

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: Solano

675 Texas Street, Suite 1900

Fairfield, CA 94533

From: (Public Agency): Greater Vallejo Recreation District
395 Amador Street
Vallejo, CA 94590

(Address)

FILED

DEC 20 2021

Project Title: Terrace Park Improvement Project

Project Applicant: Greater Vallejo Recreation District

Birgitta E. Corsello, Clerk of

the Board of Supervisors of

the County of Solano, State of California

Deputy: 

Project Location - Specific:

Located between Selfridge St and Rodgers St

Project Location - City: Vallejo

Project Location - County: Solano

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Greater Vallejo Recreation District (GVRD) is pursuing funding under the State Park Development and Community Revitalization Program (SPP) which requires environmental clearance. For this project a CEQA Notice of Exemption (NOE) was the appropriate form of documentation. The Terrace Park improvements project (proposed project) would benefit the residents of the City of Vallejo by improving existing recreational resources. The proposed project would occur in within two playground areas, the smaller being approximately 2,300 square feet (sf) and the larger being approximately 3,400 sf. Proposed improvements would involve removal of the existing play structures, and replacement with modern play structures. The project will not result in environmental impacts.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Greater Vallejo Recreation District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Greater Vallejo Recreation District

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: § 15301; §15303; and § 15304
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project would be developed within an existing 11 acre park site with only minor ground disturbance and construction on 2 play areas. The play areas are approximately 2,300 sf and 3,400 sf. The proposed project includes the removal of existing play structures and installation of new structures. The project does not involve any disturbance to previously undisturbed areas. The proposed project is consistent with State CEQA Exemptions Class 1 - Existing Facilities, Class 3 - New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures, and Class 4- Minor Alterations to Land in accordance with Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15300 et seq. (See attachment A).

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Gabriel Lanusse

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (707) 648-6403

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: 

Date: 12/17/2021

Title: General Manager

▪ 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: _____

Document Posted From

12/20/21 to _____

Revised 2011

Deputy Clerk of the Board

Attachment A

Terrace Park Improvements Project CEQA Exemption Information Form

Greater Vallejo Recreation District

Project Location

The Terrace Park Improvements Project (proposed project) is located within an existing park at Selfridge St & Rodgers St. The existing park occupies a total of approximately 11 acres. The park includes open space, a fenced baseball field, and two playground areas. The existing site has been completely modified from its native environment and does not contain any natural habitats or undisturbed areas. Selfridge St. borders the northeast side of the park, Rodgers St. borders the west side, and Daniels Ave. borders the northwest. Arden St. access to the park is blocked off to the public, however the paved road runs partially through the park southeast to northwest.. Surrounded areas predominantly consist of residential uses, but other uses include Federal Terrace Elementary, Sunrise Memorial Cemetery, a church, as well as a few commercial buildings/uses.

Proposed Improvements/Description

The proposed improvements would occur on two existing playground areas approximately 2,300 and 3,400 sf each. Improvements would include removing the existing play structures and installing new playground features. The proposed improvements constitute minor improvements and would require minor earthwork to install the supports for the playground structures. None of the improvements would occur in previously undisturbed areas.

Project Site Access

Primary access to the project site is via Daniels Ave on the northwest, which leads to an existing parking lot. Additional parking to access the site is provided by surface parking on Rodgers St and Selfridge St, which surround the site.

Land Uses

The City of Vallejo General Plan designates the project site for use as Park, Recreation, and Open Space (P-OS). The P-OS designation applies to lands intended for recreational use and/or natural resource preservation. Parks, playgrounds, active and passive recreational facilities, golf courses, marinas, passive uses, such as trails, for conservation and natural resource protection, and other similar uses are permitted in the P-OS designation. There is no maximum permitted FAR in the P-OS designation. The proposed project is consistent with the land use designation.

Reasons Why Project is Exempt

The proposed project is categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Class 1), Section 1503 (Class 3), and Section 15304 (Class 4).

- Section 15301, Class 1, is a categorical exemption which 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 existing or former use. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15303.)

The proposed project is categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, Class 1. The key consideration for a Class 1 CE is whether the project involves negligible or no expansion of an existing use. The proposed project would be permitted by the City of Vallejo for the minor improvements to the playground areas. Issuance of the permit(s) would be consistent with all applicable land use policy and guidance documents. The proposed project would occur entirely within existing disturbed and improved areas within the existing playground areas. No expansion would occur.

- Section 15303, Class 3, is a categorical exemption that consists of construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and the conversion of existing small structures from one use to another where only minor modifications are made in the exterior of the structure. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15303.)

