

7. Alternatives to the Proposed Project

7.3 ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND REJECTED DURING THE PROJECT PLANNING PROCESS

The District considered numerous alternatives during its planning process to address overcrowded conditions. A chronology of events establishing the need for the proposed project, alternative sites and options considered by the District, and reasons why the alternatives are infeasible or eliminated and therefore not selected for detailed analysis in this EIR, are provided below.

7.3.1 Interim School Housing Measures

Student population in the District expanded rapidly over the last decade, and the District sought a long-term solution to provide adequate school housing. In an effort to swiftly address overcrowding, the District implemented the following temporary solutions:

- Placed temporary, portable classroom buildings at both Hermosa Valley School and Hermosa View School.
- Reduced the District's full-day kindergarten program to a half-day program to create classroom space.
- Shifted grade levels between Hermosa Valley School and Hermosa View School.
- Converted the multipurpose rooms at Hermosa Valley School and Hermosa View School into classrooms.
- Relocated the District administrative office from Valley School to South Park to create new classrooms.

These interim efforts have not eliminated the District's long-term need for permanent housing for its students and restoration of its service level to a standard acceptable to the Hermosa Beach community and the District.

7.3.2 Facilities Planning Advisory Committee

The District formed the Facilities Planning Advisory Committee (FPAC) with the directive to find the most viable use of the North School site. In April 2013, the FPAC presented four options to the District Board of Education to repurpose the North School site (discussed below) to reduce District overcrowding. FPAC's recommendation was to either reconstruct the existing North School site with new facilities (see Alternate 2, below) or explore the sale of a portion(s) of the North School site and use the funds for new property acquisition (Alternate 4). Each of the four options and their variations were considered as potential project alternatives and are further discussed below.