

County of Riverside
Facilities Management
3450 14th St, Riverside, CA

FOR COUNTY CLERK USE ONLY

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

August 29, 2024

Project Name: Approval of First Amendment to Lease Agreement with SIC/LEED Civic Plaza, LLC, Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), Hemet

Project Number: FM042310003500

Project Location: 5470-561 North San Jacinto Street, north of East Oakland Avenue, Hemet, California 92543, Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 445-090-011

Description of Project: DPSS has operated its Adult and Children's Services Divisions at 547-561 N. San Jacinto, Hemet, since July 27, 2004. The current lease expires December 31, 2030 and the SIC/Leed Civic Plaza, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (Lessor) has proposed extending the lease through 2029. DPSS is agreeable to exercise the option to extend for five years commencing January 1, 2030. The Lessor will include \$500,000.00 in parking lot improvements as consideration for an earlier than typical renewal.

The First Amendment to the Lease Agreement is defined as the proposed project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The project is limited to the continued use of an existing building and no expansion of the existing facility will occur. The operation of the facility will continue to provide public services. No additional direct or indirect physical environmental impacts are anticipated.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Riverside County


Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Riverside County Facilities Management

Exempt Status: State CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, Class 1, Existing Facilities Exemption; Section 15061(b) (3), "Common Sense" Exemption. Codified under California Code of Regulations Title 14, Article 5, Section 15061.

Reasons Why Project is Exempt: The proposed project is categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA specifically by the State CEQA Guidelines as identified below. The project will not result in any specific or general exceptions to the use of the categorical exemption as detailed under State CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2. The project will not cause an impact to an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern nor would the project involve unusual circumstances that could potentially have a significant effect on the environment. The project would not result in impacts to scenic highways, hazardous waste sites, historic resources, or other sensitive natural environments, or have a cumulative effect to the environment. No significant environmental impacts are anticipated to occur with the First Amendment to the Lease Agreement, permitting use of an existing facility.

- **Section 15301 – Class 1 Existing Facilities Exemption:** This categorical exemption includes the operation, repair, maintenance, leasing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures or facilities, provided the exemption only involves negligible or no expansion of the previous site’s use. The project, as proposed, is limited to the continued use of an existing building. The project would not increase or expand the use of the site; and the use is limited to the continued use of the site in a similar capacity; therefore, the project is exempt as the project meets the scope and intent of the Class 1 Exemption identified in Section 15301, Article 19, Categorical Exemptions of the CEQA Guidelines.
- **Section 15061 (b) (3) – “Common Sense” Exemption:** In accordance with CEQA, the use of the Common Sense Exemption is based on the “general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.” State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15061(b) (3). The use of this exemption is appropriate if “it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment.” *Ibid*. This determination is an issue of fact and if sufficient evidence exists in the record that the activity cannot have a significant effect on the environment, then the exemption applies and no further evaluation under CEQA is required. See *No Oil, Inc. v. City of Los Angeles* (1974) 13 Cal. 3d 68. The ruling in this case stated that if a project falls within a category exempt by administrative regulation or 'it can be seen with certainty that the activity in question will not have a significant effect on the environment', no further agency evaluation is required. With certainty, there is no possibility that the project may have a significant effect on the environment. The First Amendment to the Lease Agreement is an administrative action to renew the Lease. No change will occur to the ongoing use of the facility and no new environmental impacts to the surrounding area would occur. Therefore, in no way, would the project as proposed have the potential to cause a significant environmental impact and the project is exempt from further CEQA analysis.

Therefore, the County of Riverside Facilities Management hereby concludes that no physical environmental impacts are anticipated to occur and the project as proposed is exempt under CEQA. No further environmental analysis is warranted.

Signed:  **Date:** 8-29-2024
Mike Sullivan,
County of Riverside, Facilities Management

RIVERSIDE COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER

**AUTHORIZATION
TO BILL
BY JOURNAL VOUCHER**

Project Name: DPSS 1st Amendment to Lease Agreement, 547-561 N. San Jacinto, Hemet

Accounting String: 524830-47220-7200400000 - FM042310003500


DATE: August 29, 2024

AGENCY: Riverside County Facilities Management (CEQARIVCOFM)

THIS AUTHORIZES THE COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER TO BILL FOR FILING AND HANDLING FEES FOR THE ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENT(S).

NUMBER OF DOCUMENTS INCLUDED: One (1)

AUTHORIZED BY: **Mike Sullivan, Facilities Management**

Signature: 

PRESENTED BY: **Heidi Rigler, Supervising Real Property Agent, Facilities Management**

-TO BE FILLED IN BY COUNTY CLERK-

ACCEPTED BY: -

DATE: -

RECEIPT # (S) -

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County of Riverside
Facilities Management
3450 14th St, Riverside, CA 92501

Date: August 29, 2024
To: Office of the County Clerk
From: Mike Sullivan, Facilities Management
Subject: **County of Riverside Facilities Management Project # FM042310003500**
DPSS 1st Amendment to Lease Agreement., 547-561 N. San Jacinto, Hemet

Riverside County Facilities Management is requesting that you post the attached Notice of Exemption. Attached you will find an authorization to bill by journal voucher for your posting fee.

After posting, please return the document to:

Mail Stop #2600

Attention: Mike Sullivan, Facilities Management,
3450 14th Street, Suite 303, Riverside, CA 92501

If you have any questions, please contact Mike Sullivan at 955-8009 or email at msullivan@rivco.org.

Attachment

cc: file