

**Riverside County**  
**Facilities Management**  
3450 14<sup>th</sup> St. Riverside, CA 92501

FOR COUNTY CLERK USE ONLY

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

November 26, 2025

**Project Name:** Lakeland Village Sports Park Foul Ball Netting Project, Lake Elsinore

**Project Number:** FM08720014808

**Project Location:** 16275 Grand Avenue, north of Santa Rosa Drive, Lake Elsinore, 92530, Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 381-300-004

**Description of Project:** The Lakeland Village Sports Park is located at 16275 Grand Avenue in the city of Lake Elsinore. The park was renovated for sports activities and community events to serve the public and serve as an outdoor environment to take brisk walks and enjoy the different sports activities. The scope of work for the Lakeland Village Sports Park Netting Project (Project) includes the installation of foul ball netting on Field 1 to prevent baseballs and softballs going towards the parking lots of the library and sports park. The netting is to be attached to the existing poles of the backstop and will reach 40 feet high. The addition of netting to the existing backstop at the Lakeland Village Sports Park is identified as the proposed project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The operation of the facility will continue to provide public services and will not result in a significant expansion of existing use. No additional direct or indirect physical environmental impacts are anticipated.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Riverside County

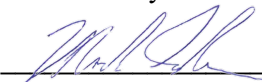
**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Riverside County Facilities Management

**Exempt Status:** State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, Section 15301 Class 1 Existing Facilities Exemption; Section 15311 Class 11 Accessory Structures Exemption, and 15061(b) (3), General Rule or "Common Sense" Exemption, Codified under Title 14, Articles 5 and 19, Sections 15061, 15301, and 15311.

**Reasons Why Project is Exempt:** The proposed project is categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA specifically by the State CEQA Guidelines as identified below. The project will not result in any specific or general exceptions to the use of the categorical exemption as detailed under State CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2. The project will not cause an impact to an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern nor would the project include unusual circumstances which could have the possibility of having a significant effect on the environment. The project would not result in impacts to scenic highways, hazardous waste sites, historic resources, or other sensitive natural environments, or have a cumulative effect to the environment. No significant environmental impacts are anticipated to occur with the addition of netting to the existing backstop at the Lakeland Village Community Center.

- **Section 15301 –Existing Facilities:** This Class 1 categorical exemption includes the operation, repair, maintenance, leasing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures or facilities, provided the exemption only involves negligible or no expansion of the previous site’s use. The existing facility consists of a recreational area that is located within the jurisdiction of the County, on County-owned land and is not located on environmentally sensitive land. The improvements to the site would be within the existing facility footprint and would be consistent with the existing land use. No new substantial capacity would be created by the project. The project includes the addition of netting to the existing backstop to an existing structure. Therefore, the project is exempt as it meets the scope and intent of the Categorical Exemption identified in Section 15301, Article 19, Categorical Exemptions of the CEQA Guidelines.
- **Section 15311 – Class 11 Accessory Structure Exemption:** This Class 11 categorical exemption includes the construction, or placement of minor structures accessory to (appurtenant to) existing commercial, industrial, or institutional facilities. The project, as proposed, includes the addition of netting to the existing backstop of the sports park. These improvements would be appurtenant to the existing facility and will not substantially increase or expand the use of the site; therefore, the project is exempt as the project meets the scope and intent of the Class 11 Exemption identified in Section 15311, Article 19, Categorical Exemptions of the CEQA Guidelines.
- **Section 15061 (b) (3) – “Common Sense” Exemption:** In accordance with CEQA, the use of the Common Sense Exemption is based on the “general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.” State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15061(b) (3). The use of this exemption is appropriate if “it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment.” *Ibid*. This determination is an issue of fact and if sufficient evidence exists in the record that the activity cannot have a significant effect on the environment, then the exemption applies and no further evaluation under CEQA is required. See *No Oil, Inc. v. City of Los Angeles* (1974) 13 Cal. 3d 68. The ruling in this case stated that if a project falls within a category exempt by administrative regulation or 'it can be seen with certainty that the activity in question will not have a significant effect on the environment', no further agency evaluation is required. The proposed improvements to the existing facility will not result in any direct or indirect physical environmental impacts. The improvements would require limited construction activity within the existing site and would not alter the function or use of the site or have any external physical effects. The improvements are limited to the addition of netting to the existing backstop. The use and operation of the facility will be substantially similar to the existing use and will not create any new environmental impacts. Therefore, in no way, would the project as proposed have the potential to cause a significant environmental impact and the project is exempt from further CEQA analysis.

Based upon the identified exemptions above, the County of Riverside, Facilities Management hereby concludes that no physical environmental impacts are anticipated to occur and the project as proposed is exempt under CEQA. As the Project is anticipated to receive federal funding, the Project was also reviewed under the National Environmental Policy Act and found to be categorically excluded under Section 58.35(a)(1) as the project entails the improvement and rehabilitation of existing public facilities and improvements that will not result in a change of use or significant increase in capacity. No further environmental analysis is warranted.

Signed:  Date: 11-26-2025

Mike Sullivan, Senior Environmental Planner  
County of Riverside, Facilities Management