

CEQA NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: County Clerk
County of Humboldt
825 5th Street
Eureka, CA 95501

Office of Planning Research
State Clearinghouse

FROM: City of Eureka, Lead Agency
Development Services - Planning
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PROJECT TITLE: Samoa Bridge Mural Lighting

PROJECT APPLICANT: City of Eureka Engineering Division of Public Works


PROJECT LOCATION: Underneath the southern end of the Samoa/Highway 255 Bridge in Eureka (APNs: 002-241-013 and 002-241-008)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The City is proposing to install two 8.7-inch (in) by 12.7-in LED flood lights at the top of each of the four bridge piers under the southern end of Highway 255 in Eureka: the three piers in the Samoa Boat Launch Facility parking lot and the one pier directly across Waterfront Drive to the south. The purpose of the lights is to shine down on the murals that have been painted on the piers with colored light that compliments the paintings (e.g. the predominantly purple mural will be illuminated with purple light). Electrical wiring for the lights will be attached to the bridge in compliance with Caltrans Bridge Standards until reaching 2nd Street where it will then be placed underground and powered from a photocell mounted at a Caltrans cabinet near the east side of the bridge abutment.

All work will occur along and under the existing bridge over 50 feet from Humboldt Bay. The lights will be shielded by the bridge and directed downward. Equipment for this project will include a trencher, boom truck, and man lift and all staging will occur within a paved parking lot. Ground disturbance for this project will consist of a 50-foot (ft) long 2-ft deep trench to attach the electrical wiring to the electrical box on the east side of the bridge abutment. During construction, no disruption to traffic, nearby residences and businesses will occur and overall public access within the construction area will be maintained.

EXEMPTION FINDINGS: The City of Eureka as Lead Agency has determined that the above described activity is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Lead Agency has further determined that the project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to a Class I categorical exemption (Sections 15301), which exempts the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use. The project involves minor alterations to an existing public facility (Samoa/Highway 255 Bridge) with no expansion or change in use. Further, the Lead Agency has determined that use of the categorical exemption is not barred by one of the exceptions set forth in Section 15300.2 of the CEQA Guidelines.

The material supporting the above finding is on file with the City of Eureka's Engineering Division of Public Works. Copies of the documents related to the evaluation of this project are available for review upon request at the City of Eureka, 531 K Street, Eureka, CA 95501.



Alexandra Gonzalez
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August 6, 2024
Date