



City of Duluth Communications Office

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January 24, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For additional information, contact Kyle Deming, City Planning Division at (218) 730-5329, or Pakou Ly, Communications Office at (218) 730-5309.

Notice of public comment period on the Environmental Assessment for the proposed Western Middle School

The City of Duluth seeks public input on an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) which has been prepared for the Duluth Public Schools' Proposed Western Middle School. The approximately 75 acre site is located west of the existing Lincoln Park neighborhood between Wheeler Field and Skyline Parkway.

The EAW is not meant to approve or disapprove a project, but is simply a source of information to guide other approvals and permitting decisions. The information in the EAW process has two functions: to determine whether an Environmental Impact Statement is needed, and to indicate how the project can be modified to lessen its environmental impacts; such modifications may be imposed as permit conditions by regulatory agencies.

The EAW states, "the project will include construction of a new middle school to accommodate 1,000 students in the western half of the Duluth Public School District boundary area. The project will [also] include outdoor site components typical of schools, including but not limited to vehicle, bus, and fire lane access, loading docks, parking areas, sidewalks, athletic fields, and playground areas."

Written comments will be accepted during the 30-day public comment period, which begins Monday, January 25, 2010, and closes at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 24, 2010.

The City of Duluth Planning Commission, as the Responsible Government Unit (RGU), will also accept public comments on the Western Middle School EAW at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 16, 2010, during its regularly scheduled meeting, held in the Council Chambers, Third Floor of Duluth City Hall, 411 West First Street.

The EAW will be available for review at the Duluth Public Libraries located at: 520 West Superior Street; 105 Mount Royal Shopping Circle; and 5830 Grand Avenue, Duluth. The EAW can also be viewed on the City of Duluth's website, www.duluthmn.gov/planning.

(more)



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Written comments should be directed to:

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