



October 7, 2020

**Subject: SOM Education Building II Community Meeting #1  
Responses to Questions and Comments**

Thank you for your interest in the proposed University of California, Riverside (UCR) School of Medicine Education Building II (SOM Ed. II) Project (proposed Project). The following table summarizes questions or comments raised prior to or during the SOM Ed. II Community Meeting #1 and provides brief responses. Should you have further questions/comments, please submit them to [planning@ucr.edu](mailto:planning@ucr.edu). Thank you.

Summary of Questions/Comments	Responses
Why is the University moving forward with this meeting in a virtual format? Can this project wait until the University is able to hold in-person meetings?	Given the prohibition on in-person public meetings and the unknown duration of the COVID-19 public health emergency and global pandemic, UCR, like many other public agencies, determined that holding the community meeting in a widely available virtual format was the best way to ensure the health, safety and well-being of our community and staff while still providing a convenient and easy-to-access public forum in which to disseminate preliminary information about proposed Project design, and solicit feedback and input from the community.
How can UCR ensure that the established community engagement process is followed and the community has an opportunity to weigh in on project elements?	UCR is committed to the established community engagement process. The process allows the community to provide public input on the project design proposed by the Campus that will be subject to CEQA.
The schedule shows CEQA has begun and the community has not had an opportunity to comment.	The procurement of professional CEQA consultant has begun, however the CEQA document and analysis is forthcoming.



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<p>The proposed School of Medicine Education Building II project will be tiering off the 2005 Long Range Development Plan (LRDP), in which the SOM was proposed to be located on west campus. Why is there a different direction now?</p>	<p>The proposed project location was chosen to create a centralized core of School of Medicine facilities by considering the consolidation of SOM spaces within the new SOM Ed. II building, and highly emphasizing the connection of the new building with the existing SOM Education Building I and future spaces planned within neighboring Orbach Science Library.</p> <p>Limiting travel times between facilities creates an optimal environment for students, staff, and faculty. As an infill development location, it also makes efficient use of the campus' limited available land.</p>
<p>There are anticipated to be 500 students enrolled in the program, as well as additional staff and faculty. How will students, staff, and faculty access the building?</p>	<p>The proposed SOM Ed. II building project will aim to increase enrollment upon approval by Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) to a class size of 125 from the present 77 MD to address the severe shortage of physicians in the state and the Inland Empire community. The enrollment projections also include master's and PhD students.</p> <p>The new facilities will supplement the existing teaching and learning facilities that are currently present in School of Medicine Education Building 1. The facility will develop classroom, instruction space and office space for up to 500 persons, which is adequate to meet LCME accreditation-- though a significant portion of the building population will not be using the facilities concurrently.</p> <p>In terms of access, the project will be subject to the UCR permit process that requires certain capital projects to be reviewed by the Division of School Architects for equal accessibility compliance. Building occupants will park in either Parking Lot 10, Parking Lot 13, or the under-construction Parking Structure 1. There are</p>

	<p>bicycle lanes on E. Campus Dr. which can be used to access the site, and there will be bicycle parking located on the proposed project site.</p>
<p>Lighting is an important issue and there is a concern that LED lighting and lighting temperatures of 5000k or more are proven to be bad for health and wildlife.</p>	<p>Exterior lighting will be compliant to the campus standard for lighting to meet 1 foot candle (fc) of lighting for safe egress of pedestrians. The project will be subject to a permit review process where it will be required to meet campus design standards (including exterior lighting standards).</p> <p>In compliance with the requirements of the 2005 LRDP, the proposed Project would be designed to be consistent with the Campus Design Guidelines and would be subject to a campus design review process, including lighting design. Lighting of the proposed project, biological resources, as well as other required topics, will be analyzed under CEQA.</p>
<p>Consider design elements related to suicide prevention.</p>	<p>The proposed Project would be a secured facility with no public access to the rooftop areas. The proposed SOM Ed. II building will be designed and constructed in compliance with all applicable codes that require the health and safety of all occupants.</p>
<p>Concerns regarding better communications regarding community meeting dates.</p>	<p>The SOM Community Meeting #1 presentation was posted on the University's website (<a href="https://pdc.ucr.edu/environmental-planning-ceqa">https://pdc.ucr.edu/environmental-planning-ceqa</a>) for public review in advance of the meeting. The meeting notice provided several means for members of the public to participate in the session, including by telephone landline if they did not have access to laptops/computers/smart phones. Individuals were also able to participate via zoom without having to download the application itself. Consistent with previous communication methods to the community regarding public meetings, notices were distributed via Nextdoor, to the University Neighborhood Association, and email list by UCR's Community &amp; Local Government Relations Officer.</p>