

CEQA Notice of Exemption

TO: Office of Planning & Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Development Services
411 W. Ocean Blvd, 3rd Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802

L.A. County Clerk
Environmental Fillings
12400 E. Imperial Hwy., Room 1201
Norwalk, CA 90650

Exemption Number: CE24-001

Project Title (Application Number): PLNE56460

Project Location – Specific: 6250 North Paramount Blvd.

Project Location – City/County: **City of Long Beach, Los Angeles County, California**

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Project involves establishing a medical and adult use cannabis manufacturing and distribution use within an existing structure located at the address mentioned above.

Public Agency Approving Project: **City of Long Beach, California**

Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Kanep Group LLC

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 Exemption. State type and section number: Existing Facilities, Section 15301
- Statutory Exemption. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The existing business of a medical and adult use cannabis manufacturing, and distribution business is permitted as a matter of right within the existing building. No expansion of the building is proposed.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Ilanna Padilla

Contact Phone: 562-570-6808

Signature: 

Date: 1/12/2024

Title: Contract Planner

**CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT
STATEMENT OF SUPPORT
CLASS 1 (EXISTING FACILITIES)
EXEMPTION DETERMINATION**

**6250 North Paramount Boulevard
PLNE56460
CE24-001
January 10, 2024**

Section 15300 through 15333 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) establishes certain classes of projects as categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA because they do not ordinarily result in a significant effect on the environment.

Lead Agency: City of Long Beach Community Development Department

Applicant Entity/Business Name: Kanep Group, LLC

License Type(s): Business Licenses for Medical and Adult Use Manufacturing and Distribution Licenses

Project Description:

The project is located at 6250 North Paramount Boulevard Long Beach, CA 90805 within Los Angeles County (Figure 1 – Vicinity & Aerial Map). The site is on the eastern side of Paramount Boulevard between Paramount Boulevard and Orizaba Avenue. The nearest intersection is Paramount Boulevard and East 63rd Street. The site Assessor's Parcel Number, 7121-014-017, features an area of 0.53-acres.

The 0.53-acre subject site and surrounding properties are located on relatively flat lots. There are no natural features in the immediate, quarter-mile vicinity.

The subject site is within the Globemaster Light Industrial Zoning District (IL) and has a General Plan Land Use PlaceType designation of Neo-Industrial (NI).

The subject site is currently developed with a 6,183 square-foot industrial building and is approximately 17' 6" in height. The proposed Medical and Adult Use Cannabis Manufacturing, and Distribution Licenses would utilize the entire 6,183 square-foot building. The site features a curb cut along Paramount Boulevard for vehicular and truck access.

The project proposed minor interior and exterior improvements to the industrial building. Interior improvements include adding new walls, ceilings, plumbing fixtures, and new electrical, mechanical and plumbing systems. Exterior improvements include removing roll up doors to fill in with concrete, adding a new opening for an entry door, new trash enclosures, and providing new planters along Paramount Boulevard.

The project has obtained city approved permits which include a building permit, health permits, and business licenses.

The primary operations will occur entirely within the enclosed structures and pose limited potential for environmental impacts on neighboring uses. All medical and adult use cannabis facilities are subject to stringent rules and regulations governed by Long Beach Municipal Code Title 5 – Regulation of Businesses, Trades, and Professions.

1. Is the project site currently operating as a cannabis cultivation site or a similar use, or has it recently operated for this purpose?

The site was previously used as a business office, specifically for a cable and satellite company. The site is within an existing light industrial zoning district that is served with existing public infrastructure which includes sewer, water, electrical and gas services. The previous use dates to 2015 and was licensed until 5/23/2018. The proposed manufacturing and distribution are identified as an industrial use by the Long Beach Municipal Code.

2. Does the project involve an expansion of existing structures that would be considered only minor?

The existing 6,183 square-foot unit footprint will not be expanded. Minor improvements proposed include interior and exterior alterations, plumbing, and similar typical tenant improvements.

