

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: Facilities Department
Santa Ana Unified School District
1601 East Chestnut Avenue
Santa Ana, CA 92701

County of Orange Clerk-Recorder
601 N. Ross Street
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Santa Ana High School – Batting Cages

Project Title

520 W. Walnut St

Project Location – Specific

Santa Ana 92701

Orange

Project Location – City

Project Location – County

The Santa Ana Unified School District proposes to add two (2) new batting cages with 12ft high open chain link fencing sidewalls, open roof netting, and concrete slabs, install electrical outlets, and extend concrete walkway.

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project

Santa Ana Unified School District

Name of Public Agency Approving Project

Santa Ana Unified School District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project

Categorical Exemption

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: Class 14, § 15314, Minor Additions to Schools
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Section 15314 permits, among other activities, “minor additions to existing schools within existing school grounds where the addition does not increase original student capacity by more than 25% or ten classrooms, whichever is less. The proposed project has been examined in the context of this Section and has been found consistent with these criteria. Further, the application of this Section of the CEQA Guidelines is not barred by any exceptions set forth in Section 15300.2. The Attachment to this Notice of Exemption provides additional detail in support of this finding. The proposed project will not change the use of the facility from a school. The project would not result in a significant effect on the environment.

Reasons why project is exempt

Ted Walstrom

(714) 480-5356

Contact Person

Area Code/Telephone/Extension

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption findings
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project Yes No

Date Received for Filing: 3/5/24

Signature: *Ted Walstrom*

Title: Assistant Superintendent, Facilities & Governmental Relations

ATTACHMENT TO NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

SANTA ANA HIGH SCHOOL BATTING CAGES SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

1. Description of the Existing Setting of the Site and Adjacent Areas: Santa Ana High School is located at 520 W. Walnut St., in Santa Ana, California. The site is developed with a high school that has a current enrollment of 2,771 students. The site is surrounded by mainly Heninger Elementary and an apartment complex off Flower Street.

2. Capacity: Class 14 Categorical Exemption, Minor Additions to Schools (Section 15314), is limited to additions that do not increase the original student capacity by 25 percent or more than 10 classrooms, whichever is less. The proposed project involves the construction of new batting cages at the existing baseball field in the open area between the existing bullpen and storage shed. The project scope includes but is not limited to the following:

- Two (2) Batting Cages with 12 ft. high open chain link fencing sidewalls, open roof netting (OFOI), and concrete floor slabs
- Install Electrical Power Outlets in the New Batting Cages and the existing adjacent bullpen
- Extend the concrete walkway from the existing walkway adjacent to the bullpen, with the modification to the existing irrigation in the area as needed

The project would not change the use of the site from a school and modifies the quantity/capacity of classrooms consistent with the threshold set by the Class 14 Categorical Exemption, Minor Additions to Schools (Section 15314).

3. Review of Possible Exceptions to the Categorical Exemption: The proposed project has been reviewed under Section 15314. for any characteristics or circumstances that might invalidate findings that the project is exempt from CEQA.

- a. **Cumulative Impacts:** The proposed project is not related to any “successive projects of the same kind in the same place over time,” thus no significant cumulative impacts would occur.
- b. **Significant Effects:** The proposed addition would occur within the confines of the existing school site. There are no sensitive natural resources of any kind on the site or in the surrounding area and no unusual circumstances that would indicate a potential for any significant environmental effects.
- c. **Scenic Highways:** There are no state scenic highways in the vicinity of the project site. The project would not damage any scenic resources.
- d. **Hazardous Waste Sites:** The project site is not on any list of hazardous waste sites and is not located within the vicinity of any hazardous waste sites.
- e. **Historical Resources:** No historical resources would be impacted by implementation of the proposed project.