

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: Los Angeles
12400 Imperial Highway

Norwalk, CA

From: (Public Agency): _____
Long Beach Unified School District
2425 Webster Avenue, Long Beach CA 90810

(Address)

Project Title: Carver HVAC

Project Applicant: Long Beach Unified School District

Project Location - Specific: 5335 E Pavo St, Long Beach, CA 90808

Please see Attachment A for project location.

Project Location - City: Long Beach Project Location - County: Los Angeles

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: HVAC installation in all classrooms, offices and support spaces (including Auditorium, Cafeteria and Kitchen) located in permanent buildings on site, Accessibility upgrades to path of travel, parking, restrooms per current building code, Utility systems upgrades (e.g. electrical, low voltage, water, sewer, etc.) as required to support HVAC installation, Hardware upgrades (e.g. LED lighting, Extron audio-visual system, overhead projectors, etc.), Upgrades to building finishes (e.g. new ceilings, flooring, painting), New tactile signage required throughout the campus for rooms and exits. The entire campus will undergo building/room re-numbering per current District standards. Door replacement as required, Campus-wide Fire Alarm upgrades, Seismic upgrades, if required, per DSA IR EB-4, Irrigation, sewer line upgrades, trenching for power conduits, roof upgrades, and scope recommendations derived from Measure Q in the 2022 Facilities Master Plan. Also a campus wide electrical upgrade.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Long Beach Unified School District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Long Beach Unified School District

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: \$15301, \$15302, \$15304, \$15314

☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt: See Attachment A and Attachment B

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Dana Grudem Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 562-997-7550

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: _____ Title: Senior Program Manager

☒ 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: _____

**LBUSD HVAC Modernization Project
Notice of Exemption (NOE)
Carver ES**

The Long Beach Unified School District (District), as the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), proposes to continue the bond measure improvements at George Washington Carver Elementary School through the proposed all-campus HVAC and modernization project.

Project Location

Carver ES is located at 5335 E Pavo St, Long Beach, CA 90808. The school campus is north of Interstate 405 and east of Rte 19 in the northeast corner of the intersection between East Pavo St and Rutgers Ave. The school site is bounded by East Pavo St to the south, Rutgers Ave to the west, East Pageantry St to the north, and Montair Ave to the east.

Description of Project

HVAC installation in all classrooms, offices and support spaces (including Auditorium, Cafeteria and Kitchen) located in permanent buildings on site, Accessibility upgrades to path of travel, parking, restrooms per current building code, Utility systems upgrades (e.g. electrical, low voltage, water, sewer, etc.) as required to support HVAC installation, Hardware upgrades (e.g. LED lighting, Extron audio-visual system, overhead projectors, etc.), Upgrades to building finishes (e.g. new ceilings, flooring, painting), New tactile signage required throughout the campus for rooms and exits. The entire campus will undergo building/room re-numbering per current District standards. Door replacement as required, Campus-wide Fire Alarm upgrades, Seismic upgrades, if required, per DSA IR EB-4, Irrigation, sewer line upgrades, trenching for power conduits, roof upgrades, and scope recommendations derived from Measure Q in the 2022 Facilities Master Plan. Also a campus wide electrical upgrade.

Reasons why project is exempt

The proposed activity is a project subject to CEQA. However, it is exempt from further environmental analysis under a Class 1, Existing Facilities (CEQA Guidelines §15301), Class 2, Replacement or Reconstruction (CEQA Guidelines §15302), Class 4 Minor Alterations to Land (CEQA Guidelines §15304), and Class 14 Minor Additions to Schools (CEQA Guidelines §15314).

- Class 1 categorical exemption consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination.
- Class 2 consists of the replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity of the structure replaced.
- Class 4 consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees.
- Class 14 consists of minor additions to existing schools within existing school grounds where the addition does not increase original student capacity by more than 25% or ten classrooms, whichever is less.

The Proposed Project will result in installation of HVAC and modernization of the existing campus. The improvements will not involve an increase in student capacity, and include minor additions to an existing school campus. Therefore, the application of Class 1, Class 2, Class 4, and Class 14 categorical exemptions is appropriate for the Proposed Project. The Proposed Project does not have the potential to trigger any of the exceptions identified in CEQA Guidelines §15300.2. Consequently, as documented below, the Proposed Project is exempt from further CEQA review.

- (a) **Location.** The Project site has not been designated as a biologically sensitive site or a location and does not contain sensitive resources or habitat that will be impacted by the Project. The Project will occur on an existing campus that is located within an urban setting
- (b) **Cumulative Impact.** The Project will not be expected to result in significant cumulative environmental impacts. There are no known successive projects of the same type or scale planned for the site.
- (c) **Significant Effect.** All aspects of this project are considered routine and will occur within school grounds and in building interiors. Also, normal operations will be similar and consistent with current uses within the project boundary.

The proposed project is located within a disturbed, urbanized environment in Long Beach. The proposed project will not involve the removal of any vegetation or scenic trees, nor would it impact any scenic vistas in the immediate area. No reasonable possibility exists that the Proposed Project would have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances. This exception does not apply to this Project.

- (d) **Scenic Highways.** Carver ES is not close to any scenic highways. The closest scenic highway is Highway 1 but that Highway is over 1.7 miles away and the section closest to the project site is not scenic.
- (e) **Hazardous Waste Sites.** The Project will occur on an existing school campus, which is not on any list of hazardous waste sites. Therefore, the Project will not have an impact related to being located on a hazardous waste site.
- (f) **Historical Resources.** As part of the District-Wide Cultural Resources Assessment, PCR services recommended that Carver ES is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or the California Register of Historic Resources (CRHR) (LBUSD 2017). Therefore, this exception does not apply to the Notice of Exemption.

References:

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). 2022. California Scenic Highway Mapping System. Online URL: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/design/lap-landscape-architecture-and-community-livability/lap-liv-i-scenic-highways>

State Water Resources Control Board. 2022. GeoTracker Database. Online URL: <https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov>

Department of Toxic Substances Control. 2022. EnviroStor Database. Online URL: <http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/>

Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD). 2017. Cultural Resource Assessment for Long Beach Unified School District. Online URL: <http://lbschoolbonds.net/pdfs/lbusd-part1-historic-resources-report-20170206-web.pdf>

Attachment B

NOE Attachment B

5335 E. Pavo St. Long Beach, CA 90808

