



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To:
Los Angeles County Clerk
Business Filing & Registration
12400 E Imperial Hwy, Room 1101
Norwalk, CA 90650

From:
City of Pasadena
Department of Parks, Recreation, and Community Services
100 North Garfield Avenue
Pasadena, California 91101

Project Title: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) Arroyo Seco Wildfire Resilience Project

Project Applicant: City of Pasadena, Department of Parks, Recreation, and Community Services

Project Address: Hahamongna Watershed Park, Central and Lower Arroyo (*see attached maps*)

Project City: Pasadena **Project County:** Los Angeles

Project Description: The proposed project will reduce wildfire risk and improve ecosystem health in the Arroyo Seco, a critical open space and natural resource in Pasadena. Project activities will include selective thinning of hazardous vegetation, removal of invasive plant species that contribute to fuel loading, and the restoration of native, fire-adapted plant communities. Work will focus on strategic fuel reduction zones along trails, recreational areas, and habitat corridors to create defensible space and reduce the potential for high-intensity wildfire.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Pasadena

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: City of Pasadena, Department of Parks, Recreation, and Community Services

Exempt Status (Check one):

- ☐ Ministerial (California Public Resources Code, §21080(b)(1); California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 18, §15268)
- ☐ Declared Emergency (California Public Resources Code, §21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- ☒ Emergency Project (California Public Resources Code, §21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))
- ☒ Categorical Exemption (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, §15301, Class 1, Existing Facilities and §15304, Class 4, Minor Alteration of Land)
- ☒ Statutory Exemption (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 18, §15269)
- ☐ General Rule (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 5, §15061(b)(3))

Reason why project is exempt: This project is statutorily exempt from CEQA as an emergency project, as well as being categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to Class 1, Existing Facilities, and Class 4, Minor Alteration of Land.

Specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency are statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) §21080(b)(4) and CEQA Guidelines §15269(c). The proposed project is specifically designed to prevent and/or mitigate a wildfire emergency.

Class 1 (CEQA Guidelines §15301) exempts from environmental review, among other things, the repair, maintenance, and minor alterations of existing structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features involving negligible or no expansion of the use. CEQA Guidelines §15301(h) specifically includes maintenance of existing landscaping and native growth in this categorical exemption.

The proposed project consists of minor alterations of public lands that would not result in an expansion of use.

Class 4 (CEQA Guidelines §15304) exempts from environmental review minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes. The proposed project consists of vegetation maintenance to reduce wildfire hazards. No healthy, mature, scenic trees would be removed.

There are no features that distinguish this project from others in the exempt classes and, therefore, there are no unusual circumstances.

Lead Agency:	City of Pasadena, Department of Parks, Recreation, and Community Services
Contact Person:	Jose Mireles Phone: ((626)744-4269

COMPLETED BY: Jose Mireles
TITLE: Parks Superintendent
DATE: September 16, 2025

REVIEWED BY: John Bellas
TITLE: Environmental Coordinator
DATE: September 23, 2025