

## STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

### Determination of NonSignificance

#### *Description of Proposal:* **Downing Elementary School Replacement**

The Tacoma School District proposes to construct a new elementary school on the Downing Elementary School property. The new elementary school would be located along the northwest border of the 10-acre TPS property, at the location of the existing playfields. The project would be funded from the Capital Projects Bond, which was approved by voters in February 2013 with the final phase funded from the November 2019 Capital Bond Projects Bond.

The new school building would be approximately 56,000 square feet in size and is designed for up to 390 elementary students. The existing building would remain occupied while the new school is being constructed, then be demolished after the new school has been occupied. The proposed Downing Elementary School is designed to accommodate the Boys and Girls Club, in addition to grades Pre-Kindergarten through 5th grades. The new school will orient the public side of the building and main entrance on N Orchard St. The public functions include the Boys and Girls Club, library, cafeteria, gym and administration. There are four classroom wings that connect to the main circulation spine. Outdoor play areas will be located on the north end of the property and will consist of hard surface play areas, a covered play structure, soft surface play with play equipment and play field.

*Location of proposal:* **Downing Elementary School, 2502 N Orchard Street, Tacoma Washington 98406**

*Proponent/Applicant:* **Tacoma Public Schools**

*Contact Person:* **Morris Aldridge, Executive Director  
Department of Planning and Construction  
3223 S. Union Ave., Tacoma, WA 98409  
Phone: (253) 571-3350**

*Action(s) Requested:*

**Tacoma Public Schools, under Tacoma School District Policy 6890 and the State Environmental Policy Act, determine that the project has no significant effect on the environment and issue a threshold Determination of Non-significance (DNS).**

**Lead Agency:** Tacoma School District No. 10

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under WAC 43.21C030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available at:

<https://www.tacomaschools.org/departments/pc/school-construction/downing>

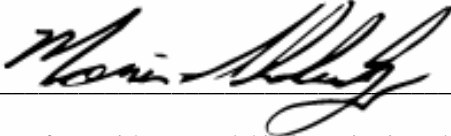
This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2) for agency consideration. The comment period will end on November 27, 2020 at 4:00pm.

**Responsible Official:** Morris Aldridge

**Position/Title:** Executive Director of Planning and Construction

**Department/Division:** Tacoma School District No. 10

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_



**Date:** 10/10/2020

**Appeal Process:** If you wish to appeal this determination, please submit a written statement requesting an appeal, specifying (a) the determination being appealed; (b) the errors complained of; (c) the corrective action being sought (d) the reasons why the determination should be changed; and (e) whether further oral or written comment or a hearing is requested to [planning@tacoma.k12.wa.us](mailto:planning@tacoma.k12.wa.us).