

Project : Date :

Full Environmental Assessment Form
Part 3 - Evaluation of the Magnitude and Importance of Project Impacts
and
Determination of Significance

Part 3 provides the reasons in support of the determination of significance. The lead agency must complete Part 3 for every question in Part 2 where the impact has been identified as potentially moderate to large or where there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action will not, or may, result in a significant adverse environmental impact.

Based on the analysis in Part 3, the lead agency must decide whether to require an environmental impact statement to further assess the proposed action or whether available information is sufficient for the lead agency to conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant adverse environmental impact. By completing the certification on the next page, the lead agency can complete its determination of significance.

Reasons Supporting This Determination:

To complete this section:

- Identify the impact based on the Part 2 responses and describe its magnitude. Magnitude considers factors such as severity, size or extent of an impact.
- Assess the importance of the impact. Importance relates to the geographic scope, duration, probability of the impact occurring, number of people affected by the impact and any additional environmental consequences if the impact were to occur.
- The assessment should take into consideration any design element or project changes.
- Repeat this process for each Part 2 question where the impact has been identified as potentially moderate to large or where there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action will not, or may, result in a significant adverse environmental impact.
- Provide the reason(s) why the impact may, or will not, result in a significant adverse environmental impact
- For Conditional Negative Declarations identify the specific condition(s) imposed that will modify the proposed action so that no significant adverse environmental impacts will result.
- Attach additional sheets, as needed.

See attached EXHIBIT A to the State Environmental Quality Review - Full Environmental Assessment Form (Part 3) dated December 4, 2023.

Determination of Significance - Type 1 and Unlisted Actions

SEQR Status: Type 1 Unlisted

Identify portions of EAF completed for this Project: Part 1 Part 2 Part 3

Upon review of the information recorded on this EAF, as noted, plus this additional support information
Phase I Environmental Site Assessment for the Proposed New Transportation Facility dated December 22, 2022
New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation No Impact Letter dated March 31, 2023

and considering both the magnitude and importance of each identified potential impact, it is the conclusion of the
Ogdensburg City School District _____ as lead agency that:

A. This project will result in no significant adverse impacts on the environment, and, therefore, an environmental impact statement need not be prepared. Accordingly, this negative declaration is issued.

B. Although this project could have a significant adverse impact on the environment, that impact will be avoided or substantially mitigated because of the following conditions which will be required by the lead agency:

There will, therefore, be no significant adverse impacts from the project as conditioned, and, therefore, this conditioned negative declaration is issued. A conditioned negative declaration may be used only for UNLISTED actions (see 6 NYCRR 617.7(d)).

C. This Project may result in one or more significant adverse impacts on the environment, and an environmental impact statement must be prepared to further assess the impact(s) and possible mitigation and to explore alternatives to avoid or reduce those impacts. Accordingly, this positive declaration is issued.

Name of Action: Capital Improvements Project

Name of Lead Agency: Ogdensburg City School District

Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency: Kevin K. Kendall

Title of Responsible Officer: School Superintendent

Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency:  Date: 12/1/23

Signature of Preparer (if different from Responsible Officer)  Date: 12/04/2023

For Further Information:

Contact Person: Kevin K. Kendall

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For Type I Actions and Conditioned Negative Declarations, a copy of this Notice is sent to:

Chief Executive Officer of the political subdivision in which the action will be principally located (e.g., Town / City / Village of)

Other involved agencies (if any)

Applicant (if any)

Environmental Notice Bulletin: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/enb/enb.html>

**Ogdensburg City School District
Capital Improvements Project involving:
Ogdensburg Free Academy & Golden Dome,
John F. Kennedy Elementary School, Grant C. Madill Elementary School,
and New Transportation Facility**

EXHIBIT A

to

State Environmental Quality Review – Full Environmental Assessment Form (Part 3)

December 4, 2023

Reasons supporting this determination in response to Part 2 of the State Environmental Assessment Form, please accept the following:

1. IMPACT ON LAND

The proposed action will involve construction and physical alteration of land surface. At Ogdensburg Free Academy, the action will impact 6-acres to include reconstruction of existing athletic fields, walkways and relocation of an exterior message center. At John F. Kennedy Elementary School, the action impacts 3-acres to include reconstruction of existing parking lot & drives and resurfacing of existing playgrounds. At Grant C. Madill Elementary School, the action impacts 1-acre to include reconstruction of an existing parking lot, relocation of a playground, and construction of a 2,000 SF addition. All (3) campuses will involve improvements to already developed site features / lands; while the remaining work involves interior renovations to existing buildings. At the New Transportation Facility, the action will impact 4-acres of open, undeveloped land to include new park lot, drive, fuel station, utility connections and construction of an 8,000 SF building. With multiple sites and an extensive amount of improvements, design and construction will be phased over several years and coordinated through strict standards / guidelines established under Commissioner Regulations 155 through the New York State Education Department.

