

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: Contra Costa

555 Escobar Street

Walnut Creek, CA 94596

From: (Public Agency): City of Walnut Creek - Lead Agency

1666 North Main Street

Walnut Creek, CA 94596

(Address)

(925) 943-5899 x 2217

Project Title: See attached

Project Applicant: City of Walnut Creek, 1666 N. Main St., Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Project Location - Specific:

(925) 943-5899 x 2217

Citywide

Project Location - City: Walnut Creek

Project Location - County: Contra Costa

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

See attached.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Walnut Creek, Ben Schuster (925) 943-5899 x 2217

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: City of Walnut Creek

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: _____
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____
- General Rule Exemption (Sec. 15061(b)(3))

2024-00344


FILED

October 4, 2024

KRISTIN B. CONNELLY
CLERK-RECORDER

Reasons why project is exempt:

See attached.

By 

F. Anonuevo
Deputy Clerk


Lead Agency

Contact Person: Ben Schuster

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 925-943-5899 x2217

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:  Date: 10/1/2024 Title: Assistant Community Development Director

■ 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: _____

Project Title:

Non-Residential Design Review Standards and Guidelines, Minor Revisions to the Residential and Mixed-use Design Review Standards and Guidelines, Amendments to the Municipal Code Incorporating New and Updated Non-residential Development Standards, Minor Revisions to Residential Development Standards, And Additional Refinements to the Design Review Process Including Amendments to the Outdoor Dining Ordinance and Outdoor Dining Policy

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Changes to California's housing laws require most new housing projects to be reviewed against objective standards. In addition, City stakeholders have identified a desire for streamlined City development processes, which includes design review, to increase clarity and efficiency. This aligns with the City Council's Economic Development and Job Creation priority which seeks ways to streamline the City's development processes. On July 18, 2023, and October 24, 2023, the Council provided specific policy direction to streamline the City's design review entitlement process and to update the role of the Design Review Commission (DRC). The City Council subsequently adopted the Residential and Mixed-Use Design Review Standards + Guidelines (Residential DRSGs) in May 2024 and extensive amendments to the Municipal Code in June 2024 incorporating new and revised objective residential development standards and a new design review process. The Council most recently adopted the Non-Residential Design Review Standards + Guidelines (Non-Residential DRSGs) on September 17, 2024, along with minor changes to the previously adopted Residential DRSGs. In addition, the Council adopted municipal code amendments on October 1, 2024, incorporating new and revised development standards for non-residential and residential developments, as well as additional refinements to the City's new design review entitlement process including the design review process for outdoor dining spaces.

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is exempt, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15061(b)(3), because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the project may have a significant impact on the environment. The adoption of the DRSGs and recommended Municipal Code amendments would only change the deciding body for various entitlements, and add new, or modify existing, design and development standards for non-residential development projects, which would not impact the physical allowances for development projects. These amendments would not approve any project or entitlements, and are regulatory actions taken by the City with no physical changes to the environment.



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

RECEIPT NUMBER:
 07-10/04/2024-344
 STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (If applicable)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY CITY OF WALNUT CREEK	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE 10/04/2024
COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING CONTRA COSTA COUNTY	DOCUMENT NUMBER 2024-00344	

PROJECT TITLE

NON-RESIDENTIAL DESIGN REVIEW STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES, MINOR REVISIONS TO THE RESIDENTIAL AND MIXED-USE DESIGN REVIEW STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES, AMENDMENTS TO THE MUNICIPAL CODE INCORPORATING NEW

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME CITY OF WALNUT CREEK	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER (925) 943-5899
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS 1666 N MAIN ST	CITY WALNUT CREEK	STATE CA
	ZIP CODE 94596	

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 <i>[Signature]</i>	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE Francesca Anonuevo Deputy Clerk
--	--

R# 92486