. CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5?				X
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?				X
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?				X
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?				X
VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS. Would the project:				
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				X
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map, issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.				X
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?				X
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?				X
iv) Landslides?				X
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?				X

2. Environmental Checklist

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?				X
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?				X
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?				X
VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS. Would the project:				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?				X
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?				X
VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS. Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?				X
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?				X
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?				X
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				X
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				X
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				X
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				X
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?				X
IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY. Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?				X

2. Environmental Checklist

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?				X
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in a substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site				X
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?				X
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?				X
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?				X
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?				X
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?				X
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?				X
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?				X

2. Environmental Checklist

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
X. LAND USE AND PLANNING. Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?				X
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?				X
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?				X
XI. MINERAL RESOURCES. Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be a value to the region and the residents of the state?				X
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?				X
XII. NOISE. Would the project result in:				
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?				X
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?				X
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				X
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				X
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				X
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				X
XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING. Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				X
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X

2. Environmental Checklist

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
a) Fire protection?				X
b) Police protection?				X
c) Schools?				X
d) Parks?				X
e) Other public facilities?				X
XV. RECREATION.				
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				X
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				X
XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?				X
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?				X
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?				X
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?				X
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?				X
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?				X
g) Result in inadequate parking capacity? (OPTIONAL: Removed from 2010 CEQA Guidelines.)				X

2. Environmental Checklist

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS. Would the project:				
a) Exceed waste water treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?				X
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or waste water treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				X
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				X
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources or are new or expanded entitlements needed?				X
e) Result in a determination by the waste water treatment provider, which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?				X
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?				X
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?				X
XVIII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.				
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?				X
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)				X
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?				X

2. Environmental Checklist

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3. Environmental Analysis

Section 2.3 provided a checklist of environmental impacts. This section provides an evaluation of the impact categories and questions contained in the checklist and identify mitigation measures, if applicable.

3.1 AESTHETICS

a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

No Impact. The proposed project involves a realignment of the attendance boundaries of two adjacent school districts. The project does not involve the acquisition of real property or the construction of any physical improvements. As such, the project does not have the potential to adversely impact any scenic views. No mitigation measures are necessary.

b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?

No Impact. The proposed project area is not located in the immediate vicinity of a state-designated scenic highway and no damage to any specific resource or historic building within a state scenic highway would occur as a result of the project. No mitigation measures are necessary.

c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?

No Impact. The proposed boundary change would change the schools attended by current and future students who reside within the transfer area from OUSD to SVUSD. There are no physical changes involved with this project and no change to the visual character would occur. No mitigation measures are necessary.

d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare, which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

No Impact. The proposed project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements, including the installation of any lighting or reflective surfaces. The project's implementation would not result in an increase in light or glare that may adversely impact day or nighttime views in the area. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

3.2 AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES

In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:

3. Environmental Analysis

- a) **Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?**

No Impact. The proposed project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements that could directly or indirectly impact farmland. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

- b) **Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?**

No Impact. The proposed project involves a school attendance boundary change and would not result in a change in land use. Zoning and general plan designations are not applicable to the project. The project would not involve any physical improvements that may conflict with the use of agriculturally zoned property, or property under a Williamson Act contract. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

- c) **Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?**

No Impact. The proposed project only involves a school attendance boundary change and would not conflict with any existing zoning requirements. Zoning and general plan designations are not applicable to the project. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

- d) **Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?**

No Impact. The proposed project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements that would result in a loss of forest land or the conversion of forest land to non-forest use. The proposed project only involves a school attendance boundary change. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

- e) **Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?**

No Impact. The proposed project is a change to the existing school district boundaries for OUSD and SVUSD and would not impact farmland. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

3.3 AIR QUALITY

Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:

- a) **Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?**

No Impact. As explained in Section 3.3 b) below, the project would have a negligible adverse impact on air quality. The project does not involve a change in land use designations and its impact is below the thresholds set by SCAQMD. The project would not obstruct the SCAQMD's ability to implement the AQMP and no significant impact would occur.

