

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



To: County of Los Angeles
County Clerk
Environmental Filings
12400 Imperial Highway, Room 1201
Norwalk, California 90650

From: County of Los Angeles
Department of Parks and Recreation
Land Management Section
1000 South Fremont Avenue Unit #40
A-9 West, Third Floor
Alhambra, California 91803

Project Title: El Cariso Park Teen Our SPOT and Well-Being Project

Project Location - Specific: El Cariso Community Regional Park
13100 Hubbard Street, Sylmar, CA 91342

Project Location - City: Los Angeles

Project Location - County: Los Angeles

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

El Cariso Community Regional Park is a 79.97-acre park located at 13100 Hubbard Avenue, in the Sylmar district of Los Angeles. According to the 2016 Los Angeles Countywide Comprehensive Park and Recreation Needs Assessment, the Park is located within an area of moderate park need and features tennis, basketball and pickleball courts, a baseball and football field, a multipurpose building with a gymnasium, a swimming pool, playground, and many other amenities.

In 2024, the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (DMH) approached LA County Parks to collaborate on an ambitious two-year, \$15 million Countywide program to create public spaces that promote social interactions and inspire community well-being in County parks. LA County Parks and DMH selected 14 parks based on several factors including existing year-round Our SPOT Teen Centers, park need based on the Countywide Park Needs Assessment, Office of Violence Prevention high violence scores, DMH equity data, and Los Angeles County Equity Explorer Index data.

LA County Parks and DMH partnered on a robust, multi-phase, year-long community engagement process at each selected park to inform the development of design elements to promote well-being. LA County Parks and their design team conducted onsite interviews with Our SPOT teens as well as popup engagements with seniors and park visitors to define each park's project scope while creating a shared, program wide design vision. Subsequently, LA County Parks presented the resulting Our SPOT and wellbeing space designs for each park to DMH, Our SPOT teens, and local community members, leading to further design enhancements. The final designs emphasize accessibility, landscaping, seating, safety, shade and effective use of color.

The park's scope of work will include renovation of an existing outdoor open space as a new wellbeing space, including accessibility upgrades; trees and landscaping with irrigation; lighting and shade; seating elements including benches designated in an "Open to Chat" style to encourage conversation; informational signage; and, related improvements. The project will also include the renovation of an existing unprogrammed area into an outdoor Our SPOT space that includes paving, landscaping, shade, lighting, security fencing, seating, and related improvements. While the thematic design elements and enhancements are similar program wide, each Well-being and Our SPOT space varies in design, shape,

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FILED

Jan 16 2026

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Dean C. Logan, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

Electronically signed by CARINA CHEN

and size to reflect community input. The difference in project budgets at each park reflect these variances, including diverse site conditions and utility infrastructure needs.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Los Angeles County

Name of Public Agency Carrying Out Project: Los Angeles County

Exempt Status (check one):

Article 19. Categorical Exemptions

- ☒ Categorical Section 15301
Class 1 (h)
- ☒ Categorical Section 15303
Class 3 (d)(e)
- ☒ Categorical Section 15304
Class 4 (b)

- ☒ County CEQA Guidelines Categorical Exemption
Class 1 (c)
- ☒ County CEQA Guidelines Categorical Exemption
Class 3 (a)(b)
- ☒ County CEQA Guidelines Categorical Exemption
Class 4 (c)

Reasons why project is exempt:

The proposed project is consistent with State Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA. The project is consistent with Section 15301, Class 1, which provides for repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public facilities. This includes, but is not limited to, Class 1(h) for the restoration and rehabilitation of deteriorated or damaged structures, facilities, or mechanical equipment to meet current standards of public health and safety.

The project is also consistent with Section 15303, Class 3, which provides for the construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures. This includes, but is not limited to, Class 3(d) for utility extensions, and 3(e) for new accessory structures.

The project is consistent with Section 15304, Class 4, which provides for minor alterations to land. This includes, but is not limited to, Class 4(b) for new landscaping, and will not involve the removal of healthy, mature, and scenic trees.

