



State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife  
**2024 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE**  
**CASH RECEIPT**  
 DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/24) Previously DFG 753.5a

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RECEIPT NUMBER:  
 41-06252024-0006  
 STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (If applicable)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY SAN MATEO UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE 06/25/2024
COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING SAN MATEO COUNTY	DOCUMENT NUMBER 128948	

PROJECT TITLE  
 CAPUCHINO HIGH SCHOOL PHOTOVOLTAIC PROJECT

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME SAN MATEO UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER (650) 558-2201
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS 650 NORTH DELAWARE STREET	CITY SAN MATEO	STATE CA
		ZIP CODE 94401

**PROJECT APPLICANT** (Check appropriate box)

Local Public Agency   
  School District   
  Other Special District   
  State Agency   
  Private Entity

**CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:**

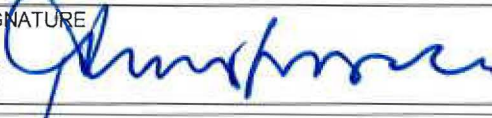
Environmental Impact Report (EIR) \$ 4,051.25 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND) \$ 2,916.75 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW \$ 1,377.25 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Exempt from fee  
      Notice of Exemption (attach)  
      CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)  
 Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)

Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only) \$ 850.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 County documentary handling fee \$ 50.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 50.00  
 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT METHOD:**

Cash     Credit     Check     Other

TOTAL RECEIVED \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 50.00

SIGNATURE X 	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE Henry Salgado Deputy Clerk
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**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: San Mateo  
555 County Center  
Redwood City, CA 94063-1665

From: (Public Agency): San Mateo Union High School District  
650 North Delaware Street  
San Mateo CA 94401

(Address)

FILED ENDORSED  
IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
COUNTY CLERK/RECORDER  
SAN MATEO COUNTY CALIF

JUN 25 2024

MARK CHURCH, County Clerk  
By Henry Salgado  
Deputy Clerk

Project Title: Capuchino High School Photovoltaic Project

Project Applicant: San Mateo Union High School District

Project Location - Specific:  
1501 Magnolia Avenue, Millbrae, CA

Project Location - City: Millbrae Project Location - County: San Mateo

**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:**

The District proposes to install four parking-lot-canopy photovoltaic (PV) systems in the school's western parking lot, with associated conduits and connections. 25 trees would be removed. The purpose of this project is to provide renewable electricity to the grid and reduce energy costs to the District.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: San Mateo Union High School District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: San Mateo 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));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15301 (existing facilities); 15311 (accessory)
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: 21080.35 (rooftop and parking lot solar system exempt)

**Reasons why project is exempt:**

Project would be a minor alteration of existing facilities (15301). Project also may be considered accessory structures to the existing institutional use (15311). Project would fall under parking lot and rooftop solar exemption assuming trees are not over 25 years old or protected by City standards. See discussion attached.

Lead Agency  
Contact Person: Yancy Hawkins Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 650-558-2201

**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?  Yes  No

Signature: [Signature] Date: 6/10/24 Title: Chief Business Officer

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: \_\_\_\_\_

# CAPUCHINO HIGH SCHOOL PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM PROJECT NOTICE OF EXEMPTION DISCUSSION

## **Project Description**

### *Existing Facilities*

Capuchino High School, located at 1501 Magnolia Avenue in Millbrae, CA, is owned and operated by the San Mateo Union High School District. The school is in a single-family residential neighborhood, with single family houses facing all sides of the campus.

The proposed solar array site is on an existing parking lot on the western edge of the school, adjacent to Millwood Drive.

### *Proposed Project*

The District proposes to install four parking lot canopy PV systems at the school's parking lot facing Millwood Drive. The canopy arrays would be 203' x 37', 230' x 37', and two 170' x 22', arrays. These would contain 270, 304, and 135 modules, respectively. These arrays would be tilted, ranging from 14 to 18 feet in height, with a minimum of 13'6" clearance beneath. Conduit would be run underground to existing electrical service and interconnection points, along with certain equipment improvements at those facilities. Up to 25 landscape trees would be removed from the parking lot and sidewalk frontage for canopy installation. The trees are a mixture of ages. There are mature trees that would be over 25 years of age and smaller trees under 25 years of age.