3. Environmental Analysis

b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed boundary change would redirect school-age children from schools in one school district to another. Table 4 identifies the number of elementary, middle and high school students currently within the proposed transfer area and multiplies each against the average distance to school under the two scenarios. For the existing boundary in OUSD, all students from the Silverado area in grades K-6 are assigned to Chapman Hills Elementary School, students in grades 7-8 are assigned to Santiago Middle School and students in grades 9-12 are assigned to El Modena High School. For the proposed boundary in SVUSD, the district identified Trabuco Elementary School for students in grades K-6, Serrano Intermediate School for students in grades 7-8 and Trabuco Hills High School for students in grades 9-12 as the schools the students from the Silverado area would attend.

As shown in Table 5, 64 of the 95 students (67%) residing in the area and attending OUSD schools travel to school on OUSD buses. Under the proposed boundary change, SVUSD has stated that it would not provide busing services to the transfer area and parents would be required to provide their own means of transporting students. Based on these numbers, the OUSD scenario generates 36 vehicular trips and the proposed SVUSD scenario would generate 95 trips. (These figures are likely to overstate the number of trips somewhat since they do not account for ridesharing among these students).

Because of the greater number of trips under the SVUSD (no busing) scenario and the slightly greater distances to the schools, the distance traveled would increase from roughly 609 miles under the current situation to 1,123 miles. The additional 59 vehicular trips and the greater total of miles traveled (513 miles) would increase vehicular-related emissions. As shown in Table 6, the impact from the additional emissions represents an adverse, but not significant impact as the increase in emissions fall far below the SCAQMD thresholds.

3. Environmental Analysis

Table 4
Average Distance Traveled to Schools
(in miles)

Grade	Existing Boundary (OUSD Schools)			Proposed Boundary (SVUSD Schools)		
	# of Students or Trips ¹	Distance to School ²	Total Miles Traveled	# of Students or Trips ¹	Distance to School ²	Total Miles Traveled
Elementary School						
Via Bus	1	10.30	10.30	0	11.87	0
Via Private vehicle	17	10.30	175.10	48	11.87	569.76
Middle/Intermediate School						
Via Bus	1	10.98	109.80	0	14.39	0
Via Private Vehicle	1	10.98	109.80	10	14.39	143.90
High School						
Via Bus	1	12.78	12.78	0	11.06	0
Via Private Vehicle	15	12.78	191.70	37	11.06	409.22
Total	36		609.48	95		1,122.88

¹Number of students by grade level is provided by OUSD, also shown in Table 2. Figures for OUSD students modified by travel mode (bus vs. private vehicle) as shown in Table 5. One bus trip is indicated for each grade level. Does not include 4 home schooled students.

²Distance to school is based on one-way mileage using Google Maps and student mailing address on file with the OUSD, then averaged and multiplied by the number of students. 52 of the address on file are to PO Boxes.

3. Environmental Analysis

Table 5
Transfer Area Students Utilizing OUSD Transportation

Students Riding the Bus	Current Number of Students
To Chapman Hills Elementary School	31
To Santiago Middle School	11
To El Modena High School	22
Total	64

Source: OUSD Transportation Department as of June 2010

Table 6
Increase in Air Pollutant Emissions from Increase in Vehicle Miles Traveled

Emission Factors	ROG	NO _x	CO	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5} ¹
Grams/mile @ 18 mph ²	0.245	0.268	3.736	0.019	0.019
Lbs/mile	0.00054	0.000591	0.008236	4.9E-05	4.15E-05
Temperature ³	85°	70°	60°	NA	NA
Emissions	ROG	NO _x	CO	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5} ¹
Increase in emissions from 513 additional VMT (lbs/day)	0.3	0.3	4.2	0.0	0.0
SCAQMD threshold	55	55	550	150	55
Exceeds threshold	No	No	No	No	No

¹Assumes PM2.5 is 99 percent PM10 for mobile sources based on the South Coast Air Quality Management District's Final Methodology to Calculate particulate matter (PM 2.5 and PM10) significance thresholds.

