

COUNTY CLERK'S USE

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
 OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
 200 NORTH SPRING STREET, ROOM 395
 LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION
 (PRC Section 21152; CEQA Guidelines Section 15062)

Pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21152(b) and CEQA Guidelines § 15062, the notice should be posted with the County Clerk by mailing the form and posting fee payment to the following address: Los Angeles County Clerk/Recorder, Environmental Notices, P.O. Box 1208, Norwalk, CA 90650. Pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21167 (d), the posting of this notice starts a 35-day statute of limitations on court challenges to reliance on an exemption for the project. Failure to file this notice as provided above, results in the statute of limitations being extended to 180 days.

PARENT CASE NUMBER(S) / REQUESTED ENTITLEMENTS
 ZA-1996-18445-PAD-PA4

LEAD CITY AGENCY City of Los Angeles (Department of City Planning)	CASE NUMBER ENV-2024-3536-CE
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PROJECT TITLE Plan Approval	COUNCIL DISTRICT 5
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PROJECT LOCATION (Street Address and Cross Streets and/or Attached Map) 2785, 2845, and 2791 N. Casiano Road	<input type="checkbox"/> Map attached.
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Additional page(s) attached.
 Plan approval to allow the continued operation of a private school with the reduction of 4,804 square feet which is being conveyed from the total lot area.

NAME OF APPLICANT / OWNER:
Sarah Shulkind- Milken Community School

CONTACT PERSON (If different from Applicant/Owner above) Chris Parker- Pacific Crest Consultants	(AREA CODE) TELEPHONE NUMBER EXT. (818)591-9309
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EXEMPT STATUS: (Check all boxes, and include all exemptions, that apply and provide relevant citations.)

STATE CEQA STATUTE & GUIDELINES

STATUTORY EXEMPTION(S)
 Public Resources Code Section(s) _____

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION(S) (State CEQA Guidelines Sec. 15301-15333 / Class 1-Class 33)
 CEQA Guideline Section(s) / Class(es) **15301, Class 1 (Existing Facilities)**

OTHER BASIS FOR EXEMPTION (E.g., CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) or (b)(4) or Section 15378(b))

JUSTIFICATION FOR PROJECT EXEMPTION: Additional page(s) attached
 Class 1 consists of the operation of existing private structures involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use.

None of the exceptions in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 to the categorical exemption(s) apply to the Project.
 The project is identified in one or more of the list of activities in the City of Los Angeles CEQA Guidelines as cited in the justification.

IF FILED BY APPLICANT, ATTACH CERTIFIED DOCUMENT ISSUED BY THE CITY PLANNING DEPARTMENT STATING THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAS FOUND THE PROJECT TO BE EXEMPT.
 If different from the applicant, the identity of the person undertaking the project.

CITY STAFF USE ONLY:

CITY STAFF NAME AND SIGNATURE Tiffany Corrales <i>Tiffany Corrales</i>	STAFF TITLE Planning Assistant
ENTITLEMENTS APPROVED	

**DEPARTMENT OF
CITY PLANNING**

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CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

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JUSTIFICATION FOR PROJECT EXEMPTION CASE NO. ENV-2024-3536-CE

2785, 2845, and 2791 N. Casiano Road

Project Description

The Project located at 2785, 2845, and 2791 N. Casiano Road will be analyzed for the purpose of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to allow the continued operation of a private school with the reduction of 4,804 square feet which is being conveyed from the total lot. The Project is in compliance with the Baseline Hillside Ordinance and requires no further discretionary actions. The project does not propose grading or the removal of any trees. As a private institution and the reduction of lot are, this Project qualifies for Class 15301 Categorical Exemption.

The Project is for a Plan Approval to allow the continued operation of a private school with the reduction of 4,804 square feet which is being conveyed from the total lot area of 943,027 square feet via Parcel Map Exemption Case No. AA-2021-10362-PMEX to the adjacent property located at 15523 Casiano Court (APN: 4378-033-016). The project is in the Inner and Outer Corridors and is subject to the Baseline Hillside Ordinance. The project site is upslope and Visible from the Mulholland Drive right-of-way. The project does not propose any grading or the removal of any trees.

