



2020020377

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-0344

From: California State University, Long Beach
1250 N. Bellflower Boulevard
Long Beach, California 90815

Project Title: Horn Center and University Art Museum Renovation Project

Project Applicant: California State University, Long Beach

Project Location-Specific:

California State University, Long Beach (CSULB): 1250 N. Bellflower Boulevard, Long Beach, California 90815

Detailed location: The project site is the Horn Center, north-east of Brotman Drive and Parking Lot E2, bounded by the CSULB track and field facilities to the north, the West Gym to east, Brotman Drive to the southwest, and the College of Business Administration to the west

Latitude/Longitude: 33°46'59.30" N, 118°06'50.89" W.

Project Location – City: Long Beach **Project Location – County:** Los Angeles

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The project includes renovation of the Horn Center to create additional classroom space and lecture halls. The computer lab, undergraduate advising center and learning assistance center would be converted to 10 classrooms and 2 lecture halls, and an additional all-gender restroom will be provided. The adjoining Art Museum would be expanded by approximately 4,300 square feet as part of the project. The Art Museum's new floor plan and expansion would include additional gallery space and storage rooms for archiving collections. The existing floor plan of the museum would be reconfigured to ensure best use of the new space and to meet the objectives of the Art Museum. Additionally, the north courtyard would be converted to a formal sculpture garden, and the existing south courtyard would include renovations to the hardscaping/landscaping along with additional seating. To support the renovations, the north fire lane access to the Horn Center would be widened to meet code compliance, and a new hammerhead for fire access to the south-east of the building would be provided. Construction of the project would require the removal of several trees to allow space for the Art Museum expansion, widening of the north fire lane, installation of the south hammerhead, and renovation of the south courtyard. Storm drains would be relocated as a result of the exterior landscape changes and low impact development (LID) planters would be installed along with filtered catch basins. An area of approximately one acre is anticipated to be subject to ground disturbance associated with site grading and excavations. Excavation is anticipated to reach a maximum depth of approximately 4 feet below ground surface at isolated footings and 2 feet below ground surface for perimeter footings. Construction staging and laydown areas would be located within the project site: to the west of the existing Art Museum, and within the existing north and south courtyards. Construction of the project is anticipated to occur between Summer 2020 and Fall 2021, with a total

construction period of up to 15 months. The renovations aim to provide the Horn Center with a minimum LEED Silver accreditation; however, a LEED Gold accreditation is currently being sought. The objectives of the project are to renovate and optimize the existing space at the Horn Center to meet the current and future demands of students, staff, and visitors; renovate and expand the existing Art Museum to support the Art Museum's commitment to collecting and sharing exceptional contemporary art; and maintain code compliance and improved fire safety requirements on campus.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: The California State University Board of Trustees

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California State University, Long Beach

The project is exempt from CEQA under the following authority:

Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Section 15301, Class 1

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is categorically exempt under Class 1 Existing Facilities, having met the qualifying criteria provided under CEQA Guidelines Section 15301(a)(e). The interior renovations to the existing Horn Center would include converting the existing computer lab, undergraduate advising and learning assistance centers to 10 classrooms, 2 lecture halls, and an additional all-gender restroom. External alterations include renovations to the south courtyard to include hardscape/landscape and additional seating, renovations to the north courtyard to provide a sculpture garden, access road improvements including the widening of the north fire lane and installation of a south turning hammerhead, and relocation of storm drains and installation of LID planters and filtered catch basins. All improvements would be consistent with the current use of the existing structure, and would constitute minor alterations that would qualify under Class 1 criterion (a).

The project would include a 4,300-square square-foot extension of the existing 49,696 square-foot Art Museum to provide additional gallery space and storage rooms for archiving collections. As the addition results in an increase of more than 2,500 square feet but less than 10,000 square feet, Class 1 criterion (e)(2) could qualify if it satisfies sub-criteria (A) and (B). Under (A), the CSULB campus is a fully developed and long-term operational facility for which adequate ongoing access to public services and facilities exists and public services and facilities are available to allow for maximum development permissible in the approved Master Plan. As such, The project would constitute a minor alteration of an existing structure and would involve a negligible expansion of the existing use of the Horn Center, therefore qualifying under Class 1 criterion (e)(2)(A). The project would not result in impacts to environmental resources, therefore qualifying under Class 1 criterion (e)(2)(B).

Under (B), the project site is located within a fully developed and disturbed site within the existing CSULB campus and is not located in an area that would be considered to be environmentally sensitive. One site of cultural significance was previously recorded within the immediate vicinity of the project. Following a detailed review of existing documents and research, it was determined that this site likely consists of redeposited archaeological material and no prehistoric artifacts, midden soils, or evidence of an intact archaeological site were observed during previous investigations. In addition, the most recent site form update for the site states that it "is not an archaeological site". As such it has been determined that no impacts to cultural resources are likely to occur during implementation of the project. In addition, with adherence to existing regulations and Best Management Practices that are employed on campus, such as SCAQMD Rule 401 and the MBTA,

the construction of the project would not result in impacts to environmental resources, therefore qualifying under Class 1 criterion (e)(2)(B).

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Martin Grant **Area Code/Telephone:** (562) 985-7382

Signature:  **Date:** 2-19-2020

Title: Program Manager, Capital Construction

Signed by Lead Agency

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

FEB 19 2020

Date Received for filing at OPR: STATE CLEARINGHOUSE