

**Riverside County**  
**Facilities Management**  
3450 14<sup>th</sup> St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Riverside, CA 92501

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

June 10, 2025

**Project Name:** Riverside County Flood Control (Flood Control) District Office Tenant Improvements (TI) Project

**Project Number:** FM08947014286

**Project Location:** 1995 Market Street, north of State Route 60, Riverside, CA 92501, Assessor's Parcel Number (APN): 207-090-015

**Description of Project:** The Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District's (District) main office is located at 1995 Market Street in Riverside, California, 92501 and provides a multitude of essential services to the County, residents, and businesses. The District's campus includes two main buildings constructed in early 1990's totaling 62,000 square feet of office space that are in need of interior modifications to accommodate their personnel growth while enhancing operational efficiency. The proposed scope of work for the Flood Control and Water Conservation TI Project (Project) includes, but is not limited to, improvements to open spaces and private offices, public service lobby, restrooms, breakrooms, conference rooms, telecom room and other interior office spaces. The Project will provide new cubicles, replace flooring, repaint walls and ceilings, replace ceiling tiles, modify the Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC), electrical, plumbing, fire sprinklers, audio-visual and electronic card access systems, and other improvements bringing the facility up to code compliance. The tenant improvements within the existing Flood Control buildings are identified as the project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). No direct or indirect physical environmental impacts are anticipated from the replacement chiller.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Riverside County

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Riverside County Facilities Management

**Exempt Status:** State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, Section 15301 Existing Facilities Exemption; and 15061(b) (3), General Rule or "Common Sense" Exemption, Codified under Title 14, Articles 5 and 19, Sections 15061 and 15301.

**Reasons Why Project is Exempt:** The proposed project is categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA specifically by the State CEQA Guidelines as identified below. The project will not result in any specific or general exceptions to the use of the categorical exemption as detailed under State CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2. The project will not cause an impact to an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern nor would the project include unusual circumstances which could have the possibility of having a significant effect on the environment. The project would not result in impacts to scenic highways, hazardous waste sites, historic resources, or other sensitive natural environments, or have a cumulative effect to the environment. No significant environmental impacts are anticipated to occur with the tenant improvements at the Flood Control District Office.

- **Section 15301 (b)–Existing Facilities:** This Class 1 categorical exemption includes the operation, repair, maintenance, leasing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures or facilities, provided the exemption only involves negligible or no expansion of the previous site’s use. The project, as proposed, is limited to minor interior improvements at an existing facility. The interior improvements within the existing two buildings would result in the continued provision public services and would not result in a significant increase in capacity or intensity of use. Therefore, the project is exempt as it meets the scope and intent of the Categorical Exemption identified in Section 15301, Article 19, Categorical Exemptions of the CEQA Guidelines.
- **Section 15061 (b) (3) – “Common Sense” Exemption:** In accordance with CEQA, the use of the Common Sense Exemption is based on the “general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.” State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15061(b) (3). The use of this exemption is appropriate if “it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment.” *Ibid*. This determination is an issue of fact and if sufficient evidence exists in the record that the activity cannot have a significant effect on the environment, then the exemption applies and no further evaluation under CEQA is required. See *No Oil, Inc. v. City of Los Angeles* (1974) 13 Cal. 3d 68. The ruling in this case stated that if a project falls within a category exempt by administrative regulation or 'it can be seen with certainty that the activity in question will not have a significant effect on the environment', no further agency evaluation is required. With certainty, there is no possibility that the project may have a significant effect on the environment. The proposed the tenant improvements at the Flood Control District Office will not result in any direct or indirect physical environmental impacts. The improvements to improve operational efficiency would occur at an existing facility, would not alter the footprints and are being completed to provide for safe and efficient operation of the public facility. The use of the facility would remain unchanged. Therefore, in no way, would the project as proposed have the potential to cause a significant environmental impact and the project is exempt from further CEQA analysis.

Based upon the identified exemptions above, the County of Riverside, Facilities Management hereby concludes that no physical environmental impacts are anticipated to occur and the project as proposed is exempt under CEQA. No further environmental analysis is warranted.

Signed:  \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 6-10-2025

Mike Sullivan, Senior Environmental Planner  
County of Riverside, Facilities Management