



Date of Notice: November 28, 2023

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

PROJECT NAME: Right of Entry Permit for the San Diego Natural History Museum Demonstration Gardens

COMMUNITY PLAN AREA: Balboa Park

COUNCIL DISTRICT: District 3

LOCATION: San Diego Natural History Museum, 1788 El Prado, San Diego, CA 92101

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Right of Entry Permit between the City of San Diego (City) and the San Diego Natural History Museum and BrightView Landscape Development Inc. to install demonstration gardens and improvements within Balboa Park located around the exterior of the San Diego Natural History Museum. The proposed improvements include the following:

1. Installation of new interpretive gardens on the north, east, south and west side of the building to include new trees, plantings, interpretive signage, and irrigation systems.
2. Installation of new raised planters.
3. Installation of bench and boulder seating.
4. Installation of new decomposed granite paths.
5. Installation of a new concrete ramp.
6. Installation of new bicycle parking.
7. Improvements to the existing accessible path from the parking lot to the building.

ENTITY CONSIDERING PROJECT APPROVAL: City of San Diego

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: This activity is categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Existing Facilities), Section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land), Section 15311(a) (Accessory Structures), and Section 15331 (Historical Resources Restoration/Rehabilitation).

ENTITY MAKING ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: City of San Diego Mayor-Appointed Designee.

STATEMENT SUPPORTING REASON FOR ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:

The City of San Diego conducted an environmental review that determined the project would not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) 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; Section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land), which 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 trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes; Section 15311(a) (Accessory Structures) which consists of the construction, or placement of minor structures accessory to (appurtenant to) existing commercial, industrial, or institutional facilities, including but not limited to on-premise signs; and Section 15331 (Historical Resource Restoration/Rehabilitation) which exempts projects limited to the maintenance, repair, stabilization, rehabilitation, restoration, preservation, or reconstruction of historical resources in a manner consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings (1995), Weeks and Grimmer. The exceptions listed in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 would not apply in that no cumulative impacts were identified, no significant effects on the environment were identified, the project is not adjacent to a scenic highway, and the project was not identified on a list of hazardous waste sites pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

As to the exception for historical resources, the San Diego Natural History Museum is within Balboa Park, which is designated as Historical Resources Board (HRB) Site #1. The scope of work for this project has been reviewed by Heritage Preservation staff in the City Planning Department who have determined that the proposed improvements would conform with the U.S. Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Rehabilitation of a Historic Property. Therefore, the proposed project will not result in a significant impact to historical resources, and the exception to the exemption does not apply.

CITY CONTACT: Tyler Canales, District Manager

MAILING ADDRESS: City of San Diego Parks & Recreation Department, 2125 Park Blvd., MS 39, San Diego, CA 92101

PHONE NUMBER/E-MAIL: 619-235-1124/ TCanales@sandiego.gov

On November 28, 2023, the City of San Diego made the above-referenced environmental determination pursuant to CEQA. This determination is appealable to the City Council. If you have any questions about this determination, contact the City Contact listed above.

Applications to appeal the CEQA determination to the City Council must be filed with the Office of the Clerk within five (5) business days from the date of the posting of this Notice (**December 5, 2023**). Appeals to the City Clerk must be filed via e-mail or in-person as follows:

1. Appeals filed via Email: The Environmental Determination Appeal Application Form [DS-3031](#) can be obtained at <https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/legacy/development-services/pdf/industry/forms/ds3031.pdf>. Send the completed appeal form (including grounds for appeal and supporting documentation in pdf format) by email to Hearings1@sandiego.gov by 5:00pm on the last day of the appeal period; your email appeal will be acknowledged within 24 business hours. You must separately mail the appeal fee by check payable to the City Treasurer to: City Clerk/Appeal, MS 2A, 202 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101. The appeal filing fee must be United States Postal Service (USPS) postmarked before or on the final date of the appeal.
2. Appeals filed In-Person: The Environmental Determination Appeal Application Form [DS-3031](#) can be obtained at: <https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/legacy/development-services/pdf/industry/forms/ds3031.pdf>. Bring the fully completed appeal application [DS-3031](#)

(including grounds for appeal and supporting documentation) to the City Administration Building— Public Information Counter (Open 8:00am to 5:00pm Monday through Friday excluding City approved holidays), 1st Floor Lobby, located at 202 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101, by 5:00pm on the last day of the appeal period. The completed appeal form shall include the required appeal fee, with a check payable to: City Treasurer.

The appeal application can also be obtained from the City Clerk, 202 'C' Street, Second Floor, San Diego, CA 92101.

This information will be made available in alternative formats upon request.

POSTED ON THE CITY'S CEQA WEBSITE

POSTED: 11/28/2023

REMOVED: _____

POSTED: T. Ash-Reynolds