



November 12, 2024

Dear Residents of the Ellis Community,

I write with an update on progress towards construction of the Franklyn Cole Elementary School in the Ellis Development. The district, the developer and the regulatory agencies are achieving progress on key milestones. However, issues remain that are outside the control of the district and in some cases, continue to be delayed. The district continues to work diligently with the developer, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, Shell Corporation, PJHM Architects and other third parties and regulatory agencies to move the site approval process. In the meantime, students will continue to be educated within the existing schools in our district. Based upon the most current information, the earliest Franklyn Cole Elementary School will open is August 2028.

Milestones Needed as of November 2024 to Move the Project Forward

1. Shell Corporation has completed its Remedial Action Plan and the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB) and the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) have issued a joint letter of determination that Shell has now completed their work on the school site. **Current Status:** Milestone Achieved.
2. Woodside Homes needs to complete the new detention basin for the Ellis subdivision north of Valpico Rd. This is subject to the City of Tracy providing all needed approvals in a timely manner to start and complete construction. Construction of the Ultimate Basin north of Valpico Rd. was estimated to be completed April 2024, subject to weather. **Current Status:** Construction of Ultimate Basin is essentially complete and pending acceptance by the City of Tracy.
3. Lennar is responsible for filling in the temporary detention basin that is currently on the school site. Lennar is working with their civil engineer and the City of Tracy to process the grading permit to complete this work. **Current Status:** This work is estimated to be completed March/April of 2025, subject to weather and City processing times.
4. Based on progress of items # 2 and # 3 above, District consultants will complete soil testing and prepare the Geotechnical Report. **Current Status:** This task is estimated to be completed three months after item #3 is completed.
5. Jefferson School District will submit all the final documents for California Department of Education approval of the school site pending progress on items #1-4. **Current Status:** Estimated completion, June 2025.
6. PJHM Architects will then submit final school plans to the Division of State Architects for approval. **Current Status:** Estimated completion, October 2025.
7. DSA Approval of School Plan is estimated to take 6 months. **Current Status:** Estimated completion, April 2026.
8. Jefferson School District will advertise for school construction bids pending progress on items #1-6. This process is estimated to take 3 months **Current Status:** Estimated completion, July 2026.
9. The Jefferson School District Board will then approve the construction project and school construction will begin pending progress on items #1-7. **Current Status:** Estimated start date, October 2026.
10. Franklyn Cole Elementary School is then estimated to begin construction October 2026. **Current Status:** Estimated school opening, August 2028, pending progress on items #1-8.

We will continue to provide you with regular updates as needed.

Sincerely,

James W. Bridges
Superintendent