

# NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

From: Newport-Mesa Unified School District

2985 Bear Street

Costa Mesa, CA 92626

County Clerk-Recorder  
County of Orange

601 N Ross Street

Santa Ana, CA 92701

California Elementary School Improvement Project

Project Title

3232 California Street

Project Location - Specific

Costa Mesa

Project Location - City

Orange

Project Location - County

The District proposes to provide improvements to the existing library building; create an enlarged transitional kindergarten and kindergarten (TK/K) area by converting three classrooms to TK/K classrooms, constructing two attached TK bathrooms, construction of a lunch shade structure and extending the fencing around the area; and construct two modular classrooms. The proposed project will benefit the district, students, and staff by improving the educational environment and safety.

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project

Newport-Mesa Unified School District

Name of Public Agency Approving Project

Newport-Mesa Unified School District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project

Exempt Status: (check one below)

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, CCR §15301, Existing Facilities; Class 3, CCR §15303, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures; Class 14, CCR §15314, Minor Additions to School

Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

**FILED**

**MAR 22 2024**

ORANGE COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER DEPARTMENT

BY: LT DEPUTY

The proposed improvements at the existing library facilities and converting classrooms to TK/K classrooms are exempt from CEQA under Class 1, Existing Facilities (Section 15301), which includes interior or exterior alterations, involving such things as interior partitions, plumbing, and electrical conveyances and restoration or rehabilitation of deteriorated or damaged structures, facilities, or mechanical equipment. Library improvements would include replacing and upgrading the interior furnishings and technology. The classrooms converted to TK/K classrooms serve education function and purpose. Since the renovations are located in the same site and will not expand any renovated structure, the project is exempt from CEQA under Section 15301.

The proposed construction of a new shade structure, extending fencing, and the addition of new TK restrooms are exempt from CEQA under Class 3, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures (Section 15303). The proposed shade structures and fencing are small new structures that will be located within the school campus. Additionally, the construction of two new restrooms would be considered accessory (appurtenant) structure to the new TK classroom (15303 (e)). The shade structures and fencing improvements will create an enlarged TK/K area on campus to serve students on campus and not increase student capacity; the project is exempt from CEQA under Section 15303.

The proposed two modular classroom buildings are exempt from CEQA under Class 14, Minor Additions to Schools (Section 15314). Since the new modular classrooms are a minor addition to the existing school and the proposed project will not increase student capacity by 25 percent or increase classrooms on campus by more than 10 classrooms, the project is exempt from CEQA under Section 15314.

The proposed project was also reviewed for possible exceptions under Section 15300.2 and found that the exceptions do not apply.


Reasons why project is exempt

Erica DiCioccio, Facilities Planning Coordinator (714) 424-8993  
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:

Signature:  Title: Facilities Planning Coordinator

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.

Date Received for Filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_

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