

CEQA NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: County Clerk
County of Humboldt
825 5th Street
Eureka, CA 95501

Office of Planning Research
State Clearinghouse

FROM: City of Eureka, Lead Agency
Development Services - Planning
Jacob Nunez
531 K Street
Eureka, CA 95501-1165
(707) 441-4160
planning@ci.eureka.ca.gov

PROJECT TITLE: City Hall Electric Vehicle Charging Station

PROJECT APPLICANT: City of Eureka Public Works – Engineering

PROJECT LOCATION: City Hall parking lot on the northwest corner of 6th and L Streets (APN 001-192-004)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The City of Eureka is proposing to install a new electric vehicle (EV) charging station for City fleet vehicles within an existing Eureka City Hall parking lot located at the northwest corner of 6th and L Streets (APN 001-192-004). The two-car capacity charging station is proposed to be located along the southern edge of the parking lot (adjoining 6th Street) with electrical services tying directly into Eureka City Hall's main switchboard at 531 K Street.

The project consists of constructing a new concrete base for the pedestal of the EV charging station, installing a new outdoor-rated power distribution panel, trenching (or boring) for new underground conduit, and installing new conduit in the electrical room at City Hall. There is an estimated 108 linear feet of conduit to be installed underground; the contractor will have the option to install via bore or open trench. 74 linear feet of conduit is proposed to be placed in an existing planter bed and 34 linear feet is proposed under the parking lot and driveway adjoining the east side of City Hall. If an open trench is selected, approximately 24 cubic yards

of material will be excavated which will be temporarily stockpiled adjacent to the trench. The bottom six inches of the trench will be bedded with sand, and then the trench will be backfilled with native subsoil and sand. The area will then be repaved to match the existing grade. Before any forecasted precipitation and at the end of each day, excess spoils will be hauled offsite to a permitted disposal site. The disposal site will be approved by the City prior to the start of construction.

All electrical work will conform to the latest codes and ordinance, and the contractor will be responsible for testing all of the new systems before City acceptance of the project. During construction, the contractor will be required to employ standard Best Management Practices (BMP) to ensure minimal disruption and avoid potential environmental impacts. The contractor will be responsible for cleanup of the construction site at the end of each day, such that the site is maintained in an orderly fashion. To mitigate potential dust and particulate matter (PM10) emissions, the project's BMPs prescribe watering of exposed non-pavement surfaces, minimization of vehicle idling, and covering of materials in truck beds. The project site is a paved and landscaped parking lot surrounded by urban uses and is not located in proximity to any environmentally sensitive habitat. The parking lot drains to landscaped bioretention areas for onsite infiltration of stormwater. Construction-phase erosion and sediment control BMPs will be implemented to avoid stormwater impacts. The project will also adhere to the City's standard inadvertent discovery protocol for any cultural resources and paleontological resources inadvertently uncovered during excavation. Construction will occur in the dry season and is expected to take 20 working days (with a total potential duration of one month). Typical construction equipment will include one or more of the following: back hoe, skid steer, flat bed delivery truck, dump truck, paver, compactor, sweeper and water truck.

EXEMPTION FINDINGS: The City of Eureka as Lead Agency has determined the above described activity is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Lead Agency has further determined the project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to a Class I categorical exemption (Section 15301 of the CEQA Guidelines), which exempts the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use. The project qualifies for this exemption because it involves minor alteration of an existing City-owned parking lot to install one EV charging station (to serve two City fleet vehicles) and associated electrical connections. Further, the Lead Agency has determined that use of the categorical exemption is not barred by one of the exceptions set forth in Section 15300.2 of the CEQA Guidelines.

The material supporting the above finding is on file with City of Eureka Development Services – Planning and Public Works - Engineering. Copies of the documents related to the evaluation of this project are available for review upon request at Eureka City Hall, 531 K Street, Eureka, CA 95501.



Jacob Nunez
Assistant Planner, City of Eureka

05/13/2022
Date