

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.

LEAD CITY AGENCY AND ADDRESS: City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, 221 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 400, Los Angeles, CA 90012	COUNCIL DISTRICT: 04
PROJECT TITLE: GRIFFITH PARK - Concession agreement for the redevelopment, operation and maintenance of the Park Center food and beverage concession	LOG REFERENCE: BR 23-036

PROJECT LOCATION: 4730 North Crystal Springs Drive, Los Angeles, CA, 90027

DESCRIPTION OF NATURE, PURPOSE, AND BENEFICIARIES OF PROJECT:

The proposed Project consists of a concession agreement between the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks and Rowena Partners LLC. For the redevelopment, operation and maintenance of the Park Center for food and beverage concession. The concession has a term of ten years with one five-year extension option exercisable at the sole discretion of the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) General Manager

Beneficiaries of the project are the patrons of the park.

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

Class	Category	(City CEQA Guidelines)	(State CEQA Guidelines)
1	1	Art. III, Sec(s). 1(a)(1)	Art. 19, Sec(s). 15301
1	14	Art. III, Sec(s). 1(a)(14)	Art. 19, Sec(s). _____
11	6	Art. III, Sec(s). 1(k)(6)	Art. 19, Sec(s). 15311
_____	_____	Art. III, Sec(s). _____	Art. 19, Sec(s). _____
_____	_____	Art. III, Sec(s). _____	Art. 19, Sec(s). _____

OTHER (See Public Resources Code Sect. 21080(b) and set forth in state & city guidelines provisions)

JUSTIFICATION FOR PROJECT EXEMPTION:

The proposed Project is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1(1), Class 1 (14) and Class 11(6) of City CEQA Guidelines as well as to Article 19, Section 15301 and 15311 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

SIGNATURE: ELENA MAGGIONI Environmental Supervisor		DATE: 2/2/2023
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FEE \$75.00	RECEIPT NO.	REC'D. BY:	DATE:
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GRIFFITH PARK - Concession agreement for the redevelopment, operation and maintenance of the Park Center food and beverage concession

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION NARRATIVE

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed Project consists of a concession agreement between the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks and Rowena Partners LLC. For the redevelopment, operation and maintenance of the Park Center for food and beverage concession. The concession has a term of ten years with one five-year extension option exercisable at the sole discretion of the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) General Manager

The Park Center Food and Beverage Concession (Park Center) is comprised of an approximate 800 square foot building with an outdoor patio area located on the south side of the facility. The building includes a main room, featuring a service counter and windows, a small restroom and a utility room. The snack stand is currently vacant and has not been operational for decades.

The new concessionaire will clear the building of old equipment, fixtures, and debris and will replace it with new equipment, fixtures, materials, utilities and lighting. A pass-through window will be installed on the north wall between the kitchen service area and back prep area. A gender-neutral ADA compliant bathroom will be constructed within the current footprint of the building.

They will create a new outdoor seating area to the south of the building. The seating area will be defined by a newly constructed wooden fence for a rustic feel. The perimeter of the seating area will be lined with planters of native, drought tolerant plants. Tables, chairs, and benches with umbrellas will be available for customers. Additionally, Wi-Fi will be installed at the concession for patrons' use.

The project is located at 4730 North Crystal Springs Drive, Los Angeles, CA, 90027, in the Hollywood Community Planning Area (Fig.1).

II. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Basis for Categorical Exemption

The proposed Project consists of interior and exterior alterations involving remodeling or minor construction where there be negligible or no expansion of use, issuance of a license to use an existing facility involving negligible or no expansion of use and construction and placement of minor structures accessory to (appurtenant to) existing commercial facilities.

These actions are categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1(1), Class 1 (14) and Class 11(6) of City CEQA Guidelines as well as to Article 19, Section 15301 and 15311 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, and 11, and could potentially constitute an exception to CEQA exemptions. According to the parcel profile report retrieved on August 11, 2022, this area is not in a coastal or methane zone. It resides in a liquefaction zone, but the implementation and operation of this Project will not create conditions that could lead to liquefaction. 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 a concession agreement for an existing snack stand. No other known projects would involve cumulatively significant impacts, and if future projects, now unpredictable, would result from the proposed project they will be evaluated according to the California Environmental Quality Act. 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 August 11, 2023, the State Department of Toxic Substances Control (Envirostor at 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.

