

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
County Clerk
County of: Santa Clara
110 West Tasman Drive
San Jose, CA 95134

From: (Public Agency): Los Gatos Saratoga Union High
17421 Farley Road West
Los Gatos, CA 95030

(Address)

Project Title: Los Gatos High School Turf Replacement Project

Project Applicant: Los Gatos - Sartatoga Union High School District

Project Location - Specific:
20 High School Court, Los Gatos

Project Location - City: Saratoga; Los Gatos Project Location - County: Santa Clara

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The project would consist of replacing the deteriorated artificial turf (approximately 78,650 sq. ft.) at the Los Gatos HS Football Stadium. Beneficiaries would be students and public using the field.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Los Gatos- Saratoga Union High School District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Los Gatos-Saratoga Union High School District

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));
[X] Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 1 -Section 15301
Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project proposes replacement of deteriorated artificial turf, which qualifies as "repair and maintenance" of an existing structure which does not result in any expansion of the existing use(Class 1 - 15301(a)). None of the exceptions to this exemption would occur (see attached discussion).

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Toby Mockler Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 408-357-8152

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? [X] Yes [] No

Signature: [Signature] Date: 5-1-24 Title: CBO

[X] 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:

LOS GATOS HIGH SCHOOL STADIUM TURF REPLACEMENT PROJECT
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION DISCUSSION

Project Description

Existing Facilities

The Los Gatos High School, located at 20 High School Court in Los Gatos, is a grades 9-12 school owned and operated by the Los Gatos-Saratoga Union High School District. The school has a current enrollment of approximately 2,150 students.

The Football Stadium, which is proposed for turf replacement, is located at the northern side of the school campus, near the Highway 17 and Los Gatos-Saratoga Road interchange. It is surrounded by other school uses to the south, Highway 17 to the northwest, and single-family residences to the northeast. and other school facilities to the south, across New York Avenue.

Proposed Project

The existing artificial turf in the football stadium has reached the end of its useful life and will require replacement. The approximately 88,650 sq. ft. of turf material will be replaced with a similar FieldTurf artificial turf. Minor repairs to the existing substrate may also be implemented as needed. No new or substantially altered substrate or drainage systems would be installed. No change in field operating hours is proposed, as such hours are controlled by a separate agreement. Female flag football would be added to the field's use.

This project is slated for construction mid-June through early August 2024. Work hours would be Monday through Friday between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 6 p.m, and Saturdays 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., consistent with the Town of Los Gatos' Noise Ordinance.

No new, altered, or expanded uses of any other school facilities are proposed as part of this project.

Categorical Exemption Analysis

Class 1 Exemption

The CEQA Class 1 Exemption (Class 1-Existing Facilities [CEQA Guidelines, Section 15301]) applies to, among other things, the repair and maintenance of existing facilities, including both interior and exterior alterations. (CEQA Guidelines Section 15301(a)). The proposed project would consist of replacement of existing artificial turf on the football field, which would fall under "repair and maintenance". Therefore, this exemption would apply.

Analysis of Possible Exceptions to Class 1 Exemption

The exemptions are subject to the following exceptions:

- **Cumulative Impact.** This exception would apply if the project were to contribute to significant impacts to a resource in combination with other proposed new development nearby. No other potentially overlapping construction projects are proposed at the school. Regardless of any potentially overlapping projects, the work and associated impacts for this project would be limited to within the stadium, and would not have the potential to contribute in a cumulatively considerable manner to any potentially significant cumulative impacts. Therefore, this exception would not be triggered.
- **Scenic Highways.** This exception would apply if the project were to result in damage to scenic resources within a scenic highway corridor. State Rout 9 in the project area is a designated Scenic Highway. Highway 17 in the project area is eligible for designation as a State Scenic Highway, but has not been so designated. The stadium may be visible from Highway 17, however the project would not change the appearance of any school facility, as it would be replacing existing artificial turf with new artificial turf. Therefore, this exception would not be triggered.
- **Hazardous Waste Sites.** This exception would apply if the project were to be located on a hazardous waste site listed pursuant to California Government Code Section 65962.5. A search of the State Envirostor database conducted on March 29, 2024 found no listed hazardous wastes sites on or near the site. (https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/map/?global_id=21880002)
- **Historical Resources.** This exception would apply if the project were to potentially significantly adversely affect an historical resource. The school was initially constructed in the late 1950's so parts of it are over 60 years old. However, the proposed project includes no changes to the existing school buildings other than replacement existing artificial turf, which itself was installed less than 50 years ago, and therefore would not have the potential to adversely affect any historical resources.
- **Significant Effect.** The exception would apply if the project would have the potential for a significant effect to the environment due to unusual circumstances. Unusual circumstances may include historic structures, hazardous materials contamination, protected species or habitats, and other similar conditions. There are no unusual circumstances on the site and there is no potential for significant effect, therefore this exception would not apply.

Conclusions

As discussed above, the project is within the parameters of the Class 1 Exemption. Further, as detailed above, none of the exceptions to the exemption would apply. Therefore, this exemption would apply to the proposed project.