



**CEQA and COASTAL DETERMINATIONS
and
NOTICE OF APPROVAL**

Project: Holiday Bowl Parade and 5K
Location: Embarcadero Marina Park North, 400 Kettner Boulevard, San Diego, CA 92101
 Embarcadero Marina Park South, 200 Marina Park Way, San Diego, CA 92101
 Ruocco Park, 585 Harbor Lane, San Diego, CA 92101
 Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101
 Park Boulevard, San Diego, CA 92101
 Pacific Highway, San Diego, CA 92101
Parcel No.: Various
Project No.: 2021-131a
Applicant: Laura Ozeck, Parade Director, Holiday Bowl, (858) 472-5556
Date Approved: Dec 8, 2022

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project is the Holiday Bowl Parade and 5K, a holiday parade and 5K run/walk, which would take place along Harbor Drive and the Embarcadero Promenade in the city of San Diego, California. The District would provide sponsorship in the form of District funding and services for the proposed project. The event would involve a parade route proceeding down Harbor Drive. The event would include a run/walk proceeding along the parade route, travel south along the Embarcadero Promenade from Marina Walk to the San Diego Hilton Bayfront, before returning north along the Embarcadero Promenade, around the perimeter of Embarcadero Marina Park North (EMPN), and finishing at Ruocco Park. Portions of Harbor Drive and Pacific Highway would be temporarily closed during the day of the event to accommodate participants. The Embarcadero Promenade will remain open to the public during the 5K run/walk. The metered parking along Harbor Drive between Grape Street and Ash Street would be closed to accommodate spectators, with temporary bleachers installed alongside Harbor Drive. The event and related set-up and tear-down would have an approximate duration of three days and would take place during winter. The event has an anticipated attendance of approximately 100,000 people. Parking would be available nearby at parking facilities and on surface streets.

A Coastal Act Categorical Determination of Exclusion (Project No. 2021-131) was issued previously on November 30, 2021. The event described in Project No. 2021-131 is one possible parade route and 5K run/walk route for the annual Holiday Bowl Parade and 5K event. The newly proposed project is amended to include an alternative parade route and 5K run/walk route. The proposed project, as amended, would allow for event flexibility when accommodating cruise ship terminal operations during the winter.

Alternative Parade and 5K Run/Walk Route

The alternative parade route would take place along Harbor Drive in the city of San Diego, California. The event would include a 5K run/walk proceeding along the alternative parade route, which would begin at the corner of Harbor Drive & Park Boulevard and head northbound. The parade would continue north and disband at the intersection of North Harbor Drive and Pacific Highway. The alternative 5K run/walk route would proceed north on Harbor Drive, turn left at Marina Walk, head south along the South Embarcadero Promenade, and turn around before hitting Park Boulevard Pier. The alternative 5K run/walk route would travel into Embarcadero Marina Park South (EMPS) and continue north along the Embarcadero Promenade until participants take a detour through EMPN. The last portion of the alternative 5K run/walk route continues along the Embarcadero Promenade and finishes at Ruocco Park.

Portions of Harbor Drive and the parking lots at EMPS and EMPN would be temporarily closed during the event to accommodate the participants, if the alternative parade route and 5K run/walk route are selected. The parking stalls reserved for the fishing pier at the EMPS parking lot will remain open at all times during the event. The Embarcadero Promenade will remain open to the public during the 5K run/walk. The proposed project will use parts of EMPS for the temporary staging of floats and balloons during the event. Additional parade and marching band staging would take place near the start of the alternative parade and 5K run/walk route. The alternative parade route would follow the northbound lanes on Harbor Drive

until Front Street with the southbound lanes used as viewing areas for the event. At Front Street, the alternative parade route will move to the southbound lanes with the northbound lanes used as viewing areas until the finish line. The event related set-up and breakdown, anticipated attendance, and parking options would remain the same as the original project (2021-131) if the alternative parade route and 5K run/walk route are selected.

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:

(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, amphitheaters, 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 is a temporary event that would result in no permanent effects on the environment, would not involve the removal of mature, scenic trees, and would consist of the normal operation 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 Designations: Park/Plaza and Streets

The proposed project 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 designations. The proposed project would not change the use of the site nor would it interrupt or expand the existing confirming uses of the site.

CATEGORICAL DETERMINATION

Categorical Exclusion: 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 proposed project is determined to be Categorical 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 is a temporary event that would not involve the removal of mature, scenic trees.

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.

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.

JOE STUYVESANT
President/CEO

Determination by:
Lillian Mattes
Assistant Planner
Development Services

Signature: Lillian Mattes
Date: Dec 8, 2022

Deputy/Assistant General Counsel

Signature: Rebecca Harrington
Date: Dec 8, 2022