The proposed project is categorically exempt from the provisions of the CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15303, Class 3. The key consideration for a Class 3 CE is whether the project involves installation of small new equipment or conversions of uses. The proposed project would install new modern play structures within the existing heavily disturbed areas containing the playground areas. The scope of installments falls within a Class 3 CE.

- Section 15304, Class 4, is a categorical exemption that consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic tree except for forestry and agricultural purpose. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15304.)

The proposed project is categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15304, Class 4. The key consideration for a Class 4 CE is whether the project involves alterations to public or private land, water, and/or vegetation. The proposed project is located within a previously disturbed area and installation of the improvements would require minor surficial earthwork to a depth of approximately two feet to install supports. The improvements would occur within existing playground areas and would not result in the removal of any healthy, mature, or scenic trees. Therefore, the project falls within a Class 4 CE.

Exceptions to Exemptions

The proposed project does not meet any of the exceptions to use of an exemption listed in CEQA Section 15300.2 per the following:

- a) Location. Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, and 11 are qualified by consideration of where the proposed project is to be located – a project that is ordinarily insignificant in its impact on the environment may be in a particularly sensitive environment be significant. Therefore, these classes are considered to apply in all instances, except where the project may impact an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.

The proposed project does not occur within a hazardous waste site and the proposed project would not use, handle, store, or dispose of substantial volumes of any acutely hazardous materials. All materials would be used and handled in conformance with all applicable regulations. Review of

the State Water Resources Control Board Geotracker tool or the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) EnviroStor Database revealed no evidence of hazardous materials sites on or near the project site.

- b) Cumulative Impact. All exemptions for these classes are inapplicable when the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time is significant.

As stated above, the proposed project would not have an impact on surrounding areas, adjoining sites, or result in a cumulative impact over time. The proposed project is consistent with the existing planning and intent of the City for recreational use of the site. The proposed project would not result in any impacts to the environment and would not make a cumulative contribution to an environmental impact.

- c) Significant Effect. A categorical exemption shall not be used for an activity where there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.

The proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment as it would occur on an existing park site where there is no habitat for federal or state listed species. The proposed project would not affect any historic, cultural, or tribal cultural resources.

- d) Scenic Highways. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources, within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway.

The proposed project would occur within an existing park and is not located within or adjacent to any officially designated state scenic highway. The proposed project would not remove any trees, or affect any historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources.

- e) Hazardous Waste Sites. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

See response to (a) above.

- f) Historical Resources. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

The project occurs within an existing park, and would replace existing children play equipment. No Historical resources would be affected.

Conclusion

The proposed project is consistent with State CEQA Exemptions Class 1 - Existing Facilities, Class 3 - New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures, and Class 4 - Minor Alterations to Land in accordance with Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15300 et seq. No exceptions to either Exemption detailed in §15300.2 would be applicable. Therefore, the Terrace Park Improvement Project is categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA.



State of California – The Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

CEQA Compliance Certification

GRANTEE: Greater Vallejo Recreation District

Project Name: Terrace Park Improvements Project

Project Address: Selfridge St & Rodgers St, Vallejo, CA 94590

Is CEQA complete? ☒ Yes ☐ No Is completing CEQA a PROJECT SCOPE item? ☐ Yes ☐ No

What document was filed, or is expected to be filed for this project's CEQA analysis:

Date complete/expected to be completed

- ☒ Notice of Exemption (attach recorded copy if filed) 12/17/2021
☐ Notice of Determination (attach recorded copy if filed)
☐ Other:


If CEQA is complete, and a Notice of Exemption or Notice of Determination was not filed, attach a letter from the Lead Agency explaining why, certifying the project has complied with CEQA and noting the date that the project was approved by the Lead Agency.

Lead Agency Contact Information	
Greater Vallejo Recreation District	
Agency Name: Greater Vallejo Recreation District	
Contact Person: Gabriel Lanusse M.P.A - General Manager	
Mailing Address: 395 Amador Street, Vallejo, CA 94590	
Phone: () (707) 648-4603	Email: glanusse@gvrd.org

Certification:

I hereby certify that the above referenced Lead Agency has complied or will comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and that the project is described in adequate and sufficient detail to allow the project's construction or acquisition.

I further certify that the CEQA analysis for this project encompasses all aspects of the work to be completed with grant funds.

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE Signature	Date
	12/17/21
Print Name and Title	
Gabriel Lanusse - General Manager	12/17/2021

FOR OGALS USE ONLY

CEQA Document	Date Received	PO Initials
<input type="checkbox"/> NOE <input type="checkbox"/> NOD		