NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE FREEMAN STADIUM FACILITIES RENOVATION PROJECT AT CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY MONTEREY BAY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the California State University Board of Trustees (Trustees), acting as the lead agency on the behalf of California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB), has accepted and coordinated the preparation of a Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, prepared by the applicant's representative, Denise Duffy & Associates, Inc., pursuant to the requirements of CEQA Guidelines §15072, for the Freeman Stadium Facilities Renovation Project (proposed project).

The proposed project is located on the CSUMB campus within the City of Seaside, in Monterey County, CA, at 4113 2nd Avenue, Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 0311-0104-4000, within the former Fort Ord. The Monterey Bay Football Club (MBFC) is proposing to renovate, utilize, and maintain the existing Freeman Stadium and Field House at CSUMB under a 14-year facilities agreement with the University. The renovations would comply with national and international standards to host the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and United Soccer League (USL) soccer games. The project would include improvements to the existing Field House, athletic track and field, seating, parking, lighting, as well as installing a new scoreboard, ticket box, telecommunications, concession stands, utilities, and entry. Renovations would be ADA-compliant and designed to a minimum of LEED Silver equivalent.

The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and referenced documents are available for review at the following address (please note that, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, access to CSUMB offices may be limited at this time):

California State University Monterey Bay Building 37, 100 Campus Center, Seaside, CA 93955

The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration is also available online at <u>https://csumb.edu/facilities/planning/</u>.

Written comments on this Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration will be accepted from **July 9**, **2021**, **to August 9**, **2021**. Any written comments on the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration/Initial Study must be received within the public review period (please see submittal instructions below).

Project Description: The MBFC is proposing to renovate, utilize, and maintain the existing Freeman Stadium and Field House at CSUMB as a USL and NCAA facility under a 14-year facilities agreement with the University. The proposed project would support CSUMB's educational efforts, including the overall success and well-being of CSUMB's student athletes. In addition, the partnership would support the mutual goal of the MBFC and campus to partner with communities across the greater Central Coast region in providing education, access, and opportunities for underserved youth through campus, clinics, scholarships, and academic and wellness programming.

The proposed project would involve the renovation of the existing Freeman Stadium and Field House at CSUMB to meet USL and NCAA requirements. Renovations to the existing facilities would require the demolition and disturbance of 2,000 square feet of the Field House interior and

include proposed improvements to the existing athletic track and field, stadium seating, east-end goal area, northeast entryway, and parking areas. Renovations would be ADA-compliant and designed to a minimum of LEED Silver equivalent. All project components will be consistent with the Draft Master Plan Guidelines and Draft Environmental Impact Report Project Design Features.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Marcel Forte, Associate Vice President for Facilities Management (831) 582 - 4796, <u>mforte@csumb.edu</u>

We welcome your comments during the 30-day public review period. You may submit your comments in hard copy to the address below. CSUMB also accepts comments via e-mail, but requests that you follow these instructions to ensure that the CSUMB has received your comments. To submit your comments by e-mail, please send a complete document including all attachments to <u>mforte@csumb.edu</u> with "Freeman Stadium Facilities Renovation Project" referenced in the subject line. An e-mailed document should contain the name of the person or entity submitting the comments and contact information such as phone number, mailing address and/or e-mail address; include any and all attachments referenced in the e-mail.

Please provide comments in writing to the mailing address below or email provided above prior to the close of the 30-day public review period, **not later than 5:00 pm on August 9, 2021**. Address all written comments on the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration to:

California State University Monterey Bay Attn: Marcel Forte, Associate Vice President for Facilities Management Building 37 100 Campus Center Seaside, CA 93955

Re: Freeman Stadium Facilities Renovation Project