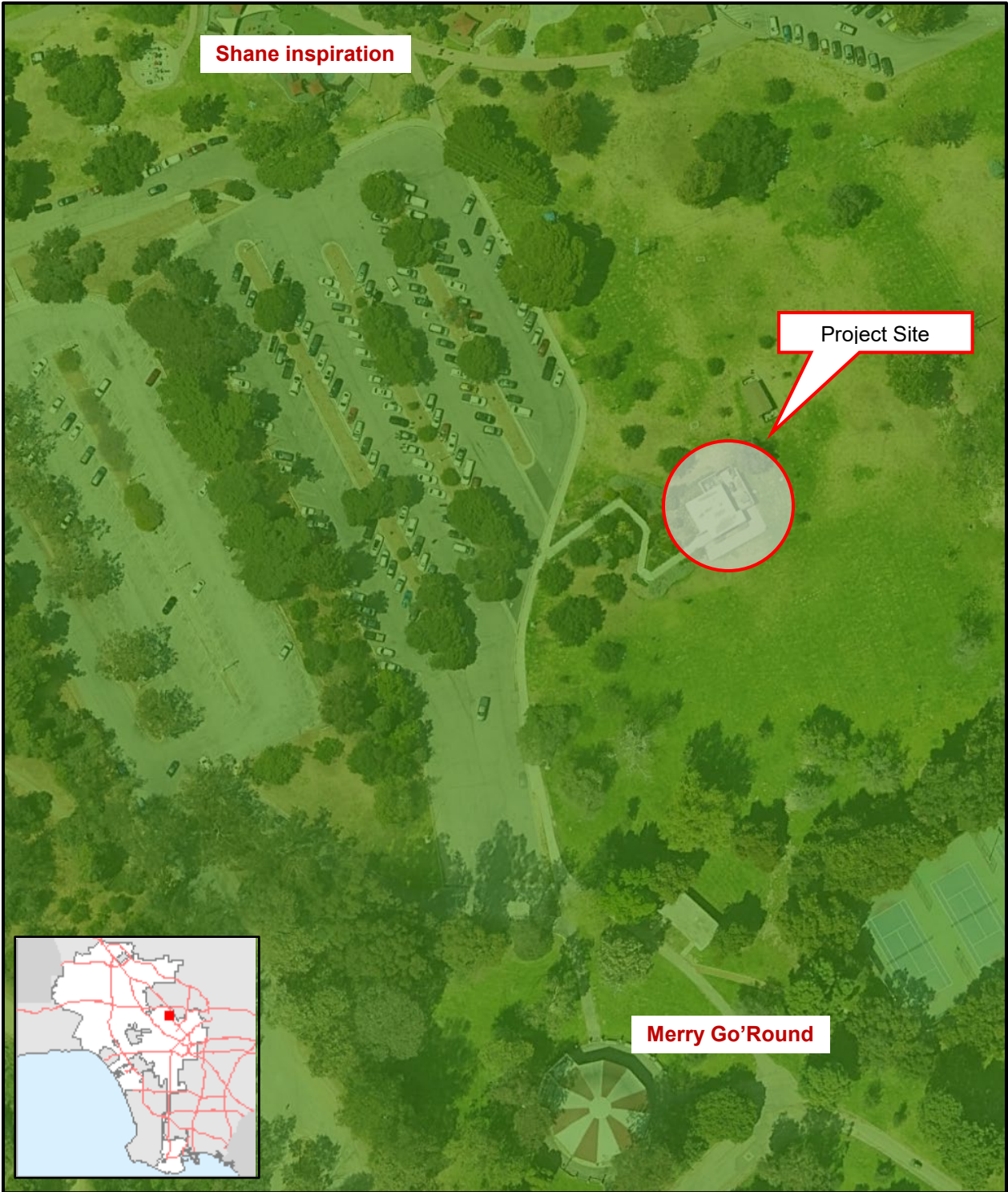
The proposed project area is not located within Griffith Park, a Historic Cultural Monument of the City of Los Angeles (HCM #942). The building is not one of the contributing elements to the determination of the historic significance of the park and its remodeling will not cause a substantial adverse change in the historical significance of the park. 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



GRIFFITH PARK - Concession agreement for the redevelopment, operation and maintenance of the Park Center food and beverage concession

List of References

California Regional Water Quality Control Board. *GeoTracker*. Retrieved, August 11, 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 August 11, 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 August 11, 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 August 11, 2022, from 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>