²18 MPH speed limit based on the South Coast Air Quality Management District's 1993 CEQA Air Quality Handbook, Table A9-5-F, for secondary street in the AM peak hour in Orange County. Assumes all miles are traveled with light-duty autos and all students would be driven separately.

³Based on the South Coast Air Quality Management District's 1993 CEQA Air Quality Handbook, Table A9-5-I.

Source: South Coast Air Quality Management District, 2008

3. Environmental Analysis

- c) **Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is nonattainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?**

Less than Significant Impact. The proposed project would not result in either the construction or operation of any new structures that could increase the overall student population. As demonstrated in Section 3.3 b) above, the project would not have a cumulatively considerable net increase in any criteria pollutant. No significant impact would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

- d) **Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?**

Less than Significant Impact. This project does not include any new construction and would increase emissions along travel routes by only negligible amounts.

The proposed project would redirect the estimated 99 students from schools located in the OUSD to schools located in to SVUSD. The amount of emission sources is not considered to be significant. No mitigation measures are necessary.

- e) **Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?**

No Impact. Odors are one of the most obvious forms of air pollution to the general public. Although offensive odors rarely cause physical harm, they can be a concern to the general public.

For schools, odors are typically generated with the construction of a project, including painting and laying asphalt. In this case, the proposed project would not result in any construction and no odors would be produced. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

3.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

- a) **Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?**

No Impact. The proposed project involves a change to the attendance boundaries of two adjacent school districts. The project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The project does not have the potential to adversely impact sensitive wildlife and plant species, or habitat that may support such species. No mitigation measures are necessary.

- b) **Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?**

No Impact. The project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements that may result in adverse impacts to riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

3. Environmental Analysis

- c) **Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?**

No Impact. The project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements that may directly or indirectly result in impacts to wetland habitat or other sensitive natural communities. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

- d) **Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?**

No Impact. The project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The project does not have the potential to interfere with any fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

- e) **Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?**

No Impact. The project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements that may directly or indirectly conflict with local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

- f) **Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?**

No Impact. The project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements that may directly or indirectly conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

3.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

- a) **Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5?**

No Impact. Section 15064.5 defines historic resources as resources listed or determined to be eligible for listing by the State Historical Resources Commission, a local register of historical resources, or the lead agency. Generally a resource is considered to be “historically significant,” if it meets one of the following criteria:

- i) Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California’s history and cultural heritage;
- ii) Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
- iii) Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values; or
- iv) Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

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The proposed project involves the realignment of the school district attendance boundaries of two adjacent school districts and does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. In addition, no demolition or ground-disturbing activities will occur. The project has no potential to directly or indirectly impact historical resources. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?

No Impact. The project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements and no ground disturbances would occur. The project does not have the potential to impact paleontological resources. No mitigation measures are necessary.

c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

No Impact. As stated above, the project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements and no ground disturbances would occur. The project does not have the potential to impact paleontological resources. No mitigation measures are necessary.

d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

No Impact. The project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements and no ground disturbances would occur. The project does not have the potential to disturb human remains. No mitigation measures are necessary.

3.6 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:

i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning map, issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.

No Impact. The project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements with the potential to suffer damages during an earthquake.

The California Department of Education (CDE) requires that proposed school sites be investigated for geological hazards, including earthquakes. So, the project would not result in students attending a school known to be more at risk for an earthquake. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

No Impact. The project area is located in Southern California which is seismically active and could experience ground shaking during an earthquake. However, the proposed project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements.

The CDE requires that proposed school sites be investigated for geological hazards, including seismic ground shaking, and mandates that school structures be constructed in strict accordance with building code requirements and seismic safety standards. The project is not anticipated to result in

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students attending a school prominently more at risk from seismic shaking than other local schools. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

No Impact. Liquefaction refers to loose, saturated sand or gravel deposits that lose their load-supporting capacity when subjected to intense shaking. Because the proposed boundary change does not involve the construction of any physical improvements, the project does not have the potential to be directly or indirectly subject to liquefaction.

