

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



TO: State of California
Office of Planning & Research
PO Box 3044
Sacramento, CA. 95812-3044

FROM: City of Irvine
Irvine Public works and Transportation
1 Civic Center Plaza
Irvine, CA 92606
Attn: Casey Gnad

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Exemption in compliance with Section 15304.

Project Title and File No.: Fire Prevention Fuel Modification and Restoration at Bommer Canyon.

Project Location: 6400 Shady Canyon Drive, Irvine, CA 92603, Orange County.
(include County)

Project Description: The city will develop a five-year habitat restoration capital improvement project over roughly 105 acres in Bommer Canyon to replace highly flammable invasive grasses with native vegetation. Due to historical overgrazing and the 1993 Laguna Fire, invasive grasses have established a foothold throughout the project area. The replacement of these invasive grass species with native vegetation will help reduce the ignition potential, reduce rapid-fire spread risk, maximize the ecological benefits of native vegetation, and minimize potentially adverse effects on public safety. There are over 500 residents within a quarter mile of the proposed restoration area, and over 1,500 residents within a half mile that could be affected by a vegetation fire in this area.

Approving Public Agency: City of Irvine
1 Civic Center Plaza
Irvine, CA 92606

Approval Date: 3-22-2022
Resolution No. 22-19

Project Applicant: City of Irvine
1 Civic Center Plaza
Irvine, CA 92606

Exempt Status:
(check one)

- Ministerial (Section 21080(b)(1); 15268)
- Declared Emergency (Section 21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (Section 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))
- Statutory Exemption:
- Categorical Exemption Section 15304
- General Rule Exemption (Section 15061(b)(3))

Reasons Why Project Is Exempt: Per example B, this is new landscaping (returning to native vegetation) to help resist fire ignition and fire spread throughout the landscape. Per example D, this project consists of minor alterations that will enhance the ecological benefits for vegetation and animal species.

Casey Gnad
Open Space Administrator

Name and Title



Signature

08/02/2022

Date