2025-00254

FILED

September 11, 2025

KRISTIN B. CONNELLY
CLERK-RECORDER

By Lg

L. Graham
Deputy Clerk

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

Notice of Exemption

To: ☒ Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

☒ County Clerk, County of Contra Costa

From: Contra Costa County
Department of Conservation and Development
30 Muir Road
Martinez, CA 94553

Project Title: Brookside Mental Health Rehabilitation Center, Project #: WW1060, CP# 25-22

Project Applicant: Contra Costa County Public Works Dept., 255 Glacier Drive, Martinez CA 94553, (925) 313-2000, Contact: Shravan Sundaram, (925) 313-2366, shravan.sundaram@pw.cccounty.us

Project Location: 847 Brookside Drive, Richmond, CA 94801; APN 409-320-022

Lead Agency: Department of Conservation and Development, 30 Muir Road, Martinez, CA 94553

Contact Person: Syd Sotoodeh (925) 655-2877 syd.sotoodeh@dcd.cccounty.us

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The proposed project involves the retrofit and adaptive reuse of an existing one-story, wood-frame institutional building at the location identified above, for conversion into an approximately 45-bed Mental Health Rehabilitation Center (MHRC). The renovated facility will serve as Contra Costa County's first in-county MHRC, providing secure, trauma-informed, and recovery-oriented mental health treatment. The scope includes a full interior remodel and seismic upgrade of the approximately 20,000-square-foot facility, which will provide 24/7 care and rehabilitation services for adult Medi-Cal beneficiaries with serious mental illness. The remodeled building will include care suites, sleeping rooms, restrooms, medical and wellness spaces, administrative offices, and recreational, dining, and amenity areas, all designed to meet applicable building and energy codes as well as anti-ligature requirements.

The project will also include extensive structural retrofits and life-safety upgrades such as new HVAC, electrical, and plumbing systems; installation of new fire sprinklers, fire alarms, and access control systems; and replacement of doors, windows, roofing, and interior/exterior finishes. Exterior improvements will consist of civil and landscape enhancements, installation of EV charging stations, parking lot and path-of-travel accessibility upgrades, a new emergency generator, and the construction of covered patios and a trash enclosure. Ground disturbance and excavation to a maximum depth of approximately 7 feet will be required for bioretention basins, utility trenching, parking lot upgrades and outdoor recreational area.

Construction is anticipated to begin in 2025 and take approximately two years for anticipated completion in 2027. Appropriate best management practices such as storm drain inlet protection, will be implemented. Vegetation trimming and removal of approximately 35 trees is anticipated. Real property transactions, including but not limited to, right-of-way acquisition and permanent and temporary easements, and utility relocations may be necessary in support of this project. Night or weekend work may be necessary and will be performed in accordance with local guidelines. Emergency vehicles will have access at all times.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Contra Costa County

Exempt Status:

- ☐ Ministerial Project (Sec. 21080[b][1]; 15268)
- ☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080[b][3]; 15269[a])
- ☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080[b][4]; 15269[b][c])
- ☐ Categorical Exemption (Sec.)
- ☐ General Rule of Applicability (Sec. 15061[b][3])
- ☒ Other Statutory Exemption (California Welfare and Institutions Code Sec. § 5960.3)

Reasons why project is exempt: This project is funded by the Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program and meets the nine required categories of the California Welfare and Institutions Code § 5960.3:

- The facility was not acquired by eminent domain.
- The facility is licensed and maintained in good standing.
- Contractors will be paid prevailing wages under Labor Code § 1720.
- A skilled, trained workforce will be used per Public Contract Code § 2600.
- The project is supported by a local public entity for new construction or major rehab.
- ≥95% of total project cost is public, nonprofit, or philanthropic funds.
- The project expands behavioral health services locally.
- There is a 30-year covenant ensuring continued use for behavioral health.
- There is no increase in the existing on-site development footprint.

Therefore, CEQA does not apply.

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: Sydney Schroeder Title: Senior Planner Date: August 11, 2025

Contra Costa County Department of Conservation and Development

☒ Signed by Lead Agency ☐ Signed by Applicant

AFFIDAVIT OF FILING AND POSTING

I declare that on SEP 11 2025 I received and posted this notice as required by California Public Resources Code Section 21152(c). Said notice will remain posted for 30 days from the filing date.

Signature: gg Title: Deputy Clerk

Applicant

Public Works Department
255 Glacier Drive
Martinez, CA 94553
Attn: Shravan Sundaram
Environmental Services Division
Phone: (925) 313-2366

Department of Fish and Wildlife Fees Due

☐ De Minimis Finding - $0
☒ County Clerk - $50
☒ Conservation and Development - $25

Total Due: _____ Receipt #: _____