School districts are required to prepare geotechnical investigation, inclusive of subsurface testing, for proposed school sites to assess their potential for unstable soil conditions and provide recommendations to mitigate the impact and ensure the school's safety. Also, The Division of the State Architect (DSA) is charged with the review of all new school facility construction plans and state-funded retrofits to older existing school sites. DSA overview of these plans ensures that schools are built to appropriate seismic standards. The project is not anticipated to result in students attending a school more at risk from liquefaction than other local schools. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

iv) Landslides?

No Impact. Landsliding is a type of erosion in which masses of earth and rock move down slope as a single unit. Potential landslide impacts are relative to a site's location and the topography of that property and surrounding properties. The territory area is prone to landslides due to inclement weather conditions. However, because the project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements there is no potential for direct landslide impacts. The project is not anticipated to result in students attending a school more at risk from landslides than other local schools. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

No Impact. The potential for soil erosion is generally related to the construction and operation of a facility or other physical improvement. Because the proposed project does not involve any construction and no ground disturbances would occur, the project does not have the potential to result in soil erosion impacts. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?

No Impact. As stated in the response to the preceding questions, the proposed project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. Because no construction would occur, there is no potential for impacts resulting from unstable soils. The project is not anticipated to result in students attending a school more at risk from unstable soil conditions than other local schools. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?

No Impact. As stated in the response to the preceding questions, the proposed project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. Because no construction would occur, there is no potential for impacts resulting from expansive soils. The project is not anticipated to result in students

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attending a school more at risk from expansive soils than other local schools. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

- e) **Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?**

No Impact. The project would not require the installation of a septic tank or alternative wastewater disposal system. No impacts would result from septic tanks or other on-site wastewater disposal systems. No mitigation measures are necessary.

3.7 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

- a) **Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?**

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of the school district attendance boundaries of two adjacent school districts and does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

- b) **Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?**

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of the school district attendance boundaries of two adjacent school districts and does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The project does not have the potential to conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases. No mitigation measures are necessary.

3.8 HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

- a) **Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials?**

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries and would not result in the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

- b) **Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?**

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries and does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The project does not have the potential to result in the release of hazardous materials into the environment. No mitigation measures are necessary.

- c) **Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?**

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries and does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The project would not include any

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facilities or operations that have the potential to emit or handle any hazardous materials. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

- d) **Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?**

No Impact. The project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The project does not have the potential to be located on property included on any list of hazardous materials sites. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

- e) **For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?**

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries and does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. While no airports are within two miles of the project area, the distance to the closest airport is not directly applicable to this project. The project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements that may conflict with airport operations or result in a safety hazard. The project is not anticipated to result in students attending a school more at risk from airport-related hazards than other local schools. No mitigation measures are necessary.

- f) **For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?**

No Impact. No private airstrips are located within the vicinity of the proposed project area. The project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements that may conflict with airstrip operations or result in a safety hazard. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

- g) **Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?**

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries and does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The project would not result in the permanent or temporary closure of any roads or emergency access routes. Project implementation would not impair or physically interfere with emergency response or evacuation plans. No mitigation measures are necessary.

- h) **Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?**

No Impact. The project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The project does not have the potential to directly or indirectly expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires. No mitigation measures are necessary.

3.9 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

- a) **Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?**

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries and does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The proposed shift in the schools to be

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attended by current and future students living in the area would have no potential to impact water quality and no water quality permits would be required. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

- b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?**

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries and does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The project would not increase area population or the total number of students enrolled in school, but would shift approximately 117 students from schools in OUSD to schools in SVUSD.

Because the net area population would remain unchanged, the project does not have the potential to directly increase overall water consumption or groundwater pumping. The project would not occupy a site or involve any construction. It does not have the potential to interfere with groundwater recharge. No significant impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

- c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in a substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site.**

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries and does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The project does not have the potential to alter existing drainage patterns or result in erosion or siltation impacts. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

- d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?**

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries and does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The project does not have the potential to existing drainage patterns, increase stormwater runoff, or result in flooding. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

- e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?**

No Impact. As stated above, the proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries and does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The project does not have the potential to create additional volumes of runoff water or exceed the capacity of any stormwater drainage systems. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

- f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?**

No Impact. The project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements and does not have the potential to degrade water quality. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

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g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?