The purpose of this project is to provide renewable electricity to the grid and reduce energy costs to the District.

The project would be constructed over between August 12, 2024 and January of 2025. No new or expanded uses of the school facilities are proposed as part of this project. There is currently no overlap with any other project during this project.

## **Exemption Analysis**

### *Rooftop/Parking Lot Solar Exemption*

The project would qualify for exemption under the CEQA rooftop/parking lot statutory exemption (CEQA Statutes, Section 21080.35). This exemption applies to rooftop and parking lot photovoltaic systems located on the same parcel as the existing buildings, with associated equipment not occupying more than 500 sq. ft. and not containing protected plants.



This exemption does not apply if the associated equipment would otherwise require one of the following:

(1) An individual federal permit pursuant to Section 401 or 404 of the federal Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. Sec. 1341 or 1344) or waste discharge requirements pursuant to the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Division 7 (commencing with Section 13000) of the Water Code).

(2) An individual take permit for species protected under the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. Sec. 1531 et seq.) or the California Endangered Species Act (Chapter 1.5 (commencing with Section 2050) of Division 3 of the Fish and Game Code).

(3) A streambed alteration permit pursuant to Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 1600) of Division 2 of the Fish and Game Code.

(e) This section does not apply if the installation of a solar energy system at an existing parking lot involves either of the following:

(1) The removal of a tree required to be planted, maintained, or protected pursuant to local, state, or federal requirements, unless the tree dies and there is no requirement to replace the tree.

(2) The removal of a native tree over 25 years old.

(f) This section does not apply to any transmission or distribution facility or connection.

The project would conform with the requirements of this exemption, and none of the exceptions are present on the site.

#### Class 1 Exemption

The CEQA Class 1 Exemption (Existing Facilities - CEQA Guidelines, Section 15301) applies to repairs and maintenance of existing facilities including interior or exterior alterations involving no or negligible expansion of the facilities, and restoration and rehabilitation of deteriorated structures and facilities, as well as health and safety improvements. The Project qualifies for the Class 1 exemption because it involves the minor alteration of existing facilities at the school and would not expand the school capacity or its use. The Project would result in net environmental benefits by reducing traditional electrical energy consumption at the Property.

#### Class 11 Exemption

The CEQA Class 11 Exemption (Accessory Structures, CEQA Guidelines section 15311) applies to

construction or placement of minor structures accessory or appurtenant to existing commercial, industrial, or institutional facilities. The Project is also exempt from CEQA because it involves the construction of minor structures accessory to existing institutional facilities.

### Analysis of Possible Exceptions to Class 1 and Class 11 Exemptions

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. As noted above, no project construction may overlap with this construction. However, those are very small projects so no cumulatively significant impacts would be expected.
- **Scenic Highways.** This exception would apply if the project were to result in damage to scenic resources within a scenic highway corridor. There are no highways or roadways in the project area or from which the project area can be seen that are designated as Scenic or are eligible for scenic designation. The project would be visible in views from Millwood Drive, and residents of houses across Millwood would notice the tree removal and new solar arrays. While the change in views may not be desirable to some residents, because the site is urban and the arrays would be similar in scale to other development on the school site, this impact would not be considered potentially significant. There is no night lighting for construction, but there are canopy lights being installed for the project. These lights are photocells that turn on at night.
- **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. Although the Capuchino High School Campus is on a state database (database search performed May 13, 2024), contaminated soil was cleaned up between 2002 and 2004; no contamination is known to remain on the site:  
[http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/deliverable\\_documents/4602482438/Phase%201%20determination%20%28204084%29.pdf](http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/deliverable_documents/4602482438/Phase%201%20determination%20%28204084%29.pdf).  
Further, the contamination noted was in the former auto shop area, which is not near the parking lot where the solar arrays are proposed.
- **Historical Resources.** This exception would apply if the project were to potentially significantly adversely affect an historical resource. The proposed project would be in a parking lot adjacent to the school buildings. It would have no adverse effect on any potential historic attributes of any school buildings.
- **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 (which is a paved parking lot) 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 and 11 exemptions and, as detailed above, none of the exceptions to the exemption would apply. Therefore, this exemption would apply to the proposed project. The project also is within the parameters of the Section 21081.53 exemption and none of the exceptions to that exemption would apply.