



ORANGE COUNTY
CLERK-RECORDER
CEQA FILING COVER SHEET

30-06/23/2026-0542

202685000747

FILED

June 23, 2026

HUGH NGUYEN
CLERK - RECORDER

By John Jenkins

Deputy clerk

THIS SPACE FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

Complete and attach this form to each CEQA Notice filed with the County Clerk-Recorder

TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY

Project Title

OPEN SPACE AND CONSERVATION ELEMENT UPDATE

Check Document being Filed:

- ☐ Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
- ☐ Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) or Negative Declaration (ND)
- ☒ Notice of Exemption (NOE)
- ☐ Other (Please fill in type):

**FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE ORANGE
COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER ON 06/23/2026**

Posted 06/23/2026 Removed _____

Returned to agency on _____

DEPUTY 446

Filing fees are due at the time a Notice of Determination/Exemption is filed with our office. For more information on filing fees and No Effect Determinations, please refer to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 753.5.

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

County Clerk

County of: Orange

From: (Public Agency): City of Fullerton
Community and Economic Development Department
303 W Commonwealth Ave, Fullerton, CA 92832

(Address)

Project Title: Open Space and Conservation Element Update

Project Applicant: City of Fullerton

Project Location - Specific:

City of Fullerton

Project Location - City: Fullerton Project Location - County: Orange County

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

See attached.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Fullerton - Community and Economic Development Department

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: City of Fullerton - Community and Economic Development Department

Exempt Status: (check one):

- ☐ Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- ☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- ☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- ☐ Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Common Sense Exemption / Section 15061(b)(3)
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

See attached.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Yan Gao Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 714-738-6854

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

Signature: *Yan Gao* Date: 06/22/2026 Title: Senior Planner

▪ Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

FILED

JUN 23 2026

HUGH NGUYEN, CLERK-RECORDER

Revised 2011

BY: *GA* DEPUTY

FILED

JUN 23 2026

HUGH NGUYEN, CLERK-RECORDER

Attachment 1 of 1

BY:

DEPUTY

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The proposed project is the update to the City of Fullerton's Open Space and Conservation Element, a required component of the General Plan pursuant to California Government Code Sections 65302(d) and 65302(e), which address the conservation of natural resources and the long-term preservation of open space lands. Additionally, Senate Bill 1425 requires cities and counties to update their Open Space Elements by 01/01/2026 to include an action-oriented framework that advances equitable access, climate resilience, and ecological restoration (rewilding) through integrated policies and programs.

The Open Space and Conservation Element establishes goals, policies, and implementation programs to guide the protection, management, and enhancement of the City's natural resources and open space network. The Element addresses a range of resource areas, including climate resilience, habitat conservation, and equitable access to open space. It emphasizes strategies such as protecting natural systems, improving watershed health, expanding urban greening, and ensuring all residents have access to safe and functional open space. The project does not propose or approve any specific development or physical improvements. Instead, it provides a policy framework to guide future decision-making related to land use, resource conservation, and open space planning. Future development projects and site-specific improvements would be subject to separate environmental review, as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Open Space and Conservation Element is part of "The Fullerton Plan," the City's comprehensive General Plan, and is coordinated with other elements, including the Environmental Justice Element, to ensure consistency with broader City goals related to sustainability, equity, and environmental protection.

The beneficiaries of the Open Space and Conservation Element include residents, businesses, and visitors within the City of Fullerton, as well as regional users of the City's parks, trails, and open space network. The Element supports the protection and enhancement of open space lands and natural resources, which contribute to overall quality of life, environmental health, and community well-being. The project provides particular benefits to communities with limited access to parks, open space, and tree canopy, consistent with State requirements to promote equitable access to open space and reduce disparities across neighborhoods. Additional beneficiaries include sensitive environmental resources and ecosystems, such as habitat areas, watersheds, and open space corridors, through policies that support conservation, restoration, and long-term stewardship of natural systems. The Element also benefits future residents and generations, as it establishes a long-term framework for sustainable resource management, climate resilience, and environmental protection.

Reasons why project is exempt:

This project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines (Common Sense Exemption), which states that CEQA applies only to projects that have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. The proposed project consists of the adoption of a policy-level planning document that does not authorize or result in any direct physical changes to the environment or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical changes. Accordingly, it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the project may have a significant effect on the environment.

The project is also exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(2) and (b)(5), which define as not a "project" the creation of government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal or administrative activities that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and organizational or administrative activities that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment. The Open Space and Conservation Element establishes policies and programs that will guide future actions but does not commit the City to any specific development or physical improvements.

**2026 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT**

DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/26) Previously DFG 753.5a

Print

Start Over

Save

RECEIPT NUMBER:

30-06/23/2026-0542

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (If applicable)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY CITY OF FULLERTON	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE 06/23/2026
COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING ORANGE COUNTY	DOCUMENT NUMBER 202685000747	
PROJECT TITLE		

OPEN SPACE AND CONSERVATION ELEMENT UPDATE

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME CITY OF FULLERTON	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER (714) 738-6854
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS 303 W COMMONWEALTH AVE	CITY FULLERTON	STATE CA
		ZIP CODE 92832

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 \$ _____
☐ Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND) \$ 3,043.75 \$ _____
☐ Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW \$ 1,437.25 \$ _____

☒ 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 \$ _____
☐ County documentary handling fee \$ 50.00 \$ _____
☐ Other \$ _____

PAYMENT METHOD:

☐ Cash ☐ Credit ☐ Check ☐ Other

TOTAL RECEIVED \$ 0.00

SIGNATURE

X*Sonia Florido*

AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE

Sonia Florido Deputy Clerk