



ORANGE COUNTY  
CLERK-RECORDER  
CEQA FILING COVER SHEET

202585000966

**FILED**

October 8, 2025  
HUGH NGUYEN  
CLERK - RECORDER

By H. Nguyen  
Deputy clerk

30-1010812025-0764

THIS SPACE FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

Complete and attach this form to each CEQA Notice filed with the County Clerk-Recorder

TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY

Project Title

CITY OF ORANGE WILDFIRE FUEL MANAGEMENT PROJECT

**Check Document being Filed:**

- Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
- Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) or Negative Declaration (ND)
- Notice of Exemption (NOE)
- Other (Please fill in type):

**FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE ORANGE  
COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER ON 10/08/2025**  
 Posted 10/08/2025 Removed \_\_\_\_\_  
 Returned to agency on \_\_\_\_\_  
 DEPUTY 428

Filing fees are due at the time a Notice of Determination/Exemption is filed with our office. For more information on filing fees and No Effect Determinations, please refer to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 753.5.

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HUGH NGUYEN, CLERK-RECORDER

BY: ME DEPUTY

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

**Filing Fee Exempt Per Gov. Code § 6103**

**TO:** County Clerk-Recorder  
County of Orange  
601 N. Ross Street  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

**FROM:** City of Orange  
Community Development Department  
300 E. Chapman Ave.  
Orange, CA 92866

**Project Title:** City of Orange Wildfire Fuel Management Project

**Project Location:** City of Orange, CA – Citywide – See attached map for specific parcels

**Description, Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:** The vegetation clearing project reduces fire risk across 284 acres within high and very high fire hazard severity zones in the wildland-urban interface (WUI) of Orange, California. Removal of flammable vegetation (grass: 45%, brush: 45%, canopy: 10%) and creation of fuel breaks protect approximately 258,816 residents (based on 80,880 parcels within a 2-mile buffer x 3.2 persons/household) and 95,203 structures, including neighborhoods like Serrano Heights and Orange Hills, critical infrastructure (e.g., WEROC North Emergency Operations Center, Southern California Edison power lines, communication towers), and evacuation routes (e.g., Santiago Canyon Road). The project enhances community resilience, improves emergency access, and aligns with the city's FEMA-approved Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** City of Orange

