

## CEQA Notice of Exemption

TO:  Office of Planning & Research  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Development Services  
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Long Beach, CA 90802

L.A. County Clerk  
Environmental Fillings  
12400 E. Imperial Hwy., Room 1201  
Norwalk, CA 90650

Exemption Number: CE22-059

Project Title (Application Number): PLNE52648

Project Location – Specific: 1475 Cota Ave

Project Location – City/County: **City of Long Beach, Los Angeles County, California**

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Project involves establishing an adult-use, self-distribution & manufacturing cannabis facility (MJ21900691 & MJ21900692) within an existing structure located at address mentioned above.

Public Agency Approving Project: **City of Long Beach, California**

Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Greenmount LLC.

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 1, Existing Facilities, Section 15301

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

Reasons why project is exempt:

The existing business is an adult-use, self-distribution & manufacturing cannabis facility that is permitted as a matter of right within the existing building.

### Lead Agency

Contact Person: Donovan Colon

Contact Phone: 562-570-6559

Signature: Do Colon. Donovan Colon Date: 05/22/2024

Title: Contract Planner

**CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT  
STATEMENT OF SUPPORT  
CLASS 1 (EXISTING FACILITIES)  
EXEMPTION DETERMINATION  
1475 Cota Avenue, PLNE52648  
CE22-059  
May 22, 2024**

Section 15300 through 15333 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) establishes certain classes of projects as categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA because they do not ordinarily result in a significant effect on the environment.

**Lead Agency:** City of Long Beach Community Development Department.

**Applicant Entity/Business Name:** Greenmount, LLC.

**License Type(s):** Business Licenses for an Adult Use Cannabis Self-Distribution & Manufacturing Facility.

**Project Description:**

The project is located at 1475 Cota Ave, Long Beach, CA 90813 within Los Angeles County (Figure 1 – Vicinity & Aerial Map). The site is on the northwest side of the intersection of Cota Avenue and Cowles Street. The site Assessor's Parcel Number, 7432-002-032, and features an area of 0.07-acres.

The 0.07-acre subject site and surrounding properties are located on relatively flat lots. There are no natural features in the immediate, or quarter-mile vicinity.

The subject site is within the General Industrial zoning district (IG) and has a General Plan Land Use PlaceType designation of Industrial (I/ 65 ft).

The subject site is currently developed with a 1,480 square-foot commercial building, 13'-0" in height. The proposed Adult Use Cannabis Self-Distribution and Manufacturing Facility would utilize the entire 1,480 square foot building. The site features a large curb cut along Cota Ave.

The project proposes minor interior improvements to the industrial unit. Interior improvements include adding new partition walls, new finishes and associated plumbing, mechanical, and electrical upgrades.

The project has obtained city approved permits which include a building permit, health permits, and business licenses.

The primary operations will occur entirely within the enclosed structures and pose limited potential for environmental impacts on neighboring uses. All medical and adult use cannabis facilities are subject to stringent rules and regulations governed by Long Beach Municipal Code Title 5 – Regulation of Businesses, Trades, and Professions.

**1. Is the project site currently operating as a cannabis cultivation site or a similar use, or has it recently operated for this purpose?**

The site was formerly utilized as a ceramics retail business. The site is within the General Industrial zone that is served with existing public infrastructure which includes sewer, water, electrical and gas services. The previous use in the industrial building dates to 1986 and was licensed until 06/18/2017. The proposed adult-use cannabis self-distribution and manufacturing facility is identified as an industrial use by the Long Beach Municipal Code.

**2. Does the project involve an expansion of existing structures that would be considered only minor?**

The existing 1,480 square-foot industrial building footprint will not be expanded. Minor improvements proposed include interior and exterior alterations, plumbing, electrical, mechanical, and similar typical tenant improvements.

**3. Project Expansion:**

This question is not applicable as this project consists of only interior and exterior tenant improvements to an existing 1,480 square-foot industrial building. No expansion is proposed.

**4. Is the project site served by all public services sufficient to serve the project (e.g., water, sewer, electricity, and gas)? The preparer should indicate which public services serve the site.**

The project site is currently served by all city public services which include sewer, water, and gas infrastructure as confirmed by the current internal GIS city-data accessed on May 22, 2024. The site is also serviced by Southern California Edison (SCE) for electrical needs as confirmed by SCE's service territory map, accessed May 17May 22

<https://www.sce.com/about-us/who-we-are/leadership/our-service-territory>

**5. Is there evidence that the project site is located in an environmentally sensitive area?**

This project is not located in an environmentally sensitive area as verified on the GeoTracker website on May 22, 2024. The built-out site itself is located in the General Industrial Zoning District which allows for industrial uses and is not in any proximity to any important mineral resources; protected aquatic habitats, including wetlands; environmentally sensitive wildlife habitat; or areas known to include cultural, paleontological, and/or historical resources.

<https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/map/?myaddress=California&from=header&cqid=9041135489>

**6. Does the project require a water right permit or another environmental permit that could result in physical changes to the environment?**

This project does not require a water right permit or another environmental permit. The project is fully developed and served by existing utilities as detailed in response 4.

## **EXCEPTIONS TO EXEMPTIONS**

**7. Scenic Highways**

This is not applicable as this project is not near nor visible from an official State Scenic Highway as confirmed from the Long Beach General Plan Mobility Element and the Caltrans website verified on May 22, 2024.

<https://dot.ca.gov/programs/design/lap-landscape-architecture-and-community-livability/lap-liv-i-scenic-highways>

**8. Is the project located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Government Code § 65962.5 (Cortese List)?**

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control does not identify this site as a hazardous site <https://calepa.ca.gov/sitecleanup/corteselist/> as confirmed on May 22, 2024.

**9. Would the project result in a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historic resource?**

This project is not located in an area of significant historic resources as verified in the city's GIS system that listed historical database from the National Register of Historic Places as verified on May 22, 2024. This existing 1,480 square-foot industrial building, where the proposed cultivation facility is, is not a recognized historic landmark nor a historic building.

<https://www.nps.gov/maps/full.html?mapId=7ad17cc9-b808-4ff8-a2f9-a99909164466>

**10. Is there evidence of the potential for the project to contribute to a significant cumulative impact?**

This project proposes to reuse an existing 1,480 square-foot industrial building for an adult use cannabis self-distribution & manufacturing facility. The operations of this facility do not provide evidence of the potential for the project to contribute to a significant cumulative impact as the use is in an Industrial zoning district which allows industrial type uses. The proposed project as an industrial use is anticipated by the City of Long Beach General Plan and Land Use Element and would not contribute to a significant cumulative impact that was not previously analyzed. The Long Beach General Plan Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) was adopted in December of 2019 (State Clearinghouse No. 2015051054). The project's impacts are furthermore mitigated by conditioned compliance with applicable code requirements which include, but not limited to, noise, discharges, and material handling.

**11. Is there evidence of a reasonable possibility of a significant environmental impact due to unusual circumstances?**

The project does not contain any unusual aspects in the ongoing operations that may lead to a more substantial impact. The proposed use is consistent with industrial uses allowed in the zoning district.

**Eligibility Determination**

Based on information contained in the administrative record, as reflected in the answers provided to Questions 1-11 above, the project or project element(s) are eligible for a Class 1 categorical exemption. The project or project element(s) fit(s) within the parameters included in CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, and none of the exceptions to this exemption defined in Section 15300.2 apply.

Figure 1 – Vicinity & Aerial Map

