

# NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO:  Office of Planning and Research  
State Clearinghouse  
[CEQASubmit.opr.ca.gov](http://CEQASubmit.opr.ca.gov)

County Assessor/Recorder/Clerk  
Attn: Fish and Wildlife Notices  
1600 Pacific Highway, Suite 260, MS A-33  
San Diego, CA 92101

FROM: County of San Diego, Department of Public Works  
Environmental Services Unit  
**Attn: Annisa Busch**  
5510 Overland Avenue, Suite 410, MS O-332  
San Diego, CA 92123

**SUBJECT: FILING OF NOTICE OF EXEMPTION IN COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE SECTION 21108 OR 21152**

Project Name: RAMONA AIRPORT – COUNTY APPROVAL OF SHORT-TERM LEASE FOR A PORTION OF COUNTY-OWNED LAND TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION (RA-SL-104) (DISTRICT: 2)

Project Location: The project is located within Ramona Airport, in the unincorporated San Diego County

Project Applicant: County of San Diego, Department of Public Works, Airports  
1960 Joe Crosson Drive, MS S-119, El Cajon, CA 92020

Project Description: The project is for the approval of a short-term 5-year lease for one of Ramona Airport's tenants, State of California, Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire), to use a portion of the County of San Diego-owned land outside of CalFire's current leasehold. The leased area shall be used by CalFire in connection with a previously approved Fire Suppressant Loading System Replacement Project to reconfigure the current loading pits, update storm drain systems, replace pavement, relocate the retardant mixing plant, and improve taxiway Alpha connectors. With the exception of standard fuel, fluids and lubricants, at no time shall CalFire place, store or allow to be placed or stored, any hazardous substances upon the premises.

Agency Approving Project: County of San Diego

County Contact Person: Jamie Abbott, Director of Airports Telephone: (619) 956-4800

Date Form Completed: October 2, 2025

This is to advise that the County of San Diego Department of Public Works has approved the above-described project on October 1, 2025 and found the project to be exempt from CEQA under the following criteria:

**Exempt status and applicable section of the CEQA ("C") and/or State CEQA Guidelines ("G"): (check only one)**

- Categorical Exemption:** Sec. G 15301 - Existing Facilities
- Declared Emergency:** Sec. C 21080(b)(3); Sec. G 15269(a)
- Emergency Project:** Sec. C 21080(b)(4); Sec. G 15269(b)(c)
- General:** Sec. C.
- Ministerial:** Sec. C 21080(b)(1); G 15268
- Preliminary Review:** Sec. G
- Statutory Exemption:** Sec. G

Statement of reasons why project is exempt: Section 15301 of the State CEQA Guidelines exempts 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 existing or former use." The key consideration in applying this exemption is whether the proposed action involves expansion of an existing or former use. The proposed action includes approval of a lease for temporary use of an area outside of the lessee's current leasehold. Issuance of the lease identified above will not result in a significant expansion of uses of existing facilities. Accordingly, the proposed action is exempt from CEQA review pursuant to Section 15301 of CEQA Guidelines.

The following is to be completed only upon formal project approval by the appropriate County of San Diego decision-making body.

Signature: M. Landau Telephone: (619) 385-7591

Name (Print): Masha Landau Title: Land Use/Environmental Planner III

This Notice of Exemption has been signed and filed by the County of San Diego. This notice must be filed with the Recorder/County Clerk as soon as possible after project approval by the decision-making body. The Recorder/County Clerk must post this notice within 24 hours of receipt and for a period of not less than 30 days. At the termination of the posting period, the Recorder/County Clerk must return this notice to the Department address listed above along with evidence of the posting period. The originating Department must then retain the returned notice for a period of not less than nine months. Reference: CEQA Guidelines Section 15062.