No Impact. The proposed project does not involve the development of housing. No impacts to housing would result from the proposed project. No mitigation measures are necessary.

h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?

No Impact. The project does not involve the construction of any structures and does not have the potential to place structures that could impede or redirect flood waters. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries and does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The project does not have the potential to directly expose persons or structures to flooding impacts. The project is not anticipated to result in students attending a school more at risk to flooding hazards, or otherwise indirectly expose people or structures to significant flooding. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?

No Impact. A seiche is a surface wave created when a body of water is shaken, usually by earthquake activity. Seiches are of concern relative to water storage facilities because inundation from a seiche can occur if the wave overflows a containment wall, such as the wall of a reservoir, water storage tank, dam or other artificial body of water. Although there are no large water tanks in the area that could impact the proposed project site, there are dams in the region that could create flooding impacts. Thirteen dams in the greater Los Angeles area moved or cracked during the 1994 Northridge earthquake. However, none were severely damaged. This low damage level was due in part to completion of the retrofitting of dams and reservoirs pursuant to the 1972 State Dam Safety Act.

The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries and does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The project is not anticipated to result in students attending a school that is more at risk to inundation, or otherwise indirectly expose people or structures to inundation hazards. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

3.10 LAND USE AND PLANNING

a) Physically divide an established community?

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries and does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The boundary issue does not represent a physical division in the way this question is intended. The Petitioners maintain that this change to the existing attendance boundaries would maintain their established community.

There would be no impacts to land use and planning. No mitigation measures are necessary.

b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal

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program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries and does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The project would not occupy a site and no new land use would be created. Zoning and general plan designations are not applicable to the project. No mitigation measures are necessary.

c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries and does not involve the construction of any physical improvements that may conflict with the provisions of any applicable Habitat Conservation Plan or Natural Community Conservation Plan. No significant impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

3.11 MINERAL RESOURCES

a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be a value to the region and the residents of the state?

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries. It does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The project has no potential to result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be a value to the region and the residents of the state. No significant impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?

No Impact. The project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements and would not occupy a site. The project has no potential to result in the loss of availability of any mineral resource recovery sites. No significant impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

3.12 NOISE

a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries. It does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. Because SVUSD would not provide busing, the project would generate an additional 59 vehicular trips to transport students to SVUSD schools (see Section 3.3 b)). While these additional trips would generate additional noise, these 59 trips are well below the increase in traffic necessary to result in a noticeable increase in noise. No significant impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?

No Impact. Excessive vibration is typically associated with construction. The project represents a change in school district boundaries and would not include any construction. Exposure to excessive vibration can also result from sitting structures too close to rail lines.

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Because the project does not result in the placement of any new structures, there is no potential impact due to railroad proximity. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

No Impact. An increase in ambient noise can occur from two sources; the placement of a new school or the operation of project-related vehicles that are added to the public roads. The project would not result in the placement of any new schools, so there is no potential for impact near any sensitive land uses.

The proposed project would require parents/students to travel in the opposite direction to reach the schools in SVUSD and since SVUSD does not provide transportation, there could be a relatively small amount of traffic noise generated. However, a small amount of traffic noise would be reduced along the current routes taken to OUSD schools. No mitigation measures are necessary.

d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

No Impact. A temporary increase in noise is typically associated with construction activities. The project would not result in any new structures and no construction would be performed as a result of the change in school district boundaries. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

No Impact. The project would not result in any new sensitive structures and no students or faculty would be exposed to aircraft noise from any public use airport. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

No Impact. The project would not result in any new sensitive structures and no students or faculty would be exposed to aircraft noise from any private airstrip. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

3.13 POPULATION AND HOUSING

a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries. It does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The project would not include the construction of any homes, business, or infrastructure having the potential to directly or indirectly induce population growth in the transfer area. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

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b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

No Impact. No homes would be placed as a result of this project and the construction of replacement housing would not be necessary. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

No Impact. The proposed project would not displace any persons and the construction of replacement housing would be unnecessary. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

3.14 PUBLIC SERVICES

Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

a) Fire protection?

