Los Angeles Unified School District
Office of Environmental Health and Safety

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

From:
LAUSD OEHS
333 S. Beaudry Avenue
21st Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017

To:

Project Title:
Grab & Go Food Centers

Project Location – Specific:
63 Los Angeles Unified School District locations (see the attached list)

Project Location – City:
Various

Project Location – County:
Los Angeles

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD or District) closed its campuses from March 16, 2020 to May 1, 2020 (or until further notice) in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. In response, the District, in partnership with the Red Cross, opened 63 Grab & Go Food Centers (Centers) to distribute free meals to all students who need them during the temporary closure of schools (Project). The 63 Centers are staffed weekdays from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Each student is provided two meals to eat at home. The conversion of 63 of the District’s campuses to Centers (Project) are staffed with existing District staff and are located on existing District school campuses.

The Centers use existing District facilities and utilities; however, the Centers may require additional facilities and utilities to respond to the demand associated with the Project. While the specific needs for each of the Centers may vary, it is

1 The opening and closures of these Grab and Go Food Centers at various school campuses are subject to change at the District’s discretion in response to the coronavirus pandemic.
2 As of April 8, 2020, the District has served more than 5 million meals.
anticipated that some variation of additional storage, refrigeration, generators, and/or traffic (new car trips) will be associated with the Centers need to adapt to their new, temporary functions.

The Project is being implemented to respond to an unanticipated emergency. The primary purpose of the Project is to provide continued nutrition for all District students in need of meals while school campuses are closed. The beneficiaries of the Project include students and families being served by each of the Centers.

Name of Public Agency Approving the Project:
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]:
☒ 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):
☐ Statutory Exemption:

Reasons why project is exempt:

Section 15269(a) Declared Emergency
Projects to maintain, repair, restore, demolish, or replace property or facilities damaged or destroyed as a result of a disaster in a disaster stricken area in which a state of emergency has been proclaimed by the Governor pursuant to the California Emergency Services Act, commencing with Section 8550 of the Government Code. This includes projects that will remove, destroy, or significantly alter an historical resource when that resource represents an imminent threat to the public of bodily harm or of damage to adjacent property or when the project has received a determination by the State Office of Historic Preservation pursuant to Section 5028(b) of Public Resources Code.

On March 4, 2020 the Governor of the State of California declared a state of emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Project is a response to the ongoing need to feed the District’s students during this emergency.

Section 15269 (b)(c) Emergency Project
(b) Emergency repairs to publicly or privately owned service facilities necessary to maintain service essential to the public health, safety or welfare.

(c) Specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency. This does not include long-term projects undertaken for the purpose of preventing or mitigating a situation that has a low probability of occurrence in the short-term.

As previously noted, the Project is responding to the need to continue to feed students during an emergency, the COVID-19 pandemic.

3 CEQA Guidelines can be found at California Code of Regulations Title 14, Chapter 3, Section 15000 - Section 15387.
Prepared By:

Christy Wong
Assistant CEQA Project Manager/Contract Professional

Signed by:

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

Phone and Email:

(213) 241-3394
cp-christy.wong@LAUSD.net

Date:

4/22/2020