

CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
 OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK  
 ROOM 395, CITY HALL  
 LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012  
 CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

# NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

(Article III, Section 3, City CEQA Guidelines)

FORM RP 1-1-91

Submission of this form is optional. This form shall be filed with the County Clerk, 12400 East Imperial Highway, Norwalk, California 90650, pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21152(b). Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21168(d), the filing of this notice starts a 35-day statute of limitation on Court challenges to the approval of the project. Failure to file this notice with the County Clerk results in the statute of limitation being extended to 180 days.

<b>LEAD CITY AGENCY AND ADDRESS:</b> City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, 221 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 400, Los Angeles, CA 90012	<b>COUNCIL DISTRICT:</b> 2
<b>PROJECT TITLE:</b> KESWICK PARK - Transfer of property and construction of a neighborhood park	<b>LOG REFERENCE:</b> PRJ21354, BR 22-026

**PROJECT LOCATION:** 1236 West Keswick, North Hollywood, CA 91605

**DESCRIPTION OF NATURE, PURPOSE, AND BENEFICIARIES OF PROJECT:**

the proposed Project consists of the transfer of a of a 5,714 square feet vacant city property from the General Services Department to the Department of Recreation and Parks with the objective of creating a neighborhood park. The property is currently unused, vacant and unimproved. Beneficiaries of the project are the neighbors.

<b>CONTACT PERSON:</b> ELENA MAGGIONI	<b>AREA CODE:</b> 213	<b>TELEPHONE NUMBER:</b> 482-6980	<b>EXT.:</b>
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<b>EXEMPT STATUS: (Check One)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> DECLARED EMERGENCY <input type="checkbox"/> EMERGENCY PROJECT <input type="checkbox"/> MINISTERIAL PROJECT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION <input type="checkbox"/> GENERAL EXEMPTION <input type="checkbox"/> STATUTORY EXEMPTION	<b>CITY CEQA GUIDELINES</b> Art. II, Sec. 2a(1) Art. II, Sec. 2(a)(2)(3) Art. II, Sec. 2b Art. II, Sec. 2(c) See Below Art. II, Sec. 2(d) Art. II, Sec. 2(i)	<b>STATE CEQA GUIDELINES</b> ART. 18, Sec. 15269(a) ART. 18, Sec. 15269(b)(c) ART. 18, Sec. 15268 ART. 19, Sec. 15300 -15333 ART. 18, Sec. 15262 ART. 18, Sec. 15282																								
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<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (See Public Resources Code Sect. 21080(b) and set forth in state & city guidelines provisions)																										

**JUSTIFICATION FOR PROJECT EXEMPTION:**

The proposed Project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1(3), Class 3(6), Class 4(3), Class 4(12) and Class 25 as well as to Chapter 19, Sections 15301(c), 15303, 15304(b), 15304(f) and 15325 of California CEQA Guidelines. None of the limitations set forth in State CEQA Guidelines 15300.2 apply, see attached narrative.

IF FILED BY APPLICANT, ATTACH CERTIFIED DOCUMENT OF EXEMPTION FINDING

<b>SIGNATURE:</b> ELENA MAGGIONI Environmental Supervisor		<b>DATE:</b> 1/19/2023
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<b>FEE \$75.00</b>	<b>RECEIPT NO.</b>	<b>REC'D. BY:</b>	<b>DATE:</b>
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# **KESWICK PARK - Transfer of property and construction of a neighborhood park**

## **CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION NARRATIVE**

### **I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

the proposed Project consists of the transfer of a of a 5,714 square feet vacant city property from the General Services Department to the Department of Recreation and Parks with the objective of creating a neighborhood park. The property is currentlu unused, vacant and unimproved. The scope of work for the construction of the proposed park includes:

- Installation of a new irrigation system and equipment (pipe, valves, heads, controllers, etc.);
- Planting new native plants to create an area with California friendly tree shrubs and ground cover materials;
- Installation of new play and fitness equipment;
- New benches and trash cans;
- Sidewalk improvemets.

The project is located at 1236 West Keswick, North Hollywood, CA 91605, in the Sun Valley - laTuna Canyon Community Planning Area (Fig.1).

### **II. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

#### **Basis for Categorical Exemption**

The proposed Project consists of:

- minor alteration of existing sidewalks;
- installation of accessory structures such as playgrounds and fences;
- landscaping and planting of new trees;
- trenching and backfilling where the surface is restored fences; and
- transfer of ownership of interests in land to preserve open space.

