

**State of California**  
**Department of Parks and Recreation**  
**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

**TO:** Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**FROM:** Department of Parks and Recreation  
2241 Harvard St., Ste 200  
Sacramento, CA 95815

**PROJECT TITLE:** Main Street Firehouse Upgrades

**LOCATION:** Columbia State Historic Park

**COUNTY:** Tuolumne

**DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:** Complete repairs, improvements and accessibility upgrades to the existing Main Street Fire House at Columbia State Historic Park to enable continued use of and access to the building. Work will:

For the Proposed Interior/Exterior Building Demolition:

- Remove two (2) existing interior first floor doors to construct a new restroom;
- Remove a portion of an existing interior wall to install a new door and improve an interior office layout;
- Remove existing cabinetry, finishes and fixtures/appliances in an existing second floor kitchenette; and
- Remove the existing HVAC system.

For the Proposed Interior/Exterior Building Improvements:

- On the first floor:
  - Install structural retrofit hold-downs and anchor bolts at existing concrete footings in areas of new shear walls;
  - Infill interior wall openings and provide matching in-kind finishes at the location of the new restroom and provide new partition walls for the new office;
  - Provide new suspended ceilings in the restroom and storage areas at first floor office with related lighting;
  - Install a new first floor accessible restroom with new plumbing, new finishes and fixtures;
  - Upgrade the electrical wiring and lighting for the first floor office; and
  - Provide emergency lighting and install an electrical panel in the existing viewing room.
- On the second floor:
  - Install new flooring to match the existing in-kind;
  - Patch and refinish the walls and ceiling where the kitchenette was removed;
  - Install sheet metal pan flashing in drying tower to protect against wind-blown rain at existing louvers;
  - Upgrade the ducted HVAC system for the first and second floor levels;
  - Install new attic furnaces and replace existing exterior condenser units with new units;
  - Upgrade the electrical wiring and lighting for the second-floor office; and
  - Install lighting at the exterior entry stair to second floor.

For the Proposed Exterior ADA Improvements:

- Excavate approximately 12-in. deep x 19-ft x 17-ft and install a new ADA parking stall within the existing gravel staff parking lot;
- Excavate approximately 12-in. deep x 20-ft x 4-ft to reconstruct a decomposed granite to the Fire House entrance; and
- Excavate 12-in. deep x 6-ft x 6-ft to install a new concrete landing immediately adjacent to the building doorway.

**PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT:** California Department of Parks and Recreation

**NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT:** Northern Service Center

**EXEMPT STATUS:**

Categorical Exemption      Class: 1, 2, 3, 4 & 31    Section: 15301, 15302, 15303, 15304 & 15331

**REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:** The project consists of the repair, maintenance, and minor alteration of existing public or private structures or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond current levels; the replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same propose and capacity as the structure replaced; the construction and location of a limited number of new, small facilities; and the minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water and/or vegetation which does not involve the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes and is included as “Modifications of existing facilities for disabled access” and “Construction or installation of park facilities such as restrooms, signs” in the Department of Parks and Recreation’s list of exempt activities in accordance with CCR § 15300.4; and consists of the maintenance, repair, rehabilitation and preservation of historical resources in a manner consistent with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring and Reconstructing Historic Buildings (1995), Weeks and Grimmer.

**CONTACT:** Monica L. Aleman  
Environmental Coordinator

**TELEPHONE:** (279) 449-1201  
**EMAIL:** Monica.Aleman@parks.ca.gov

DocuSigned by:

*Brian Dewey*

Brian Dewey, Assistant Deputy Director  
Facilities and Development

3/22/2023

DATE