



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To:
Los Angeles County Clerk
Business Filing & Registration
12400 E Imperial Hwy, Room 1101
Norwalk, CA 90650

From:
City of Pasadena
Department of Planning and Community
Development
175 North Garfield Avenue
Pasadena, California 91101

Project Title: Maxwell House – CUP #7114

Project Applicant: Western Justice Center

Project Address: 55 South Grand Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91105

Project City: Pasadena **Project County:** Los Angeles

Project Description: The applicant, Western Justice Center, has submitted a Conditional Use Permit application to establish a Clubs, Lodges, Private Meeting Halls land use within an existing building (Maxwell House). The Western Justice Center proposes to use the Maxwell House as an event space for weddings, celebrations, and other private events with up to 18 events per calendar year. Proposed events would occur on Saturdays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. and Sundays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Events would be limited to the first-floor interior of the Maxwell House and adjacent outdoor areas at the rear of the building. No physical modifications will be made to the building.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Pasadena

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Western Justice Center

Exempt Status (Check one):

- Ministerial (California Public Resources Code, §21080(b)(1); California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 18, §15268)
 - Declared Emergency (California Public Resources Code, §21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
 - Emergency Project (California Public Resources Code, §21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))
 - Categorical Exemption (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 19, Class 1, §15301, Existing Facilities)
 - Statutory Exemption (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 18, §(#))
 - General Rule (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 5, §15061(b)(3))
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Reason why project is exempt: This project has been determined to be exempt from environmental review pursuant to the guidelines of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code §21080(b)(9); Administrative Code, Title 14, Chapter 3, §15301, Class 1, Existing Facilities), and there are no features that distinguish this project from others in the exempt class and, therefore, there are no unusual circumstances. Section 15301 exempts the operation, permitting, licensing or minor alteration of existing structures where there is negligible or no expansion of use. No expansion or alteration of the building or site is proposed with the project. The Western Justice Center has occupied the historic Maxwell House since 1989, and special events have occurred at the Maxwell House for approximately 15 years. A maximum of 18 events per year are proposed, with operational conditions of approval. The events proposed would be ancillary to the existing office use, occur during a limited time period on weekends, and represent an annual reduction when compared to previous years.

Lead Agency: City of Pasadena, Planning and Community Development Department
Contact Person: Joseph Weaver **Phone:** (626) 744-3813

COMPLETED BY: Joseph Weaver
TITLE: Planner
DATE: April 9, 2025

REVIEWED BY: Luis Rocha
TITLE: Planning Manager
DATE: April 9, 2025