

**Notice of Exemption**

**Appendix E**

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To: Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency): California Natural Resources Agency  
715 P Street, 20<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

2/6/2024

Project Title: Franklin Beachwood Park

Project Applicant: Merced County

Project Location - Specific:  
2691 Lobo Avenue, Merced, CA 95340

Project Location – City: Merced Project Location – County: Merced

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The project involves the construction of a new 18.6-acre public park. Construction will include a community recreation center, a walking path, picnic areas, restrooms, basketball courts, athletic fields, playground, trees and other landscaping, and parking lot. The project site is vacant and undeveloped. The project site zoning of Rural Residential allows for parks and community recreation centers.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Natural Resources Agency

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Merced County

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: 15303, 15183
- Statutory Exemptions. State Code number: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons why project is exempt:

- The project is located in an area that is not environmentally sensitive, has access to all necessary public services and facilities, and will not involve the use of significant amounts of hazardous substances. The total square footage of proposed buildings on the site does not exceed 10,000 square feet.
- The project is consistent with the 2030 Merced County General Plan, for which an Environmental Impact Report was certified. As a result, the proposed park development requires no further environmental review.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Nicole Ingot Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 916-902-5564

**If filed by applicant:**

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: Andrea Schaffer Date: 2/6/2024 Title: Deputy Assistant Secretary

Signed by Lead Agency  Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Date received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_

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