

San Diego Unified Port District

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

Project: Geotechnical Explorations at National City Marina
Location(s): 3201 Marina Way, National City, CA 91950
ParcelNo.(s): 025-010, 027-047, 028-009, and 028-011
ProjectNo.: 2018-048
Applicant: Noemi Aquino, Assistant Engineer, Engineering and Construction, 3165 Pacific Highway, San Diego, CA 92101
Date Approved: March 16, 2018

Project Description:

The proposed project involves geotechnical investigation in the city of National City, California. Work to complete the proposed project would involve subsurface explorations using various boring methods to allow for soil sampling, with exploration depths ranging from five feet to 100 feet in depth. Borings would be backfilled with cement-bentonite grout following completion of excavation.

Construction of the proposed project is anticipated to occur early 2018, with a total duration of approximately two weeks. Due to its limited scope, construction of the proposed project would generate a minor amount of vehicle trips; thus, impacts related to air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, and transportation and traffic are not anticipated to occur. Furthermore, the project applicant would be responsible for complying with all applicable federal, state, and local laws regulating stormwater, and construction demolition debris recycling.

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.

CEQA DETERMINATION

Based upon the above description, the project is determined to be Categorically Exempt pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land) and 15306 (Information Collection) and Sections 3.d. (6), 3.d. (7), and 3.f. of the District's *Guidelines for Compliance with CEQA* because the project involves soil borings to allow for soil sampling that would not involve the removal of mature, scenic trees, and would not result in serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. Section 3.d. (6), 3.d. (7), and 3.f. of the District's CEQA Guidelines are as follows:

- 3.d. Minor Alterations to Land (SG § 15304) (Class 4): Includes minor alternations 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.
 - (7) Minor trenching and backfilling where the surface is restored.

AND/OR

- 3.f. Information Collection (SG § 15306) (Class 6): Includes basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. These may be for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action which has not yet been approved, adopted or funded.

The Categorical Exemptions listed above are appropriate for the proposed project because it involves soil borings to allow for soil sampling that would not involve the removal of mature, scenic trees, and would not result in serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. 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.

The proposed project complies with Section 87 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.

CALIFORNIA COASTAL ACT

PORT MASTER PLAN

The project is located in Planning District 5, National City Bayfront, which is delineated on Precise Plan Map Figure 15 of the certified Port Master Plan. The Port Master Plan land use designations within the limits of the proposed project are Commercial Recreation, Marine Related, Park/Plaza, Promenade, and Road. The project conforms to the certified Port Master Plan because it involves soil borings to allow for soil sampling consistent with the existing certified land use designations. The project would not change the uses of the site nor would it interrupt or expand the existing conforming uses of the site.

CATEGORICAL DETERMINATION

The above project proposes soil borings to allow for soil sampling that would involve no expansion of use beyond that previously existing. This project is consistent with the existing certified land use designations and is Categorically Excluded under Section 8.d. (6) and 8.e. of the District's *Coastal Development Permit Regulations*, as follows:

- 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:
 - (6) Minor trenching or backfilling where the surface is restored.

AND/OR

- 8.e. Information Collection: Basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major significant disturbance to an environmental resource.

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.

RANDACONIGLIO
President/CEO

Determination by:
Cameron McLeod
Assistant Planner
Development Services

Deputy General Counsel

Signature: Cameron McLeod.
Date: 3/16/2018.

Signature: W.S. McLeod
Date: 3-16-18