



CEQA and COASTAL DETERMINATIONS
and
NOTICE OF APPROVAL

Project: San Diego Veterans Day Parade
Location: Harbor Drive from Grape Street to G Street and Pacific Highway, San Diego, CA 92101
Parcel No.: Various
Project No.: 2019-159
Applicant: Jack Harkins, President, Veterans Memorial Center Inc., 2115 Park Boulevard, San Diego CA 92101
Date Approved: September 11, 2019

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project is the San Diego Veterans Day Parade, which would take place in the city of San Diego, California. The District would provide sponsorship in the form of District services for the proposed project. The parade route would be one (1) mile in length and would start near the intersection of North Harbor Drive and Grape Street and would conclude south near the intersection of G Street and Pacific Highway. The proposed project would also involve the temporary installation of grandstands. The event would have an approximate duration of one day including staging and would take place during fall. The event would have an anticipated attendance of 60,000 people. Approximately 206 parking spaces would be used for staging for the event. Parking would be available at nearby parking facilities and surface streets.

The following categorical determinations are based on the project submittal and all project information known to the District as of the date of this determination.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)

CATEGORICAL DETERMINATION

Categorical Exemptions: SG §15304, Class 4/Section 3.d: Minor Alterations to Land; and SG § 15323 (Class 23): Normal Operations of Facilities for Public Gatherings

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: Existing Facilities (SG § 15301) (Class 1): Includes 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:

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

AND/OR

Normal Operations of Facilities for Public Gatherings (SG § 15323) (Class 23): Consists of the normal operations of existing facilities for public gatherings for which the facilities were designed, where there is a past history of the facility being used for the same or similar kind of purpose. For the purposes of this section, "past history" shall mean that the same or similar kind of activity has been occurring for at least three years and that there is a reasonable expectation that the future occurrence of the activity would not represent a change in the operation of the facility. Facilities included within this exemption include, but are not limited to, racetracks, stadiums, convention centers, auditoriums, amphitheatres, planetariums, swimming pools, and amusement parks.

The proposed project is determined to be Categorically Exempt pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines and the Sections of the District's *Guidelines for Compliance with CEQA* as identified above. These are appropriate for the proposed project because it consists of a temporary event that would not involve the removal of mature, scenic trees, would not have any permanent effects on the environment, and

would consist of the normal operations of existing facilities for public gatherings. 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.

CALIFORNIA COASTAL ACT

PORT MASTER PLAN CONSISTENCY

Planning District: 3 - Centre City Embarcadero (Precise Plan Figure 11).

Land Use Designation: Park/Plaza; and Streets

The portion of the proposed project located within the Coastal Development Permit (CDP) jurisdiction of the District conforms to the certified Port Master Plan because it is a temporary event that would draw the public to San Diego bay thereby encouraging recreational opportunities and promoting public access along the waterfront consistent with the existing certified Land use designation. The proposed project would not change the use of the site nor would it interrupt or expand the existing conforming use of the site.

CATEGORICAL DETERMINATION

Categorical Exclusions: Section 8.d: Minor Alterations to Land

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.

The portion of the proposed project located within the Coastal Development Permit (CDP) jurisdiction of the District is determined to be Categorically Excluded pursuant to the Section of the District's *Coastal Development Permit Regulations* as identified above. This is appropriate for the proposed project because it consists of a temporary event that would not involve the removal of mature, scenic trees, and would have no permanent effects on the environment.

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.

For the portion of the proposed project located outside of the District's CDP jurisdiction, additional approvals may be required from other agencies.

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC TRUST DOCTRINE


The proposed project complies with Section 87.(a)(5) of the Port Act, which allows for the construction, reconstruction, repair, maintenance, and operation of public buildings, public assembly and meeting places, convention centers, parks, playgrounds, bathhouses and bathing facilities, recreation and fishing piers, public recreation facilities, including, but not limited to, public golf courses, and for all works, buildings, facilities, utilities, structures, and appliances incidental, necessary, or convenient for the promotion and accommodation of any of those uses. 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.

RANDA CONIGLIO
President/CEO

Determination by:
Michael Paul
Assistant Planner
Development Services

Deputy General Counsel

Signature: 
Date: 9-11-19

Signature: 
Date: 9-10-19