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries. It does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. Project implementation would not require the use, manufacture, or storage of toxic or otherwise hazardous materials, generate a significant fire hazard, or impair any emergency routes or accesses. The project would not increase the area population or the total number of students enrolled in school, but would shift school attendance from schools in OUSD to schools in SVUSD. While a redistribution of students would occur, the affected school districts have capacity to accommodate the students and no significant increased demand for fire services is anticipated at any of the schools. No significant impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

b) Police protection?

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries. It does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The project would not increase the area population or the total number of students enrolled in school, but would shift school attendance from schools in OUSD to schools in SVUSD. The number of residences affected is not substantial and with the available capacity at area schools, there would be no impact to police protection services at any existing schools. No significant impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

c) Schools?

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries. It does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The project would not increase the area population or the total number of students enrolled in school, but would shift school attendance from schools in OUSD to schools in SVUSD. The area currently consists of 117 students, or 48 elementary students, 10 middle school students, 37 high school students, 4 home schooled students and 18 students currently on interdistrict transfers to SVUSD. See Table 2. As shown in Table 3, the receiving schools in SVUSD have available capacity to accommodate these students and with no new construction required at these schools, no significant impact would occur. No mitigation measures are necessary.

d) Parks?

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries and would not result in construction of any physical improvements. The project would not increase the area population or the total number of students enrolled in school. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

e) Other public facilities

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries and would not result in construction of any physical improvements. The project would not result in the extension of any roadways or other utilities and is not growth inducing. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

3.15 RECREATION

a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities, such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries and would not result in construction of any physical improvements. The project would not increase the area population or the total number of students enrolled in school. The District's report available capacity, so the shift in school attendance would not impact recreational opportunities. No mitigation measures are necessary.

b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

No Impact. The change in school attendance would not change the use of area parks or other recreational amenities. The District's report available capacity, so the shift in school attendance would not adversely impact their recreational facilities. No mitigation measures are necessary.

3.16 TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC

a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries and would not result in construction of any physical improvements. The area currently consists of 117 students, or 48 elementary students, 10 middle school students, 37 high school students, 4 home schooled students and 18 students currently on interdistrict transfers to SVUSD. See Table 2. The proposed project would require parents/students to travel in the opposite direction to reach the schools in SVUSD and since SVUSD does not provide transportation, there would no longer be any buses traveling through the transfer area.

As shown in Table 5, 64 of the 95 students (67%) residing in the area and attending OUSD schools travel to school on OUSD buses. Under the proposed boundary change, SVUSD has stated that it would not provide busing services to the transfer area and parents would be required to provide their own means of

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transporting students. Based on these numbers, the OUSD scenario generates 36 vehicular trips and the proposed SVUSD scenario would generate 95 trips. (These figures are likely to overstate the number of trips somewhat since they do not account for ridesharing among these students).

The proposed project is estimated to increase home/school vehicular trips by 59 (each way). Distributed throughout this large area, this increase would have a negligible impact on the existing road network. No significant impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

. Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries and would not result in construction of any physical improvements. The impacts associated with this redistribution of traffic would be less than significant because the relative change in total volume of traffic into and out of the neighborhoods would be limited. The impact on the affected streets, roadways, and intersections is negligible because only a very limited number of vehicles would be traveling different routes. No significant impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

b) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?

No Impact. The proposed realignment of school district attendance boundaries would not result in any impacts related to air traffic patterns or safety. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

c) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?

No Impact. The project involves the change of the school district boundaries and would not include any physical improvements. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

d) Result in inadequate emergency access?

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries and would not result in construction of any physical improvements. The project would not result in inadequate emergency access. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

e) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries and would not result in construction of any physical improvements. The project would not conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

f) Result in inadequate parking capacity? (Optional: Deleted from 2010 CEQA Guidelines.)

