



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

Project: Installation of Canopy, Railing, and Other Improvements by the Port of San Diego at Imperial Beach Pier
Location: Imperial Beach Pier, Imperial Beach, CA 91932
Parcel No.: 061-022
Project No.: 2022-065
Applicant: Mahmoud Akhavain, Port Consultant-Engineering, Port of San Diego, 3165 Pacific Hwy, San Diego, CA 92101
Date Approved: Aug 12, 2022

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project would involve installation of a steel canopy and replacing the existing timber railing with a cable railing at the Imperial Beach Pier by the Port of San Diego in the city of Imperial Beach. The canopy will be approximately eleven (11) ft tall with shading panels having a total area of approximately 368 sq ft (21ft x 17.5ft). The cable railing will replace approximately sixty (60) ft of the existing timber railing. The existing stair/ramp structure will remain in place.

Lighting elements would be added to both the steel canopy and cable railing. An LED light strip will be mounted to the underside of the handrail and a flexible LED light strip will surround a shark figure on the roof of the canopy. All lighting elements will have a maximum color temperature of 2,700 K. Lighting on the shark will be contained to the canopy. Programmable lighting controllers located within the lifeguard tower will be used to control these lighting elements.

This project would also include replacing the security chain link fence and gates (2) at the stair/ramp structure. The fence and gates will be replaced with six (6) ft cable fencing and gates respectively.

Pier access shall remain available to the general public between 6:00am and 10:00pm. Contractors shall provide a minimum 10-foot wide lane on the pier while working between the hours of 6:00am and 10:00pm.

During construction, a 2,500 sq ft storage, stockpile, and parking area will be utilized for staging between Elder Ave. and Elkwood Ave. with the cross street of Seacoast Drive. This area is within an existing parking lot.

Construction of the proposed project is anticipated to begin late 2022 and last approximately four (4) months. Due to its nature and limited scope, construction of the proposed project would generate a minor amount of vehicle trips and would require limited use of equipment. Therefore, impacts related to air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, and transportation and traffic are not anticipated to occur. Furthermore, the Applicant would be responsible for complying with all applicable federal, state, and local laws regarding construction demolition debris, hazards and hazardous materials, and stormwater.

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 §15301, Class 1/Section 3.a: Existing Facilities; SG §15302, Class 2/Section 3.b: Replacement or Reconstruction; and SG §15303, Class 3/Section 3.c: New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures

- 3.a. 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:

- (1) Repair, maintenance or minor alteration of existing mooring facilities, floats, piers, piles, wharves, bulkhead, revetment, buoys, or similar structures; marine terminal facilities; airport facilities; and commercial industrial, or recreational facilities.
- (3) Interior and exterior remodeling or alterations, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that previously existing, including, but not limited to, marine terminal facilities, and marine-oriented commercial, industrial, and public and commercial recreational facilities, including buildings, piers, wharves, marine ways; railroads; airport facilities, runways, taxiways, aprons, and ancillary structures to those facilities; or mechanical systems and equipment.

AND/OR

- 3.b. Replacement or Reconstruction (SG § 15302) (Class 2): Includes replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure being replaced.
- (1) Replacement or reconstruction of mooring facilities, piles, floats, piers, wharves, marine ways, bulkhead, revetment, buoys, or similar structures where the new structure will be on essentially the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same size, purpose and capacity as the structure replaced.

AND/OR

- 3.c. New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures (SG § 15303) (Class 3): Includes construction of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and conversion of existing small structures from one use to another with minor modifications to the exterior of the structure.
- (2) Accessory (appurtenant) structures and mechanical equipment including, but not limited to, garages, sheds, railway spur tracks, pilings, temporary trailers, industrial equipment enclosures, fences, parking, on-site roadways, walkways and health and safety devices.

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 would consist of the replacement/reconstruction of an existing structure/facility, would be located on the same site as the structure replaced, and would have substantially the same purpose and capacity. It would also consist of construction and location of new, small facilities/structures. 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: Imperial Beach Oceanfront (Precise Plan Figure 25)

Land Use Designation: Commercial Recreation and Water Use Designation: Sportfishing Berthing

The proposed project conforms to the certified Port Master Plan because it would involve installation of a steel canopy and replacing the existing timber railing at the extension with a cable railing consistent with the existing certified Land and Water use designations. The proposed project would not change the use of the site, nor would it interrupt or expand the existing conforming uses of the site.

CATEGORICAL DETERMINATION

Categorical Exclusions: Section 8.a: Existing Facilities; Section 8.b: Replacement or Reconstruction; and Section 8.c: New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures

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:

- (10) Repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing mooring facilities, floats, piers, bulkhead, revetment, buoys, or similar structures

AND/OR

8.b. Replacement or Reconstruction: Replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located essentially on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced.

- (3) Replacement, stabilization, or reconstruction of mooring facilities, floats, piers, bulkhead, revetment, shoreline protection, buoys, or similar structures.

AND/OR

8.c. New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures: Construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures and installation of small, new equipment and facilities, involving negligible or no change of existing use of the property, including but not limited to:

- (3) Accessory structures, including, but not limited to, on-premise signs, small parking lots, fences, walkways, swimming pools, miscellaneous work buildings, temporary trailers, small accessory piers, minor mooring facilities, buoys, floats, pilings, or similar structures; and seasonal or temporary use items such as lifeguard towers, mobile food units, portable restrooms, or similar structures

The proposed project is determined to be Categorically Excluded pursuant to the Sections of the District's *Coastal Development Permit Regulations* as identified above. These are appropriate for the proposed project because it would involve negligible or no change of existing use of the property.

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)(1) of the Port Act, which allows for the establishment, improvement, and conduct of a harbor, and for the construction, reconstruction, repair, maintenance, and operation of wharves, docks, piers, slips, quays, and all other works, buildings, facilities, utilities, structures, and appliances incidental, necessary, or convenient, for the promotion and accommodation of commerce and navigation. 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:
Abigail Haynam
Assistant Planner
Development Services

Signature: Abigail Haynam
Date: Aug 12, 2022

Deputy/Assistant General Counsel

Signature: Rebecca Harrington
Date: Aug 12, 2022