

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO:  Office of Land Use & Climate Innovation  
State Clearinghouse  
[CEQASubmit.lci.ca.gov](http://CEQASubmit.lci.ca.gov)

County Assessor/Recorder/Clerk  
Attn: Fish and Wildlife Notices  
1600 Pacific Highway, Suite 260, MS A-33  
San Diego, CA 92101

FROM: County of San Diego, Department of Public Works  
Environmental Services Unit  
**Attn: Anissa Busch**  
5510 Overland Avenue, Suite 410, MS O-332  
San Diego, CA 92123

**SUBJECT: FILING OF NOTICE OF EXEMPTION IN COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE SECTION 21108 OR 21152**

Project Name: ADVERTISE AND AWARD A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR GOLF CLUB DRIVE GREEN STREET PROJECT AND RELATED CEQA EXEMPTION (DISTRICT: 5)

Project Location: The project is located along Golf Club Drive and Old River Road in Bonsall, CA.

Project Applicant: County of San Diego, Department of Public Works  
5510 Overland Avenue, Suite 410, San Diego, CA 92123

Project Description: To approve the advertisement and subsequent award of a construction contract to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder for the Golf Club Drive Green Street Project. The project will incorporate four biofiltration basins along Golf Club Drive and Old River Road which will reduce stormwater runoff and improve water quality in the San Luis Rey River Watershed. The project also includes sidewalk extensions, and pedestrian ramps to enhance pedestrian safety. The project boundaries are limited to the County right-of-way (ROW), but adjacent to Moosa Creek Mitigation Bank. Several technical reports were completed to support the decision that the project will have no significant environmental impact and is exempt from CEQA review. The Aquatic Resource Delineation Report (ARDR) concluded that the project would avoid direct impacts to all adjacent potential jurisdictional wetlands or waters. Proper best management practices (BMPs) will ensure that no indirect impacts will be caused by the project. Protocol surveys for crotch's bumble bee (CBB) and southwestern willow flycatcher concluded with no presence of either species. Least Bell vireo (LBV) was detected within a 500-foot buffer of the project area with one use area occurring within the biological survey area. Due to the presence of LBV, avoidance measures will be implemented to avoid any permanent and/or indirect impacts. If any work takes place between March 15 through September 15, the Noise Analysis concluded that temporary sound barriers will be required and placed at the edge of the project footprint for work occurring within 300 feet of any active nests. If temporary noise barriers are not utilized, all noise generating activities will be kept under 60 decibels (dB) with periodic monitoring by an acoustician. No grading, clearing, or vegetation removal will be allowed within 300 feet of an active nest. Pre-construction bird surveys will be required for any work taking place during nesting bird season (January 15 – September 15). Several other special-status species were detected during the biological survey. Avoidance measures such as pre-construction bird surveys, biologist established buffer zones, and biological oversight will be implemented for any work commencing during bird breeding season. Temporary impacts to the oak canopy and root system are anticipated due to any tree trimming and excavation work needed for the sidewalk installation. An arborist will be onsite during excavation to ensure impacts to mature oak trees remain at 25 percent or less. With the implementation of these avoidance measures the impacts to sensitive habitats and special status species would be less than significant.

Agency Approving Project: County of San Diego

County Contact Person: Samir Nuhaily Telephone: 619-507-7754

Date Form Completed: March 25, 2026

This is to advise that the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors (County decision-making body) has approved the above described project on March 25, 2026 (#7) and found the project to be exempt from CEQA under the following criteria:

**Exempt status and applicable section of the CEQA ("C") and/or State CEQA Guidelines ("G"): (check only one)**

- Categorical Exemption:** Sec. G 15301 – Existing Facilities and 15303 – New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures
- Declared Emergency:** Sec. C 21080(b)(3); Sec. G 15269(a)
- Emergency Project:** Sec. C 21080(b)(4); Sec. G 15269(b)(c)
- General:** Sec. C.
- Ministerial:** Sec. C 21080(b)(1); G 15268
- Preliminary Review:** Sec. G
- Statutory Exemption:** Sec. G

**Statement of reasons why project is exempt:** The Project improvements, including construction of stormwater quality structural best management practices (BMPs) and infrastructure improvements along Golf Club Drive and Old River Road, are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15301 (Existing Facilities) and 15303 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures) because the Project involves the construction of additional small structures and facilities within existing right-of-way with no expansion of existing uses. CEQA Guidelines Section 15303 exempts from CEQA review the construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures. This exemption is applicable because the action involves authorization for construction of biofiltration basins and associated water system improvements, as well as some pedestrian improvements. The proposed biofiltration basins are intended to ensure pollutants are not discharged in stormwater runoff from the County's adjacent street drains. The pedestrian improvements include a small segment of sidewalk and supporting facilities such as curb ramps. The improvements are properly viewed as being accessory to the existing street or small new construction within the scope of Section 15303 when compared to the examples provided in the CEQA Guidelines. The project is also exempt from CEQA review by Section 15301 of the CEQA guidelines. This section exempts projects which consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public structures. The critical factor is that the project involves no or negligible expansion of an existing use. The exemption specifically identifies work on existing highways and streets as falling within the scope of the exemption. The proposed project is to add a limited number of new facilities to ensure existing drainage from a County road complies with MS4 Permit requirements, and sidewalk improvements to better support existing pedestrian use. The project does not expand existing road uses. As such, the project is exempt from CEQA review under Section 15301 of the CEQA Guidelines.

The following is to be completed only upon formal project approval by the appropriate County of San Diego decision-making body.

Signature:  Telephone: (619) 415-9920

Name (Print): Emily Roberts Title: Environmental Planning Manager

This Notice of Exemption has been signed and filed by the County of San Diego.

This notice must be filed with the Recorder/County Clerk as soon as possible after project approval by the decision-making body. The Recorder/County Clerk must post this notice within 24 hours of receipt and for a period of not less than 30 days. At the termination of the posting period, the Recorder/County Clerk must return this notice to the Department address listed above along with evidence of the posting period. The originating Department must then retain the returned notice for a period of not less than nine months. Reference: CEQA Guidelines Section 15062.