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries and would not result in construction of any physical improvements. The project would not result in inadequate parking capacity. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

3.17 UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

a) **Exceed waste water treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?**

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries and would not result in construction of any physical improvements. The project would not result in the generation of any wastewater and does not have the potential to exceed any wastewater treatment requirements. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

b) **Require or result in the construction of new water or waste water treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?**

No Impact. The proposed project involves a change to the attendance boundaries of two adjacent school districts. The project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The project would not increase the area population or the total number of students enrolled in school, but would result in a change in the schools they attend. Because the net area population would remain unchanged, the project does not have the potential to directly increase overall water consumption and wastewater generation volumes. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

c) **Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?**

No Impact. The proposed project involves a change to the attendance boundaries of two adjacent school districts. The project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The project would not result in the generation of stormwater runoff and would not require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or the expansion of existing facilities. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

d) **Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?**

No Impact. The proposed project involves a change to the attendance boundaries of two adjacent school districts. The project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The project would not increase area population. Because the net area population would remain unchanged, the project does not have the potential to directly increase overall water consumption. While a small redistribution of students would occur, the affected students would still attend a local school, and although the schools may be served by different water providers, the impact on these providers would not be substantial and is not anticipated to generate a need for new or expanded water entitlements. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

e) **Result in a determination by the waste water treatment provider, which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?**

No Impact. The proposed project involves a change to the attendance boundaries of two adjacent school districts. The project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The project would not increase area population. Because the net area population would remain unchanged, the project does not have the potential to directly increase overall wastewater generation. While a small redistribution of students would occur, the affected students would still attend a local school, and although the schools may be served by different water providers, the impact on these providers would not be substantial and is

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not anticipated to generate a need for new or expanded water entitlements. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?

No Impact. The proposed project involves a change to the attendance boundaries of two adjacent school districts. The project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The project would not increase area population. Because the net area population would remain unchanged, the project does not have the potential to directly increase overall solid waste volumes. While a small redistribution of students would occur, the affected students would still attend a local school, and although the schools may be served by different solid waste service providers, the impact on these providers would not be substantial. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

No Impact. The proposed project involves the realignment of school district attendance boundaries and would not result in construction of any physical improvements. The project would not increase the area population or the total number of students enrolled in school. Because the project would not induce growth or include any construction, the project would not generate any solid waste. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

3.18 MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

No Impact. The proposed project involves a change to the attendance boundaries of two adjacent school districts. The project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements. The project would not result in any impacts to wildlife or habitat and does not have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment in this regard. Because the project would not occupy a site or involve any demotion or ground disturbances, there is no potential for any impact to historic, archeological or paleontological resources.

It is hereby found that the projected project involves no potential for adverse effect, either individually or cumulatively, on wildlife resources and that a Certificate of Fee Exemption shall be prepared for this project. No impacts would occur and no mitigation measures are necessary.

b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)

No Impact. The proposed project involves a change to the attendance boundaries of two adjacent school districts. The project does not involve the construction of any physical improvements, increases in area population, or increases in the total number of students enrolled in school. While a relatively small redistribution of students would occur, potential impacts are localized and insignificant. No cumulatively considerable impacts are anticipated to occur as a result of the proposed project. No mitigation measures are necessary.

3. Environmental Analysis

- c) **Does the project have environmental effects, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?**

No Impact. This Initial Study reviewed the proposed project's potential impacts related to traffic, air pollution, noise, health and safety, and other environmental issues. When impacts would occur they are less significant and no mitigation measures are required. Therefore, the project would have no substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

4. References

4.1 PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS

Michael Christensen, MBA
Deputy Superintendent
Orange Unified School District

Pamela McDonald
Director of Transportation
Orange Unified School District

Dr. Steve Fish, Ed.D.
Interim Superintendent
Saddleback Valley Unified School District

Steve McMahon
Assistant Superintendent of Business
Saddleback Valley Unified School District

4.2 WEB SITES

Orange County Committee on School District Organization
www.ccsdo.ocde.us

Orange County Department of Education (OCDE)
www.ocde.us

Google Maps
www.maps.google.com

California Department of Education (CDE)
www.cde.ca.gov

Division of the State Architect (DSA)
www.dsa.ca.gov/

5. *List of Preparers*

LEAD AGENCY

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