CEQA Section 15300.2: Exceptions to the Use of Categorical Exemptions.

The City has considered whether the Proposed Project is subject to any of the six (6) exceptions that would prohibit the use of a categorical exemption as set forth in State CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2. The six (6) exceptions to this Exemption are: (a) Location; (b) Cumulative Impacts; (c) Significant Effect; (d) Scenic Highways; (e) Hazardous Waste Sites; and (f) Historical Resources.

Location. *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 in a particularly sensitive environment be significant. Therefore, these classes are considered to apply in 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 subject site is located 3.9 Kilometers from the Hollywood Fault, in a Hillside Area, is identified as a, Urban Agricultural Incentive Zone, Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone, and BOE Special Grading Area; however, specific Regulatory Compliance Measures (RCMs) in the City of Los Angeles regulate the grading and construction of projects in these particular types of "sensitive" locations and will reduce any potential impacts to less than significant. Specifically, the following RCMs would apply:

- **Regulatory Compliance Measure RC-GEO-1 (Seismic):** The design and construction of the project shall conform to the California Building Code seismic standards as approved by the Department of Building and Safety.
- **Regulatory Compliance Measure RC-GEO-2 (Hillside Grading Area):** The grading plan shall conform with the City's Landform Grading Manual guidelines, subject to approval by the Advisory Agency and the Department of Building and Safety's Grading Division. Appropriate erosion control and drainage devices shall be provided to the satisfaction of the Building and Safety Department. These measures include interceptor terraces, berms, vee-channels, and inlet and outlet structures, as specified by Section 91.7013 of the Building Code, including planting fast-growing annual and perennial grasses in areas where construction is not immediately planned.
- **Regulatory Compliance Measure RC-GEO-3 (Landslide Area):** Prior to the issuance of grading or building permits, the applicant shall submit a geotechnical report, prepared by a registered civil engineer or certified engineering geologist, to the Department of Building and Safety, for review and approval. The geotechnical report shall assess potential consequences of any landslide and soil displacement, estimation of settlement, lateral movement or reduction in foundation soil-bearing capacity and discuss mitigation measures that may include building design consideration. Building design considerations shall include, but are not limited to:
 - ground stabilization
 - selection of appropriate foundation type and depths
 - selection of appropriate structural systems to accommodate anticipated displacements or any combination of these measures.

The project shall comply with the conditions contained within the Department of Building and Safety's Geology and Soils Report Approval Letter dated December 13, 2021, for the proposed project, and as it may be subsequently amended or modified.

- **Regulatory Compliance Measure RC-GEO-4 (Liquefaction Area):** The project shall comply with the Uniform Building Code Chapter 18. Division 1 Section 1804.5 Liquefaction Potential and Soil Strength Loss. Prior to the issuance of grading or building permits, the applicant shall submit a geotechnical report, prepared by a registered civil engineer or certified engineering geologist, to the Department of Building and Safety, for review and approval. The geotechnical report shall assess potential consequences of any liquefaction and soil strength loss, estimation of settlement, lateral movement or reduction in foundation soil-bearing capacity and discuss mitigation measures that may include building design consideration. Building design considerations shall include, but are not limited to:
 - ground stabilization

- selection of appropriate foundation type and depths
- selection of appropriate structural systems to accommodate anticipated displacements or any combination of these measures.

The project shall comply with the conditions contained within the Department of Building and Safety's Geology and Soils Report Approval Letter for the proposed project, and as it may be subsequently amended or modified.

