



## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

**Submitted to:**

San Francisco Office of the County Clerk  
City Hall, Room 160  
One Dr Carlton B Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Office of Planning and Research  
*Submitted electronically via CEQASubmit*

**From:** San Francisco Unified School District  
135 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102

**PROJECT TITLE:** *Everett Middle School – Schoolyard Improvements Project*

**Project Address:**  
*Everett Middle School  
450 Church St.  
San Francisco, CA 94114*

**Assessor's Parcel Number:**  
*3665-001*  
**County of:**  
San Francisco

**Project Description:** *Schoolyard renovation to include the following new features: a custom designed shade structure, a synthetic turf field and underground bioretention facility, multi-use sports courts, a bioretention basin and associated landscaping, synthetic turf mound and concrete seating, concrete benches and planting areas, addition of accessible parking stalls and parking lot striping.*

- *87,000 square feet of construction*
- *Reduction of approximately 25,000 square feet of impervious surface and installation of stormwater management infrastructure*

This project has been **approved by** and **will be carried out by** the San Francisco Unified School District.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** *Licinia Iberri, Bond Program Director*

**Signature:**  **Date:** 4/26/2024 | 1:27 PM PDT

**EXEMPT STATUS**

Categorically Exempt **Classes:** *#11 Accessory Structures, #14 Minor Additions to Schools*

The project clearly will not have a significant effect on the environment (15061(b)(3))

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

**Reason Project is Exempt:** This project consists of *schoolyard renovation to include new shade structure, synthetic turf field, sport courts, bioretention facilities, landscaping, concrete seating and parking lot improvements*. The project is exempt under CEQA Guidelines Section *15311 Accessory Structures, 15314 Minor Additions to Schools*.

*[Example: 15302 – Replacement or Reconstruction, and Section 15314 – Minor Additions to Schools. Note that only one is needed but best practice is to identify all that fit.*

*In table, delete those that you are not applying to the project; only retain the ones that you list here.]*

The project meets the conditions for these exemptions as explained below.

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Minor Alterations To Land (Class 4). This consists of minor alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes. This class does not apply to grading in a waterway, in any wetland, in an officially designated scenic area, in officially mapped areas of severe geologic hazard, or within an official Seismic Hazard Zone.

*Reduction of approximately 25,000 square feet of impervious surface from the existing 87,000 sq ft yard, and installation of stormwater management infrastructure and supporting landscaping.*

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Accessory Structures (Class 11). This consists of construction, or placement of minor structures accessory to (appurtenant to) existing commercial, industrial, or institutional facilities.

*Installation of shade structure in the schoolyard, covering approximately 2,000 sf.*

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Minor Additions to Schools (Class 14). consists of 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 addition of portable classrooms is included in this exemption.

*Addition of outdoor learning and physical education amenities such as a synthetic turf field, multi-use sport courts and school garden. None of these additions have an impact on student capacity. ]*

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**Exceptions to Use of a Categorical Exemption:** The project does not have the potential to trigger any of the exceptions identified in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 prohibiting the use of a categorical exemption.

- a. Location. Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, and 11 are qualified by consideration of where the project is to be located - a project that is ordinarily insignificant in its impact on the environment may, in a particularly sensitive environment, be significant. Therefore, these classes are considered to

apply in all instances, except where the project may impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.

Although the location exception does not apply to a Class 14 Categorical Exemption, the environmental sensitivity of the project site was assessed as part of preparation of this Notice of Exemption.

*[A comprehensive Geotechnical Report was prepared as part of this project as well as a Hazardous Materials Survey. None of the findings indicated that this site had any environmentally sensitive concerns. Additionally, this site is not registered as an Archeological Sensitive Area or listed on the Cortese List. ]*

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- b. Cumulative Impact. All exemptions for these classes are inapplicable when the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time is significant.

*[This project does not contribute to any cumulative impact as there are no ongoing projects at this site or adjacent projects as confirmed by the SF Planning database. ]*

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- c. Significant Effect. A categorical exemption shall not be used for an activity where there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.

*This project does not create any unusual circumstances. It is an improvement to Stormwater Management using typical bioretention facilities and will relieve the burden of unmanaged rainwater run off into the city sewer system.*

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- d. Scenic Highways. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may result in damage to scenic resources including, but not limited to, trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings or similar resources, within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway.

*Not applicable. The Site is not within proximity to a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway.*

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- e. Hazardous Waste Sites. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project located on a site that is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

*Not applicable. The site is not on the Cortese List – State Database of Hazardous Sites.*

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- f. Historical Resources. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

*Not applicable. The project does not include any work to the building structure and is only related to the schoolyard. The building is not currently registered as a Historical Resource. The property is not in an Active SF Survey Area per the SF Planning database.*

## **REFERENCES**

- California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). *[year of database query]*. Envirostor.  
<https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/> . Accessed *[month, day, year that the database query occurred]*.
- California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). *[year of list was reviewed]*. List of Eligible and Officially Designated State Scenic Highways. *[month and year list last updated]*.
- State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). *[year of database query]*. GeoTracker.  
<https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/>. Accessed *[month, day, year that the database query occurred]*.