

**CITY OF FRESNO
CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PC00363**

THE PROJECT DESCRIBED HEREIN IS DETERMINED TO BE CATEGORICALLY
EXEMPT FROM THE PREPARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS PURSUANT
TO ARTICLE 19 OF THE STATE CEQA GUIDELINES.

APPLICANT: City of Fresno
Capital Projects Department
747 R Street, 2nd Floor, Fresno, CA 93721

PROJECT LOCATION: The proposed project is situated at four different play area locations within Woodward Park, located on the southwest corner of Friant Avenue and Ford Washington Road.

(Council District 6)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed project includes reconstruction of the existing paths of travel to make them wider, construction of ADA compliant ramps, replacement of existing benches and tables with ADA compliant benches and tables, repainting of the play structures, replacement of hand holds on rock-climbing wall, pouring of soft rubber surface at the Art of Life play area, and placement of new trash receptables.

This project is exempt under Section(s) 15301/Class 1 of the State of California CEQA Guidelines. None of the exceptions to Categorical Exemptions set forth in the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2 apply to this project.

EXPLANATION:

Section 15301/Class 1 exemptions, for projects pertaining to Existing Facilities, consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination. The key consideration is whether the project involves negligible or no expansion of use. Examples include but are not limited to: Existing highways and streets, sidewalks, gutters, bicycle and pedestrian trails, and similar facilities; Restoration or rehabilitation of deteriorated or damaged structures, facilities, or mechanical equipment to meet current standards of public health and safety; and Addition of safety or health protection devices for use during construction of or in conjunction with existing structures, facilities, or mechanical equipment, or topographical features including navigational devices. The proposed reconstruction of paths of travel and refurbishments of park facilities does not involve the expansion of use of the existing facilities. The proposed changes include reconstruction of the paths of travel from the parking stalls to the play areas to widen the path from four feet to six feet and installation of ADA accessible ramps at the points of

entry to the paths of travel. Additionally, new ADA compliant benches and tables are proposed to replace the existing benches and tables on site and new trash receptacles will be installed. The play structures will be power-washed and re-painted where necessary and new hand holds will be installed where necessary on the existing rock wall. Finally, a new soft rubber surface will be poured in the Art of Life play area. These measures would improve the paths of travel and meet current standards of public health and safety. None of the changes would expand the use of the play areas within the park.

Based on the evaluation of the project components in relation to the CEQA categorical exemptions, it is determined that the proposed project qualifies for exemption from CEQA review. The reconstruction of existing paths of travel, refurbishment of play equipment, and ADA accessibility upgrades falls within the criteria of Class 1 (Section 15301).

None of the exceptions to Categorical Exemptions set forth in the CEQA guidelines Section 15300.2 apply to this project. Furthermore, the proposed project is not expected to have a significant effect on the environment. Therefore, a categorical exemption, as noted above, has been prepared for the project.

No adverse environmental impacts will occur as a result of the proposed project.

Date: February 1, 2024

Prepared By: Harlavpreet Brar
Licensed Professional Engineer

Submitted By: Harlavpreet S. Brar
City of Fresno
Capital Projects Department
(559) 621-8687