

San Diego Unified Port District
CEQA and COASTAL DETERMINATIONS
AND
NOTICE OF APPROVAL

Project: Intelligent Lighting Pilot Program
Location(s): N. Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101
Parcel No.(s): Various
Project No.: 2017-171
Applicant: Zach Birmingham, Senior Environmental Specialist, San Diego Unified Port District,
3165 Pacific Highway, San Diego, CA 92101
Date Approved: October 23, 2017

Project Description:

The proposed project is a three-month pilot program to install 23 sensor nodes on streetlight fixtures along N. Harbor Drive, which are located north of Laurel Street down to G Street near Tuna Harbor. The purpose of the program is to create a network of sensors that provide real time data on traffic movements and parking behavior to inform public safety and to better understand mobile and pedestrian activity in the area. Each node would be equipped with a camera and two microphones, as well as sensors for environmental inputs such as temperature, pressure and vibration. The sensors would be attached to existing streetlights and would be relatively inconspicuous given that they are approximately 23" L x 13" W x 14.3" H in size and would be designed to blend in with the existing streetlight fixtures. At the end of the three-month trial period, the District would assess the program and determine if Intelligent Lighting technologies should be terminated, continued, and/or expanded to include a larger geographical area and/or more data collecting capabilities. Further discretionary approvals from the District may be required should the proposed project be continued and/or expanded.

The following categorical determinations are based on AT&T's Digital Infrastructure Introductory Program in collaboration with Current Powered by GE and all project information known to the District as of the date of this determination.

CEQA DETERMINATION

Based upon the above description, the project is determined to be Categorically Exempt pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Sections 15301 (Existing Facilities), 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land), and/or 15306 (Information Collection) and Section 3.a. (7), 3.a. (10), 3.d. (6), and 3.f. of the District's *Guidelines for Compliance with CEQA* because it is a temporary, three-month pilot program that involves placing 23 sensor nodes on existing streetlights which involves minor alterations to public facilities to inform public safety and to collect data on parking, traffic and pedestrian activities and would not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. Section 3.a (7), 3.a (10), 3.d (6), and 3.f of the District's CEQA Guidelines and CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 and 15306 are as follows:

- 3.a. Existing Facilities (SG § 15301) (Class 1): Includes operation, repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public and private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that previously existing, including but not limited to:
- (7) Existing facilities used to provide electric power, natural gas, sewerage, or other public utility service.
 - (10) Addition of safety or health protection devices for use during construction of or in conjunction with existing structure, facilities, or mechanical equipment, or topographical features including navigational devices.

AND/OR

- 3.d. Minor Alterations to Land (SG § 15304) (Class 4): Includes minor alterations in the condition of

land, water and/or vegetation not involving removal of mature, scenic trees, including, but not limited to:

- (6) Minor temporary use of land having negligible or no permanent effects on the environment.

AND/OR

- 3.f. Information Collection (SG § 15306) (Class 6): Includes basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. These may be for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action which has not yet been approved, adopted or funded.

The Categorical Exemptions listed above are appropriate for the proposed project because it is a temporary, three-month pilot program that involves placing 23 sensor nodes on existing streetlights for the purpose of information gathering and safety improvements, that would involve no expansion of use beyond that previously existing, would not involve the removal of mature, scenic trees, would not have any permanent effects on the environment, and would not result in a major disturbance to an environmental resource. The District has determined none of the six exceptions to the use of a categorical exemption apply to this project (CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2).

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15062, a 35-day statute of limitations for this CEQA exemption shall apply from the date a Notice of Exemption is posted with the San Diego County Clerk, or a 180-day statute of limitations for this CEQA exemption shall apply if no Notice of Exemption is filed.

The project complies with Section 87 of the Port Act, which allows for the construction, reconstruction, repair, and maintenance of highways, streets, roadways, bridges, belt line railroads, parking facilities, power, telephone, telegraph or cable lines or landings, water and gas pipelines, and all other transportation and utility facilities or betterments incidental, necessary, or convenient for the promotion and accommodation of any of the uses set forth in the section. The Port Act was enacted by the California Legislature and is consistent with the Public Trust Doctrine. Consequently, the proposed project is consistent with the Public Trust Doctrine.

CALIFORNIA COASTAL ACT

PORT MASTER PLAN

The project is located in Planning District 2, Harbor Island/Lindbergh Field, which is delineated on Precise Plan Map Figure 9 and Centre City Embarcadero, which is delineated on Precise Plan Map Figure 11 of the certified Port Master Plan. The Port Master Plan land use designation within the limits of the proposed project is Street. The project conforms to the certified Port Master Plan because it is a temporary, three-month pilot program that involves placing 23 sensor nodes on existing streetlights and is a permitted infrastructure improvement allowed in the District's Port Master Plan.

CATEGORICAL DETERMINATION

The above project proposes a temporary, three-month pilot program that involves placing 23 sensor nodes on existing streetlights. The project is consistent with the Port Master Plan and is Categorically Excluded under Section 8.a. (2), 8.a. (6), 8.d., and 8.e. of the District's *Coastal Development Permit Regulations*, as follows:

- 8.a. Existing Facilities: The operation, repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that previously existing, including but not limited to:
 - (2) Public and private utilities used to provide electric power, natural gas, sewer, or other utility services.

- (6) Addition of safety or health protection devices for use during construction of, or in conjunction with, existing structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, including navigational devices.

AND/OR

8.d. Minor Alterations to Land: Minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve the removal of mature, scenic trees, including but not limited to:

- (5) Minor temporary uses of land and water having negligible or no permanent effects on the environment, including festivals, boating activities, parades, and running or bicycling events.

AND/OR

8.e. Information Collection: Basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major significant disturbance to an environmental resource.

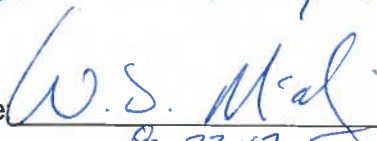
Pursuant to California Coastal Act Section 30717, there is a 10-working-day period to appeal this "Coastal Act Categorical Determination of Exclusion" to the California Coastal Commission.

RANDA CONIGLIO
President/CEO

Determination by:
Larry Hofreiter
Program Manager
Planning and Green Port

Signature: 
Date: 10/23/17

Deputy General Counsel

Signature: 
Date: 8-23-17