

Notice of Exemption

2020100298

Form D

To: [X] Office of Planning and Research
PO Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency) San Mateo-Foster
City School District, 1170 Chess Drive
Foster City, CA 94404
(Address)

[X] County Clerk
County of San Mateo
555 County Center, Redwood City
CA 94063

Project Title: George Hall Elementary School Multi-Purpose Structure

Project Location - Specific:

George Hall Elementary School, 130 San Miguel Way, San Mateo, CA 94403

Project Location - City: San Mateo

Project Location - County: San Mateo

Description of Project:

Construction of one 7,484 square foot structure including the following components: multi-purpose room, kitchen, storage/utility room, restroom, a resource specialist program (RSP) classroom, math TOSA (teacher on special assignment) room, speech room, and sensory room.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: San Mateo-Foster City School District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: San Mateo-Foster City School District

Exempt Status: (check one)

- [] Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
[] Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
[] Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
[X] Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Section 15314, Class 14
[] Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:

The proposed project is exempt because it is characterized as a minor addition to an existing school within existing school grounds. Additionally, the proposed project does not fall within the exceptions listed in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2. See attached.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Mark L. Sherrill Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 650-312-7884

If filed by applicant:

- 1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? [] Yes [] No

Signature: [Handwritten Signature] Date: 10-14-20 Title: Consultant to the District

[X] Signed by Lead Agency Consultant Date received for filing at OPR: Governor's Office of Planning & Research
[] Signed by Applicant

Oct 15 2020

January 2004

CEQA Guidelines Section 15314, Minor Additions to Schools, Class 14

The proposed project is exempt because it is characterized as a minor addition to an existing school within existing school grounds where the additional does not increase original student capacity by more than 25 percent or ten classrooms, whichever is less.

The project does include four classrooms (RSP, math TOSA, speech, and sensory); however, these are special education classrooms, not standard classrooms that provide for an increase in study capacity. Therefore, the proposed project would not increase original student capacity.

Exceptions to the Class 14 Exemption

The following are exceptions to categorically exemptions, and a discussion as to why these exceptions do not apply to the proposed project.

1. Location. Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, and 11 are qualified by consideration of where the project is to be located – a project that is ordinarily insignificant in its impact on the environment may in a particularly sensitive environment be significant. Therefore, these classes are considered to apply all instances, except where the project may impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.

Discussion. The project qualifies for a Class 14 exemption and therefore, the location exception does not apply to the project.

2. Cumulative Impact. All exemptions for these classes are inapplicable when the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time is significant.

Discussion. The school district is not planning successive projects of the same type in the same place. Therefore, there is no cumulative impact that would be significant.

3. Significant Effect. A categorical exemption shall not be used for an activity where there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.

Discussion. Neither the school district nor the school district's consultants are aware of any unusual circumstances associated with the project.

4. Scenic Highways. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources, within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway. This does not apply to improvements which are required as mitigation by an adopted negative declaration or certified EIR.

Discussion. According to the San Mateo County General Plan Scenic Corridors Map and the California Scenic Highway Program, there are no State-designated scenic highways within three miles of the project site; therefore, no scenic highways, or scenic resources, would be affected as a result of the project.

5. Hazardous Waste Sites. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

Discussion. The proposed project is not located on a site that is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code. The site is not located on the California Environmental Protection Agency's Cortese List (Health and Safety Code Section 25187.5). The State Water Resources Control Board's GeoTracker (Health and Safety Code Section 25295 and Water Code Sections 13273 and 13301) indicates no hazardous sites within 1,000 feet of the project site. The project site is also not listed on the California Environmental Protection Agency's list of solid waste sites identified by the Water Board with waste constituents above hazardous waste levels outside the waste management unit (Health and Safety Code Section 116395).

6. Historical Resources. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

Discussion. The school is not located within or near City-designated Historic Districts (i.e. Downtown Historic District and the Glazenwood Historic District). Additionally, the project does not include any changes to existing buildings. Therefore, the proposed project would not cause a change in the significance of a historical resource.