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Riverside County
Facilities Management
3450 14th Street ,Riverside, CA 92501

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

August 14, 2026

Project Name: Fire Station 82 Phase II Renovation Project

Project Number: FM08270016222

Project Location: 17452 Lakepointe Drive, north of Lake Crest Drive, Riverside, California 92503, APN 140-300-039

Description of Project: Riverside County Fire Station 82 is an existing fire station located at 17452 Lakepointe Drive in Riverside. The current station recently underwent a major expansion and renovation which added six new dorm rooms, a gym, and remodeled the old, existing footprint via the Riverside County Fire Department Station 82 Expansion. The project came in well under budget and the Board approved reprogramming those funds additional work on the County Fire Station 82 Phase II Renovation Project (Project). Riverside County Fire would like to use the funding to add an additional refrigerator, add casework in the dining and living rooms, paint, replace old lockers with new, replace the old apparatus bay casework, and replace the old decontamination sink. The scope of work for the Project will include, but is not limited to, electrical, plumbing, millwork, and finishes. The construction of the fire renovation is identified as the project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). No 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

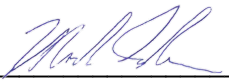
Exempt Status: State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, Section 15301 (a), (e) Existing Facilities Exemption; and Section 15061(b) (3), General Rule or "Common Sense" Exemption, Codified under Title 14, Articles 5 and 19, Sections 15301, and 15061.

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 he renovation to Fire Station 82.

- **Section 15301 (a), (e) –Existing Facilities Exemption:** This 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. Subsection (a) of this exemption allows for interior or exterior alterations involving such things as interior partitions, plumbing, and electrical conveyances. The renovation component of this project would qualify for this condition as the scope includes add an additional refrigerator, add casework in the dining and living rooms, paint, replace old lockers with new, replace the old apparatus bay casework, and replace the old decontamination sink. These minor interior improvements would occur within the existing building footprint, would not substantially increase or expand the use of the site, and is limited to the continued use of the site in a similar capacity; therefore, the project is exempt as the project meets the scope and intent of the Class 1 Exemption identified in Section 15301, 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. With certainty, there is no possibility that the project may have a significant effect on the environment. The proposed renovation will not result in any direct or indirect physical environmental impacts. The use and operation of the facility will be substantially similar to the existing use and will not create any new environmental impacts. No alterations and no impacts beyond the ongoing, existing use of the site would occur. 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 hereby concludes that no physical environmental impacts are anticipated to occur and the project as proposed is exempt under CEQA. No further environmental analysis is warranted.

Signed:  **Date:** 8-14-2026

Mike Sullivan, Senior Environmental Planner
County of Riverside