The project is also consistent with the County CEQA Guidelines. The project is consistent with Class 1, which provides for repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public facilities. This includes, but is not limited to, Class 1(c) for the restoration and repair of buildings, structures, and equipment.

The project is consistent with Class 3, which provides for the construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures. This includes, but is not limited to, Class 3(a) for utility extensions, and Class 3(b) for accessory structures.

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The project is consistent with Class 4, which provides for minor alterations to land. This includes, but is not limited to, Class 4(c) for new landscaping, and will not involve the removal of healthy, mature, and scenic trees.

The proposed use of Classes 1, 3, and 4 Categorical Exemptions does not include activities that are excepted from the exemptions as defined in Section 15300.2(a) of the CEQA Guidelines. Specifically, the project would not impact an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern designated, precisely mapped, or officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.

The County has considered the cumulative impact of the proposed project and determined that the cumulative impact would not result in significant effects on the environment that would constitute an exception to the use of Classes 1, 3, and 4 Categorical Exemptions, as described in Section 15300.2(b) of the CEQA Guidelines.

The County has considered the potential for significant impacts on the environment resulting from the project and determined that there are no unusual circumstances that would result in significant effects on the environment, constituting an exception to the use of Classes 1, 3, and 4 Categorical Exemptions, as described in Section 15300.2(c) of the CEQA Guidelines.

The project will not result in damage to scenic resources, such as trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources, or involve work within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway that would constitute an exception to the use of Classes 1, 3, and 4 Categorical Exemptions, as described in Section 15300.2(d) of the CEQA Guidelines and Section 21084(c) of the CEQA Statutes.

The project does not involve work on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code relating to solid and hazardous wastes and does not constitute an exception to the use of Classes 1, 3, and 4 Categorical Exemptions, as described in Section 15300.2(e) of the CEQA Guidelines and Section 21084(d) of the CEQA Statutes.

The project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource, as specified in Section 21084.1 of the CEQA Statutes, and does not constitute an exception to the use of Classes 1, 3, and 4 Categorical Exemptions, as described in Section 15300.2(f) of the CEQA Guidelines and Section 21084.1 of the CEQA Statutes.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Jui Ing Chien **(Area Code) Telephone/Ext.** (626) 588-5317

If Filed by Applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public Agency approving the project? Yes No

Chien, Jui Ing
Signature, Jui Ing Chien

01/16/2026
Date

Park Planner
Title



Dean C. Logan, Registrar - Recorder/County Clerk
Electronically signed by CARINA CHEN

THIS NOTICE WAS POSTED
N January 16 2026
NTIL February 17 2026
REGISTRAR - RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK



State of California—Department of Fish and Wildlife

**2026 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE
CASH RECEIPT**

DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/25) Previously DFG 753.5a

RECEIPT Number:

19 — 01/16/2026 — 202601160530001

STATE CLEARING HOUSE # (If applicable)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES/DEPT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE 01/16/2026
COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING LA	DOCUMENT NUMBER 2026012211	

PROJECT TITLE

EL CARISO PARK TEEN OUR SPOT AND WELL-BEING PROJECT

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME JUI CHIEN	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER (626)588-5317
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS 1000 S. FREMONT AVE #40 A-9 WEST THIRD FLOOR	CITY ALHAMBRA	STATE CA
		ZIP CODE 91803

PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box):

☒ Local Public Agency ☐ School District ☐ Other Special District ☐ State Agency ☐ Private Entity

CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

☐ Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	\$4,227.50	\$ 0.00
☐ Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)	\$3,043.75	\$ 0.00
☐ Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW	\$1,437.25	\$ 0.00
☒ Exempt from fee		
☒ Notice of Exemption (attach)		
☐ CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)		
☐ Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)		
☐ Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only)	\$850.00	\$ 0.00
☒ County documentary handling fee		\$ 25.00
☐ Other		\$ 0.00

PAYMENT METHOD:

☐ Cash ☐ Credit ☐ Check ☒ Other

TOTAL RECEIVED \$ 25.00

SIGNATURE X	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE CARINA CHEN, ITC
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