

San Diego Unified Port District

CEQA and COASTAL DETERMINATIONS
and
NOTICE OF APPROVAL

Project: Tideland Use and Occupancy Permit to Bartell Hotels, LLP for Landscaping at Hilton San Diego Airport
Location(s): 1960 Harbor Island Drive, San Diego, CA 92101
Parcel No.(s): 005-007
Project No.: 2018-001
Applicant: Richard Bartell, Bartell Hotels, 2051 Shelter Island Drive, San Diego, CA 92106
Date Approved: January 8, 2018

Project Description

The proposed project is a Tideland Use and Occupancy Permit (TUOP) to Bartell Hotels, LLP (Tenant) for their use of the land 10 feet in width extending along and adjacent to the filled tidelands of the lease between the Port of San Diego and the Tenant, located in the City of San Diego, California. The area proposed for use under this TUOP is currently and is proposed to be used only and exclusively for the purpose of ingress/egress, as well as the installation and maintenance of landscaping. The Tenant would be responsible for compliance with all laws and regulations associated with the activities on or in connection with the above-described premises, and in all uses thereof, including those regulating stormwater and hazardous materials. No new development, construction, uses, or increase in the size of the Tenant's leasehold or the TUOP area is proposed or authorized as part of this TUOP.

It is anticipated that the TUOP would commence on February 1, 2018 and terminate on January 31, 2023, for a total term of five (5) years. The TUOP may be terminated by the Executive Director of District or her duly authorized representative, or Tenant, as a matter of right and without cause at any time upon the giving of thirty (30) days' notice in writing to the other party of such termination.

The following categorical determinations are based on the TUOP 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 Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) and Section 3.a. (4) and (12) of the District's *Guidelines for Compliance with CEQA* because the project is a TUOP for the purpose of ingress/egress and maintaining landscaping that would involve no expansion of use beyond that previously existing. Section 3.a. (4) and (12) of the District's CEQA Guidelines is 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:
- (4) New and renewed short-term tenancy agreements which do not result in change in the existing use. This exemption does not apply to any new development associated with the activities of the tenant. This exemption is also inapplicable if the cumulative impact of continuing the existing use or conditions in the same place, over time, is significant.
 - (12) Maintenance of existing landscaping, native growth, and water supply reservoirs.

The Categorical Exemption listed above is appropriate for the proposed project because it is a TUOP for the purpose of ingress/egress and maintaining landscaping that would involve no expansion of use beyond that previously existing. Furthermore, the TUOP would not result in any significant cumulative impacts due to the continuation of the existing use.

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 proposed project complies with Section 87(2) of the Port Act, which allows for the maintenance of commercial facilities (landscaping). The Port Act was enacted by the California Legislature and is consistent with the Public Trust Doctrine because the issuance of the TUOP is for the purpose of ingress/egress and maintaining landscaping. Consequently, the proposed project is consistent with the Public Trust Doctrine.

CALIFORNIA COASTAL ACT

PORT MASTER PLAN

The project site is located in Planning District 2, Harbor Island, which is delineated on Precise Plan Map Figure 9 of the certified Port Master Plan. The Port Master Plan land use designation within the limits of the proposed project area is Commercial Recreation. The project conforms to the certified Port Master Plan because it is the issuance of a TUOP for the purpose of ingress/egress and maintaining landscaping consistent with the existing certified land use designation. The project would not change the use of the site nor would it interrupt or expand the existing conforming use of the site.

CATEGORICAL DETERMINATION

The above project proposes a TUOP for the purpose of ingress/egress and maintaining landscaping that would involve no expansion of use beyond that previously existing. This project is consistent with the existing certified land use designation and is Categorically Excluded under Section 8.a. (8) 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:

- (8) Maintenance and control of existing vegetation


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:
Austin Silva
Associate Planner
Development Services

Signature: 
Date: 1-8-18

Deputy General Counsel

Signature: 
Date: 1-8-18