

**CITY OF FRESNO
STATUTORY EXEMPTION
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. EA-19-0XX**

THE PROJECT DESCRIBED HEREIN IS DETERMINED TO BE STATUTORILY
EXEMPT FROM THE PREPARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS
PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 18 OF THE STATE CEQA GUIDELINES.

APPLICANT: City of Fresno – Public Works Department
2600 Fresno Street
Fresno, California 93721

PROJECT LOCATION: City of Fresno, Citywide.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed project consists of a City of Fresno Fire Impact Fee Update.

This project is exempt under Section 15273 (Rates, Tolls, Fares, and Charges) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.

Pursuant to Section 15273 of the CEQA Guidelines, CEQA does not apply to the establishment, modification, structuring, restructuring, or approval of rates, tolls, fares, or other charges by public agencies which the public agency finds are for the purpose of: (1) Meeting operating expenses, including employee wage rates and fringe benefits; (2) Purchasing or leasing supplies, equipment, or materials; (3) Meeting financial reserve needs and requirements; (4) Obtaining funds for capital projects necessary to maintain service within existing service areas; or, (5) Obtaining funds necessary to maintain such intra-city transfers as are authorized by city charter.

In 2005, the City of Fresno (City) implemented Citywide Fire Facilities Development Impact Fee (Fire Impact Fee) program to fund needed facilities. The Fire Impact Fee program was implemented to provide a funding mechanism for facilities and equipment required to serve future development through 2025. The current fee program is a successor fee program that replaced the previous public safety components of the City's Urban Growth Management (UGM) fee program.

In December 2014, the City of Fresno adopted a new General Plan that establishes growth projections through the General Plan Horizon year of 2035 as well as through buildout of the General Plan.

The General Plan includes policies and implementation actions for fire protection services. In accordance with the development projections and public service policies laid out in the General Plan, the Fresno Fire Department (FFD) subsequently provided updated Fire Capital Improvement Plans (CIPs) that outline the planned capital costs for the FFD through 2035. These CIPs describe the facilities and equipment required to provide continuing public safety service in the City.

The City has updated the Fire Impact Fee Nexus Study and is recommending adjustments to the rate of the fees to fund new Fire Stations, expansions of existing station, and improvements or replacements of the Fire Training Facility and the Fire Equipment Repair and Maintenance Facility. The Fire Impact Fee is charged to new developments to mitigate the impacts that the new residents or employees have on the existing fire facilities.

The proposed fees are based on maintaining a level of service consistent with the, goals, policies and objectives of the adopted 2035 General Plan, including the mitigation measures and any statements of overriding considerations adopted with the Master Environmental Report (MEIR) prepared for the Fresno General Plan (SCH # 2012111015) that were made concurrent with the approval process.

Date: May 17, 2019

Prepared By: Will Tackett, Supervising Planner

Submitted by:



Mike Sanchez, Assistant Director
City of Fresno
Development & Resource
Management Dept.
(559) 621-8040