- **Regulatory Compliance Measure RC-GEO-5 (Subsidence Area):** Prior to the issuance of building or grading permits, the applicant shall submit a geotechnical report prepared by a registered civil engineer or certified engineering geologist to the written satisfaction of the Department of Building and Safety. The geotechnical report shall assess potential consequences of any subsidence and soil strength loss, estimation of settlement, lateral movement or reduction in foundation soil-bearing capacity and discuss mitigation measures that may include building design consideration. Building design considerations shall include but are not limited to ground stabilization, selection of appropriate foundation type and depths, selection of appropriate structural systems to accommodate anticipated displacements or any combination of these measures. The project shall comply with the conditions contained within the Department of Building and Safety's Geology and Soils Report Approval Letter for the proposed project, and as it may be subsequently amended or modified.
- **Regulatory Compliance Measure RC-GEO-6 (Expansive Soils Area):** Prior to the issuance of grading or building permits, the applicant shall submit a geotechnical report, prepared by a registered civil engineer or certified engineering geologist, to the Department of Building and Safety, for review and approval. The geotechnical report shall assess potential consequences of any soil expansion and soil strength loss, estimation of settlement, lateral movement or reduction in foundation soil-bearing capacity and discuss mitigation measures that may include building design consideration. Building design considerations shall include but are not limited to ground stabilization, selection of appropriate foundation type and depths, selection of appropriate structural systems to accommodate anticipated displacements or any combination of these measures. The project shall comply with the conditions contained within the Department of Building and Safety's Geology and Soils Report Approval Letter for the proposed project, and as it may be subsequently amended or modified.
- **Regulatory Compliance Measure RC-AE-1 (Hillside): Compliance with Baseline Hillside Ordinance.** To ensure consistency with the Baseline Hillside Ordinance, the project shall comply with the City's Hillside Development Guidelines, including but not limited to setback requirements, residential floor area maximums, height limits, lot coverage and grading restrictions.
- **Regulatory Compliance Measure RC-AQ-1 (Demolition, Grading and Construction Activities): Compliance with provisions of the SCAQMD District Rule 403.** The project shall comply with all applicable standards of the Southern California Air Quality Management District, including the following provisions of District Rule 403:
 - All unpaved demolition and construction areas shall be wetted at least twice daily during excavation and construction, and temporary dust covers shall be used to reduce dust emissions and meet SCAQMD District Rule 403. Wetting could reduce fugitive dust by as much as 50 percent.

- The construction area shall be kept sufficiently dampened to control dust caused by grading and hauling, and at all times provide reasonable control of dust caused by wind.
- All clearing, earth moving, or excavation activities shall be discontinued during periods of high winds (i.e., greater than 15 mph), so as to prevent excessive amounts of dust.
- All dirt/soil loads shall be secured by trimming, watering or other appropriate means to prevent spillage and dust.
- All dirt/soil materials transported off-site shall be either sufficiently watered or securely covered to prevent excessive amounts of dust.
- General contractors shall maintain and operate construction equipment so as to minimize exhaust emissions.
- Trucks having no current hauling activity shall not idle but be turned off.
- **Regulatory Compliance Measure RC-NOI-1 (Noise Ordinance):** The project shall conform with the City's noise regulations that have taken effect pursuant to Ordinance 144,331 et sequentia. These measures include but are not limited to LAMC Section 41.40 for Construction Noise, LAMC Section 113.01 for Rubbish and Garbage Collection, LAMC Section 114.0 for Vehicle loading or unloading (Deliveries), LAMC Section 112.01(c) for Noise Emitting.
- **Regulatory Compliance Measure RC-WQ-1: National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit.** Prior to issuance of a grading permit, the Applicant shall obtain coverage under the State Water Resources Control Board National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System No. CAS000002) (Construction General Permit) for Phase 1 of the proposed Modified Project. The Applicant shall provide the Waste Discharge Identification Number to the City of Los Angeles to demonstrate proof of coverage under the Construction General Permit. A Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan shall be prepared and implemented for the proposed Modified Project in compliance with the requirements of the Construction General Permit. The Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan shall identify construction Best Management Practices to be implemented to ensure that the potential for soil erosion and sedimentation is minimized and to control the discharge of pollutants in stormwater runoff as a result of construction activities.
- **Regulatory Compliance Measure RC-WQ-2: Dewatering.** If required, any dewatering activities during construction shall comply with the requirements of the Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Groundwater from Construction and Project Dewatering to Surface Waters in Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties (Order No. R4-2008-0032, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System No. CAG994004) or subsequent permit. This will include submission of a Notice of Intent for coverage under the permit to the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board at least 45 days prior to the start of dewatering and compliance with all applicable provisions in the permit, including water sampling, analysis, and reporting of dewatering-related discharges.
- **Regulatory Compliance Measure RC-WQ-3: Low Impact Development Plan.** Prior