**3. Project Expansion:
Size of expansion in square feet:**

This question is not applicable as this project consists of only interior and exterior tenant improvements to an existing 6,183 square-foot industrial building.

4. Is the project site served by all public services sufficient to serve the project (e.g., water, sewer, electricity, and gas)? The preparer should indicate which public services serve the site.

The project site is currently served by all city public services which include sewer, water, and gas infrastructure as confirmed by the current internal GIS city-data accessed on January 8, 2023. The site is also serviced by Southern California Edison (SCE) for electrical needs as confirmed by SCE's service territory map, accessed January 8, 2023. As a condition of approval on the project, the applicant will be required to confer with applicable infrastructure departments to obtain approvals for any improvements on private property.

<https://www.sce.com/about-us/who-we-are/leadership/our-service-territory>

5. Is there evidence that the project site is located in an environmentally sensitive area?

This project is not located in an environmentally sensitive area as verified on the GeoTracker website on January 8, 2023. The built-out site itself is located in an industrial zoning district which allows for industry and manufacturing uses and not in any proximity to any important mineral resources; protected aquatic habitats, including wetlands; environmentally sensitive wildlife habitat; or areas known to include cultural, paleontological, and/or historical resources.

<https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/map/?myaddress=California&from=header&cqid=9041135489>

6. Does the project require a water right permit or another environmental permit that could result in physical changes to the environment?

This project does not require a water right permit or another environmental permit. The project is fully developed and served by existing utilities as detailed in response 4.

EXCEPTIONS TO EXEMPTIONS

7. Scenic Highways

This is not applicable as this project is not near nor visible from an official State Scenic Highway as confirmed from the Long Beach General Plan Mobility Element and the Caltrans website verified on January 3, 2023.

<https://dot.ca.gov/programs/design/lap-landscape-architecture-and-community-livability/lap-liv-i-scenic-highways>

8. Is the project located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Government Code § 65962.5 (Cortese List)?

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control does not identify this site as a hazardous site (calepa.ca.gov/sitecleanup/) as confirmed on January 8, 2023.

9. Would the project result in a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historic resource?

This project is not located in an area of significant historic resources as verified in the city's GIS system that listed historical database the National Register of Historic Places as verified on January 8, 2023. This existing 6,183 square-foot industrial building is not a recognized historic landmark nor a historic building.

<https://www.nps.gov/maps/full.html?mapId=7ad17cc9-b808-4ff8-a2f9-a99909164466>

10. Is there evidence of the potential for the project to contribute to a significant cumulative impact?

This project proposes to reuse an existing 6,183 square-foot industrial building for medical and adult cannabis cultivation, manufacturing, and distribution. The operations of this facility do not provide evidence of the potential for the project to contribute to a significant cumulative impact as the use is in an industrial zoning district which allows for cultivation, manufacturing, and distribution type uses. The proposed project are uses anticipated by the City of Long Beach General Plan and Land Use Element and would not contribute to a significant cumulative impact that was not previously analyzed. The Long Beach General Plan Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) was adopted in December of 2019 (State Clearinghouse No. 2015051054). The project's impacts are furthermore mitigated by conditioned compliance with applicable code requirements which include, but not limited to, noise, discharges, and material handling.

11. Is there evidence of a reasonable possibility of a significant environmental impact due to unusual circumstances?

The project does not contain any unusual aspects in the ongoing operations that may lead to a more substantial impact. The proposed use consistent with industrial uses allowed in the zoning district.

Eligibility Determination

Based on information contained in the administrative record, as reflected in the answers provided to Questions 1-11 above, the project or project element(s) are eligible for a Class 1 categorical exemption. The project or project element(s) fit(s) within the parameters included in CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, and none of the exceptions to this exemption defined in Section 15300.2 apply.

Figure 1 – Vicinity & Aerial Map