These activities are exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1(3), Class 3(6), Class 4(3), Class 4(12) and Class 25 as well as to Chapter 19, Sections 15301(c), 15303, 15304(b), 15304(f) and 15325 of California CEQA Guidelines.

#### **Consideration of Potential Exceptions to Use of a Categorical Exemption**

The State CEQA Guidelines (CCR Sec 15300.2) limit the use of categorical exemptions in the following circumstances:

**1. Location.** Exemption Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, and 11 are qualified by consideration of where the project is to be located – a project that is ordinarily insignificant in its impact on the environment may be significant in a particularly sensitive environment. Therefore, these classes are considered to apply to all instances, except where the project may impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.

The proposed project falls under Class 1, 3, 4, and 25 and could potentially constitute an exception to CEQA exemptions. According to the parcel profile report downloaded on

December 15, 2022, the proposed Project site is not within a coastal, liquefaction, methane, hazardous waste, or bordering zone so there is no reasonable possibility that the project will have a significant effect due to unusual circumstances. Therefore, the project does not impact on a recognized environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern, and this exception has no application here.

**2. Cumulative Impact.** This exception applies when, although a particular project may not have a significant impact, the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time is significant.

The proposed project consists of the construction of a new park. No other known projects would involve cumulatively significant impacts, and no future projects would result from the proposed project. Therefore, this exception has no application here.

**3. Significant Effect.** This exception applies when, although the project may otherwise be exempt, there is a reasonable possibility that the project will have a significant effect due to unusual circumstances.

RAP is not aware of any unusual circumstances associated with this project. Therefore, this exception has no application here.

**4. Scenic Highway.** A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project that may result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources, within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway.

The proposed project is not within sight of any state designated scenic highway, nor of any other historic and scenic resource. Therefore, this exception has no application here.

**5. Hazardous Waste Site.** This exception applies when a project is located on a site listed as a hazardous waste site under Government Code Section 65962.5.

As of December 15, 2022, the State Department of Toxic Substances Control (Envirostor at [www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov)) and the State Water Resources Control Board (Geotracker at <https://Geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov>) have not listed any site within the project area or in a 500 feet radius from the area. Therefore, this exception has no application here.

**6. Historical Resources.** This exception applies when a project may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

The proposed project area is not located in proximity of known historical, paleontological or archeological resources. The excavation required for the proposed Project will occur in already disturbed areas, and this office does not anticipate the disruption of archaeological or paleontological resources.

However, in case historical artifacts are encountered, City Engineer Standard Specifications, Section 6-3.2, (Greenbook, 2012) states: "If discovery is made of items of archaeological or paleontological interest, the Contractor shall immediately cease excavation in the area of discovery and shall not continue until ordered by the Engineer." Therefore, during activities in which there will be ground disturbances (i.e., digging, drilling, etc.) if any evidence of archaeological, cultural, or paleontological resources are found, all work within the vicinity of the find shall stop until a qualified archaeologist can assess the finds and make recommendations. No excavation of any finds should be attempted by Project personnel unless directed by a qualified archaeologist. Construction activities may continue in other areas. If the discovery proves significant under CEQA (Section 15064.5f; Public Resources Code or PRC 21082), additional work such as testing or data recovery may be warranted.

The discovery of human remains is always a possibility during ground disturbances; State of California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the Los Angeles County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to PRC Section 5097.98. The Los Angeles County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately. If the human remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission, which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendent (MLD). The MLD shall complete the inspection of the site within 48 hours of notification and may recommend scientific removal and nondestructive analysis of human remains and items associated with Native American burials.

Therefore, this exception has no application here.

**Figure 1. Project Location**



## List of References

California Regional Water Quality Control Board. *GeoTracker*. Retrieved, December 15, 2022, from [https:// geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov](https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov).

City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning Parcel Profile Report. Retrieved on December 15, 2022, from NavigateLA <http://boemaps.eng.ci.la.ca.us/navigate/la/>

City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Bureau of Engineering. *NavigateLA*. Retrieved on December 15, 2022 from <http://boemaps.eng.ci.la.ca.us/navigate/la/>

City of Los Angeles Environmental Quality Act Guidelines.

Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5

Los Angeles Municipal Code.

Public Resources Code Section 5097.98

Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction. Greenbook, 2012 edition.

State CEQA Guidelines.

State Department of Toxic Substances Control. *EnviroStor*. Retrieved December 15, 2022, from [www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov)

State Department of Transportation. *California Scenic Highway Mapping System.*, from <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/design/lap-landscape-architecture-and-community-livability/lap-liv-i-scenic-highways>