# NOTICE of EXEMPTION

**To:** Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk of Sonoma
585 Fiscal Dr, 103F
Santa Rosa, CA 95303

**From:** City of Santa Rosa
100 Santa Rosa Ave, Rm 3
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

**Project Title:** City of Santa Rosa Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Improvements at Utility Field Operations (UFO)

**Project Applicant / Lead Department:** City of Santa Rosa – Fire Department

**Project Location:** 2100 W. College Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA (APN 010-320-030) Narrow landscaped area between existing buildings; approx. 20 feet wide.

**Project Description:** Construction of a 14-foot-wide by 50-foot-long aggregate pad with concrete pad landings for stairs and ramp within an existing landscaped area at the UFO complex. Work includes minor vegetation removal (one ornamental shrub; trimming of a coast live oak), use of existing access gate from the north side of the paved yard, and installation of the pad on previously disturbed compacted gravelly soils.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** City of Santa Rosa

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Paul Lowenthal & Neil Bregman, City of Santa Rosa

**Basis for Exemption:** The project is exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Statutory Exemptions 15301, 15303, and 15304:

**CEQA Guidelines §15301 – Existing Facilities (Class 1) -** Applies because the project involves minor alterations to existing public facilities involving negligible expansion of use. The work occurs entirely within an existing developed corporation yard and does not expand capacity or change operational characteristics.

**CEQA Guidelines §15303 – New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures (Class 3) -** Applies because the project consists of installation of a small accessory facility (a concrete pad) within a developed urban site. The pad is comparable to small new accessory structures listed as examples under the exemption.

**CEQA Guidelines §15304 – Minor Alterations to Land (Class 4) -** Applies because the project involves minor vegetation removal and grading of previously disturbed, compacted soils with no removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees. Only one ornamental shrub would be removed, and minor trimming of an existing coast live oak would occur.

**Supporting Evidence:** On April 23, 2025, Senior Environmental Specialist Steve Brady conducted a site visit. The project area consists of previously disturbed, compacted soils dominated by non-native landscaping associated with construction of the UFO facility. No wetlands or waters of the U.S./State occur on the site. The site lies outside the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Santa Rosa Plain Potential Effects Determination Area; therefore, no impacts to California tiger salamander, Sebastopol meadowfoam, Sonoma sunshine, or Burke's goldfields are anticipated.

If construction occurs during the nesting bird season (February 1–August 31), a pre-construction nesting bird survey will be required as a standard minimization measure. Given the small scale, disturbed conditions, and urban setting, no significant environmental impacts are anticipated.

**Exceptions to the Exemption (CEQA Guidelines §15300.2) -** None apply. The project is not located on a hazardous waste site, is not included in a cumulative impact scenario, would not cause significant environmental effects, and is not located on a mapped resource site. The site is fully urbanized and heavily disturbed.

**Determination:** The project is exempt from CEQA under Class 1, Class 3, and Class 4. No further CEQA review is required.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Kristinae Toomians, Environmental Coordinator
Phone: (707) 543-4692

Signature: Kristinae Toomians Date: 12/2/2025 Title: Environmental Coordinator

Signed by Lead Agency