to issuance of grading permits, the Applicant shall submit a Low Impact Development Plan and/or Standard Urban Stormwater Mitigation Plan to the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation Watershed Protection Division for review and approval. The Low Impact Development Plan and/or Standard Urban Stormwater Mitigation Plan shall be prepared consistent with the requirements of the Development Best Management Practices Handbook.

- **Regulatory Compliance Measure RC-WQ-4: Development Best Management Practices.** The Best Management Practices shall be designed to retain or treat the runoff from a storm event producing 0.75 inch of rainfall in a 24-hour period, in accordance with the Development Best Management Practices Handbook Part B Planning Activities. A signed certificate from a licensed civil engineer or licensed architect confirming that the proposed Best Management Practices meet this numerical threshold standard shall be provided.

These RCMs have been historically proven to work to the satisfaction of the City Engineer to reduce any impacts from the specific environment in which the Project is located. In addition, all haul routes applications require the submittal of a Geology and Soils Report to the Department of Building and Safety (DBS). In addition, roof and site drainage as well as sewer availability must comply with Bureau of Engineering and Bureau of Sanitation standards; and hydrants, Fire Department Access, and Fire Safety must be reviewed and approved by the Los Angeles Fire Department before permits can be issued. Furthermore, the project must comply with the Baseline Hill Ordinance No. 181, 624 adopted after May 9, 2011, Modifications to Single-Family Zones and Single-Family Zone Hillside Area Regulations ZI-2462 effective March 17, 2017 and State Enterprise Zone ZI-2374. Thus, in conjunction with the above RCMs and compliance with other applicable regulations, the location of the Project's will not result in a significant impact based on its location.

Cumulative Impacts. *All exemptions for these classes are inapplicable when the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time is significant.*

The project does not propose any grading or construction.

Significant Effect. *A categorical exemption shall not be used for an activity where there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.*

The project does not propose any grading or tree removals. Thus, there are no unusual circumstances which may lead to a significant effect on the environment, and this exception does not apply.

The Project proposes to allow for the continued operation of a private school with the reduction of 4,804 square feet which is being conveyed from the total lot area in an area zoned and designated for such development. Adjacent lots are developed with single-family dwellings and private institutions. The Project does not propose any improvements to the existing facilities. Thus, there are no unusual circumstances which may lead to a significant effect on the environment, and this exception does not apply.

Scenic Highways. *A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which 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 only State Scenic Highway within the City of Los Angeles is the Topanga Canyon State Scenic Highway, State Route 27, which travels through a portion of Topanga State Park. The project is approximately 8 miles east of State Route 27. Therefore, the project will not result in damage to any 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, and this exception does not apply.

Hazardous Waste. *A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.*

According to Envirostor, the State of California's database of Hazardous Waste Sites, neither the subject site, nor any site in the vicinity, is identified as a hazardous waste site. Furthermore, the building permit history for the Project Site does not indicate the Site may be hazardous or otherwise contaminated and this exception does not apply.

Historic Resources. *A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.*

The Project Site has not been identified as a historic resource by local or state agencies, and the project site has not been determined to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, California Register of Historical Resources, the Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments Register, and/or any local register; and was not found to be a potential historic resource based on the City's HistoricPlacesLA website or SurveyLA, the citywide survey of Los Angeles. Finally, the City does not choose to treat the Site as a historic resource. Based on this, the project will not result in a substantial adverse change to the significance of a historic resource and this exception does not apply.

CEQA Determination – Class 1 Categorical Exemption Applies

The project qualifies for Class 1 Categorical Exemption because it consists of the operation of existing private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use.