

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
PO Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 222
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
 County Clerk, County of _____

From: University of California
Physical & Environmental Planning
1111 Franklin Street, 7th Floor
Oakland, California 94607-5200

Project Title: Alvarado Hospital Medical Center Acquisition

Project Location: 6645-6655 Alvarado Street

Project Location – City: San Diego

Project Location – County: San Diego

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project (Project Description): UC San Diego Health purchased the existing Alvarado Hospital Medical Center, located on approximately 6.05 acres of developed land, and includes a 302-licensed bed acute care hospital, associated structures, and 557 total parking spaces located in a surface lot and structure. The hospital is currently operational and includes two patient towers, providing acute care and post-acute care services, respectively. UC San Diego Health would continue to operate the facility as a hospital, with no expansion in services provided and no increase in the number of licensed hospital beds. The existing post-acute care patient tower is planned to be converted to inpatient behavior health services and the existing acute care patient tower would remain dedicated to acute care services. The structures are compliant with UC seismic safety policy and all other statutory requirements, except for the acute care patient tower which requires seismic-related upgrades to bring the facility into compliance with Senate Bill 1953; the University will construct the necessary seismic retrofits on the acute care patient tower to bring the facility to compliance by 2030.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: University of California, Berkeley

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: University of California, Berkeley

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));
- Categorical Exemptions (15301) and (15302)
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number:
- Common Sense Exemption (Sec. 15061(b)(3)).

Reason Why Project is Exempt: The project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Class 1: Existing Facilities) because the project involves existing facilities with negligible or no expansion of use. On a separate and independent basis, the project is also categorically exempt from CEQA under Section 15302 (Class 2: Replacement or Reconstruction) because the project would construct seismic retrofits on an existing acute care facility with no substantial change in purpose or capacity of the facility. None of the exceptions to exemptions listed in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 are applicable. The property will continue to be operated within its pre-existing capacity. The proposed acquisition does not commit the campus to any future redevelopment project on the site, and none is currently planned by the University. Any potential future modification of the property would be subject to additional environmental review pursuant to CEQA as well as discretionary approval by the University and is not part of the project.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Brian Harrington

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (510) 587-6116

Signature:



Brian Harrington

Title: Director, Physical and Environmental Planning

Date: December 11, 2023

- Signed by Lead Agency
- Signed by Applicant