

# Los Angeles Unified School District

## Office of Environmental Health and Safety

AUSTIN BEUTNER  
Superintendent of Schools

VIVIAN EKCHIAN  
Deputy Superintendent

CARLOS A. TORRES  
Director, Environmental Health and Safety

### NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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ORIGINAL FILED

MAR 01 2019

LOS ANGELES, COUNTY CLERK

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**To:** County Clerk and Registrar-Recorder  
County of Los Angeles  
12400 Imperial Highway  
Norwalk, CA 90650

**From:** LAUSD OEHS  
333 South Beaudry Avenue  
21<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

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**Project Title:**

Lorena Elementary School Electronic Marquee Project

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**Project Location – Specific:**

The Lorena Elementary School Electronic Marquee Project (Project) will be located on the Los Angeles Unified School District's (LAUSD's or District's) Lorena Elementary School (Lorena ES) campus. Lorena ES is located at 1015 South Lorena Street, Los Angeles, California 90023.

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**Project Location – City:**

Los Angeles

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**Project Location – County:**

Los Angeles

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**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:**

The Project as analyzed in this Notice of Exemption will entail the installation of a new free-standing electronic marquee. The cabinet of the marquee will be 4 feet in height and 8 feet wide and mounted on a pedestal that is 3 feet 6 inches in height and 2 feet 8 inches wide. No increases in student enrollment, capacity, or intensity of use are proposed as part of this Project.

The Project will be implemented pursuant to all District Standards and Specifications,<sup>1</sup> as well as all applicable State, federal, and local regulations. The beneficiaries of the Project include Lorena ES students, faculty, staff, families, school supporters, and the community at large who may request access to the school pursuant to the Civic Center Act (CA Ed. Code Sections 38130 - 38139).

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**Name of Public Agency Approving the Project:**

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<sup>1</sup> LAUSD OEHS, "School Upgrade Program Final Environmental Impact Report," <http://achieve.lausd.net/ceqa>, Adopted by the Board of Education on November 10, 2015.  
Doc# 673191

333 South Beaudry Avenue, 21<sup>st</sup> Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017 • Telephone (213) 241-3199 • Fax (213) 241-6816

*Our Mission: To ensure a safe and healthy environment for students to learn, teachers to teach, and employees to work.  
Our Vision: To eliminate all environmental, health, and safety risks at schools.*

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Los Angeles Unified School District

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:**

Los Angeles Unified School District

**Exempt Status: (check one below)**

- Ministerial [Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 21080(b)(1); CEQA Guidelines Section 15268<sup>2</sup>];
- Declared Emergency [PRC Section 21080(b)(3); CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(a)];
- Emergency Project [PRC Section 21080(b)(4); CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(b)(c)];
- Categorical Exemption (PRC Section 21084; CEQA Guidelines Sections 15300 -15333):
  - *CEQA Guidelines Section 15303 – New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures*
  - *CEQA Guidelines Section 15311 – Accessory Structures*
- Statutory Exemption:

**Reasons why project is exempt:**

Section 15303 - New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures

Class 3 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. The numbers of structures described in this section are the maximum allowable on any legal parcel.

The Project consists of installing a new freestanding electronic marquee on the existing Lorena ES campus. The Project will not generate growth or require the addition or construction of new or expanded facilities. The Project will not present a new or expanded use of the campus. Therefore, the Project fulfills the requirements of CEQA Guidelines Section 15303.

Section 15311 – Accessory Structures

Class 11 consists of construction, or placement of minor structures accessory to (appurtenant to) existing commercial, industrial, or institutional facilities.

The Project consists of installing a new freestanding electronic marquee on the existing Lorena ES campus. The Project will place a minor structure accessory to an existing institutional facility. Therefore, the Project fulfills the requirements of CEQA Guidelines Section 15311.

Section 15300.2 – Exceptions

Section 15300.2 of the CEQA Guidelines, Exceptions, provides conditions under which categorical exemptions are inapplicable. Review of the Project indicates that it will not violate any of the exceptions, as described in the following section.

1. *The project will occur in certain specified sensitive environments or locations;*

The Project will occur on an existing campus that is located within an urban setting.<sup>3</sup> The surrounding uses are residential and commercial. The campus has not been designated as a biologically sensitive site or location and

<sup>2</sup> CEQA Guidelines can be found at California Code of Regulations Title 14, Chapter 3, Section 15000 - Section 15387.

<sup>3</sup> City of Los Angeles. ZIMAS. Available at: <http://zimas.lacity.org/>. Accessed February 2019.

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6. *The project may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historic resource.*

Lorena ES is over 45 years old, meeting LAUSD's threshold for review as a potential historic resource and requiring evaluation for historic eligibility. LAUSD has identified Lorena ES as eligible for listing as a historic resource per Section 18955 of the California State Historical Building Code (CHBC).<sup>10</sup>

In accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b)(3), a project that conforms to the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties (Secretary's Standards)* is generally considered to be a project that will not cause a significant adverse impact. (14 CCR Section 15126.4(b)(1)). If a project meets the *Secretary's Standards*, the project can, in most cases, be considered categorically exempt from CEQA (14 CCR Section 15331) and qualify for a Notice of Exemption.

*Secretary's Standards* conformance review was completed by OEHS's Historic Preservation Specialist for Lorena ES to ensure compliance with applicable guidelines (the *Secretary's Standards* and *Los Angeles Unified School District Design Guidelines and Treatment Approaches for Historic Schools*). The Project will conform to the *Secretary's Standards* at Lorena ES.<sup>11</sup> As the work at the school shall conform with the *Secretary's Standards* and the *LAUSD Design Guidelines*, OEHS' Historical Preservation Specialist has determined that the Project meets the requirements specified in CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b)(3) and will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

Should the scope of the Project activities be altered from the components that are described above, standard District procedure requires that OEHS must be notified immediately to ensure that these activities are conducted in compliance with the *Secretary's Standards* and would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource. Therefore, OEHS has determined that the Project will not be expected to materially impair the significance of the historic resource and therefore will not be expected to cause a substantial adverse historic impact.

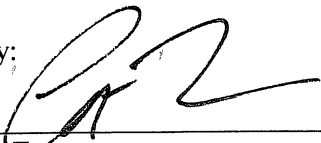
Prepared By:

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Phone and Email:

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cp-christy.wong@LAUSD.net

Signed by:



Carlos A. Torres  
CEQA Officer of the Los Angeles Unified School District

Date:

2/20/2019

<sup>10</sup> State of California. 2003. State Historical Building Code, Health and Safety Code, Division 13, Part 2.7, Section 18955. Available at: [http://www.dgs.ca.gov/dsa/AboutUs/shbsb/shbsb\\_health\\_safety.aspx](http://www.dgs.ca.gov/dsa/AboutUs/shbsb/shbsb_health_safety.aspx). Also see California Building Standards Commission. 2014. California Code of Regulations, Title 24, California Historical Building Code, Section 8-101.2. Washington, DC. p. 4.

<sup>11</sup> LAUSD OEHS. 2019. "Lorena ES SOIS Compliance Review"