3. IMPACTS ON SURFACE WATER

The proposed action will be designed to ensure that site drainage patterns in the area will not threaten, contaminate, or disturb any neighboring properties or bodies of water. There will be no impact to existing wetlands and a proper stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) will be implemented.

4. IMPACT ON GROUNDWATER

The proposed action will not result in new or additional use of ground water as no new water supply wells are anticipated. Municipal water and sewer services are now underway by Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority (OBPA) with anticipation of connecting to the New Transportation Facility.

The proposed action will further include bulk storage of petroleum products to include a 4,000 gallon gasoline tank to service operations of the bus fleet at the New Transportation Facility. Containment will be provided by an above ground, thermally protected, double-wall steel storage tank located on a concrete pad.

6. IMPACTS ON AIR

The proposed action may cause a temporary increase in dust levels and emissions from equipment during construction. It is not anticipated that this action will adversely affect the long-term ambient air quality of the site of the new surrounding area. The action will not result in over 1,000 vehicle trips to the new facility in any given hour or any given day. Daily vehicular emissions are not anticipated to significantly contribute to air quality degradation.

10. IMPACT ON HISTORIC AND ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

The proposed action will impact existing buildings of 50-years or older with much of the work being exempt from review as per the Memo of Understanding established between the New York State Education Department (SED) and New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (OPRHP). Any site work or ground disturbance not in compliance with the exemption will be carefully coordinated with OPRHP. The building(s) aesthetics will be developed to minimize any significant impact on the visual environment and will be in concert with the educational use as well as blend with the existing building features, mass, and scale.

The proposed action involving the New Transportation Facility has previously been reviewed by OPRHP and determined that no properties, including archaeological and/or historic resources, listed in or eligible for the New York State and National Registers of Historic Places will be impacted as per an OPRHP correspondence dated March 31, 2023.

14. IMPACT ON ENERGY

The proposed action may cause an increase in energy consumption during site clearance, construction, and operation of the completed project. During site clearance and construction, energy will be used for lighting, heating, power equipment, and construction equipment. Following construction, energy will be required for heating, air conditioning, lighting and equipment operations. Given the inefficiency of the existing buildings and the compliance with current energy codes, there should be a minimum net increase of energy use.

Specific energy systems have not yet been designed in sufficient detail to permit comprehensive examination of the project's actual energy utilization and conservation but will be designed in compliance with all current codes and regulations of the State of New York and State Education Department.

15. IMPACT ON NOISE, ODOR, AND LIGHT

The proposed action may result in a temporary increase in noise levels, odor, and light from construction activities. This can be expected during the construction period; however, the majority of all such activities will be scheduled during regular daytime working hours to minimize their impact on the surrounding residential neighborhoods. There is currently and will continue to be significant open space between the school facilities and the adjoining residential areas. Any addition of site lighting for the New Transportation Facility will be designed to avoid light shining onto adjacent properties and limit the amount of sky-glow.

16. IMPACT ON HUMAN HEALTH

The proposed action may have an impact on human health from the exposure to existing sources of contaminants. Construction activities may involve existing hazardous containing (asbestos, lead, PCB) building materials with work being performed in accordance with Industrial Code Rule 56, Environmental Protection Agency, and US Department of Housing & Urban Development Guidelines.

MITIGATION OF ADVERSE EFFECTS

The following protection measures will be taken to mitigate or lessen adverse environmental effects associated with the project:

- Construction operations will be controlled such that the disruption of surrounding area activities does not occur. The Contractor will be required to schedule operations to minimize delays to the traveling public. It is not anticipated that any detours along adjacent thoroughfares will be required and coordination of traffic patterns at the project site will be developed to minimize disruption to surrounding areas.
- No burning of debris will be permitted and spoiling of materials will be incorporated on-site or disposed of at an approved off-site location.
- All construction activities will take place on property owned and operated by the School District. No off-site surrounding property or structures will be disturbed during construction.
- Contiguous surfaces of all areas impacted by the project will be restored to original or improved condition consistent with the current use of the affected property. This includes pavements, driveways, lawn areas, and all artificial surface features and facilities that may be disturbed by the project's construction.

POSITIVE ACTIONS FOR BENEFICIAL ENVIRONMENTAL RESULTS

In summary, construction will require the commitment of a variety of natural resources in the form of building materials, fossil fuels consumed by construction equipment, electricity, and water required for the operation of all vehicles. The project will also require a significant commitment of human resources in the form of manpower to complete the construction project. It is anticipated that this need will be met by the regional construction industry.

Financial resources to be committed to the project will include funding from the New York State Education Department, District reserves, and bonds to be issued by the Board of Education. Once expended, all of these natural, human, and financial resources will be irretrievably committed.

The proposed action for construction, reconstruction, renovations and alterations is driven by the needs of the population represented within the Ogdensburg City School District. Any irreversible commitment will be mitigated by benefits to the community arising from improved educational facilities. After careful consideration, this proposed action would have an overall positive impact on the District and its community.