**Applicant or Agency Carrying Out Project:** City of Orange

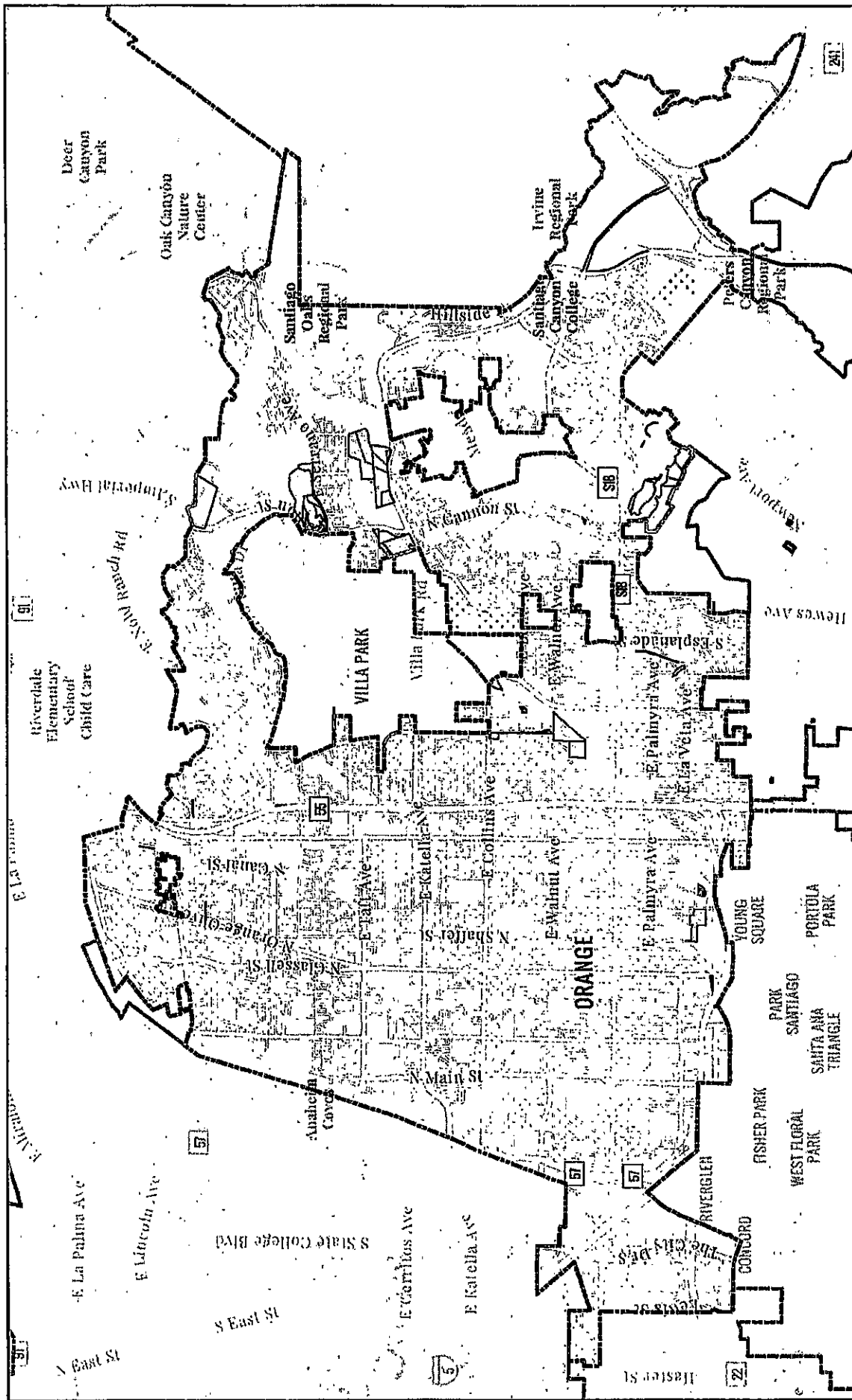
**Exempt Status:**

- Ministerial (Sec. 15268)
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 15269)
- Emergency Project (Sec. 15269)
- Categorical Exemption: Class 1 §15301 (Existing Facilities) & Class 4 §15304 (Minor Alterations to Land)

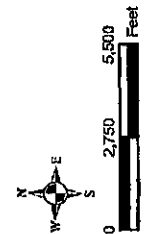
**Reasons why project is exempt:** The proposed project is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) per State CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Class 1 - Existing Facilities) and Section 15304 (Class 4 - Minor Alterations to Land) because the project involves ongoing fuel management and maintenance activities within developed and previously disturbed areas that are necessary to protect existing structures, infrastructure, and evacuation routes in high and very high fire hazard severity zones. Specifically, vegetation removal is limited to grasses, weeds, scrub, brush, and small trees under 18 inches in diameter, with no removal of healthy, mature, or scenic trees, ensuring that the project avoids significant adverse impacts to biological resources, scenic quality, or surface waters. The project reduces wildfire risk across 284 acres in the wildland-urban interface while also safeguarding critical facilities. The activities are minor in scope, environmentally protective in intent, and confined to fuel reduction consistent with public agency fire protection requirements.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Arlen Beck, Associate Planner  
**Phone:** (714) 744-7272

**Lead Agency Signature:** Arlen Beck **Date:** 10/8/25



City of Orange  
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Legend

- City Boundary
- Mitigation Parcels

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OCT 08 2025

CITY OF ORANGE  
**FIRE MITIGATION PROJECT AREAS**

HUGH NGUYEN, CLERK-RECORDER

BY: MG DEPUTY

10/8/2025  
 Source: City of Orange (2025)

