

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: The Trustees of The California State University
401 Golden Shore
Long Beach, CA 90802-4210

Project Title: Campus Village 6 University Housing Project

Project Location – Specific: The South Tower annex building of the Signia by Hilton hotel, 170 Market Street, between First Street and Market Street, in downtown San Jose, California

Project Location - City: San Jose

Project Location - County: Santa Clara County

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

San Jose State University (SJSU) is proposing the lease and renovation of a portion of an existing, operating hotel complex in the City of San José to provide additional university housing proximate to the SJSU Main Campus, located approximately 4 blocks east of the project site. The renovation would involve remodeling 264 hotel rooms associated with the Signia by Hilton hotel to accommodate 800 university housing beds, converting an existing second-floor pedestrian bridge into a study lounge, renovating the second-floor hotel lounge to include student support services, and modifying the primary building entrance along Paseo de San Antonio.

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

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: San Jose State University

The project is exempt from CEQA under the following authority:

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268)
 Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
 Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))
 Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 1 – Existing Facilities (Section 15301)
 Statutory Exemption. State code number: _____
 Other: "Common Sense" Exemption (15061(b)(3))

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project consists primarily of minor alterations within the interior of an existing hotel building in an urbanized setting. The project would not involve any additions to the existing building and existing commercial tenants on the building's ground level would remain, and thus there would be no expansion of use of the existing building. The project's goal of creating 800 student beds falls within the capacity of the existing hotel building (914 hotel guests per day), and therefore the project does not increase the intensity of use of the existing building. Furthermore, the project does not trigger any of the exceptions to a Class 1 exemption, and, per the criteria contained in the common sense exemption, it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the project may have a significant effect on the environment. Supporting documentation is on file with the Lead Agency and is available upon request.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Chris Shay, Senior Director of Real Estate and Special Projects, SJSU

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (408) 601-7984

If filed by applicant: Not applicable

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:  Date: November 16, 2023

Title: Director, Land Use Planning & Environmental Review

Signed by Lead Agency:

Signed by Applicant: _____

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.