

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

Project: San Diego Veterans Day Parade
Location: North Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101
Parcel No.: 018-009
Project No.: 2023-147
Applicant: Laura Ozeck, Parade Producer, U.S.S. Midway Museum, (858) 472-5556
Date Approved: 10/24/2023

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project is the annual San Diego Veterans Day Parade in the city of San Diego, California. A Coastal Act Categorical Determination of Exclusion was previously issued for the event (Project No. 2019-159), and the following project description has been updated to reflect the most current logistics of the event. The proposed project consists of a one-day parade on Veterans Day weekend and is for the purpose of celebrating military heroes. The parade would begin at the County of San Diego Administration Center (CAC), head south along North Harbor Drive, and end on Pacific Highway off District Tidelands, in between Harbor Drive and W Broadway. The proposed project would involve the installation of temporary bleachers and portable restrooms on North Harbor Drive to allow for spectators and members of the public to enjoy the parade. The proposed event, including set-up and breakdown, has a duration of approximately one-day. The parade is anticipated to begin at 11:00 a.m. and end at approximately 12:30 p.m. The proposed project would involve the temporary closure of streets during the parade, including portions of North Harbor Drive, between Grape Street and Pacific Highway, and one lane of Pacific Highway between W Broadway and Harbor Drive. The temporary street closures would take place from approximately 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and would be reopened on a rolling basis and when safe to do so. The Applicants would be required to coordinate with the Harbor Police Department and the City of San Diego Special Event Traffic Controller Police to ensure that ingress/egress access to Tuna Harbor is maintained for commercial fishermen for the duration of the proposed event.

The parade would be free for members of the public, and the event attendance is anticipated to be approximately 5,000 people. No food and beverage vendors would be permitted as part of the proposed project, and it is anticipated that the parade participants and spectators would have a positive impact on nearby District businesses. Event participants and spectators would be encouraged to use public transportation, and limited metered parking would be available on a first-come first-serve basis near the CAC.

Due to its temporary 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 and greenhouse gas emissions 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: CEQA Guidelines Section 15304 (Class 4)/District Guidelines for Compliance with the CEQA Section 3.d: Minor Alterations to Land and CEQA Guidelines Section 15323 (Class 23): Normal Operations of Facilities for Public Gatherings

3.d. Minor Alterations to Land: 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

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 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: Streets

The portion of the proposed project located within the Coastal Development Permit (CDP) and Coastal Act exclusion authority of the District conforms to the certified Port Master Plan because it would involve a temporary event 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 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 portion of the proposed project located within the CDP and Coastal Act exclusion authority 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 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.

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
Acting President/CEO

Determination by:
Lillian Mattes
Assistant Planner
Development Services

Signature: Lillian Mattes
Date: 10/24/2023

Deputy/Assistant General Counsel

Signature: Shiraz D. Tangri
Date: 10/24/2023