

EXHIBIT D
ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE (ENV-2019-3816-CE)
DIR-2019-3815-DB-1A

COUNTY CLERK'S USE

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
200 NORTH SPRING STREET, ROOM 395
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

(PRC Section 21152; CEQA Guidelines Section 15062)

Filing of this form is optional. If filed, the form shall be filed with the County Clerk, 12400 E. Imperial Highway, Norwalk, CA 90650, pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21152(b) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15062. Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21167 (d), the posting of this notice starts a 35-day statute of limitations on court challenges to reliance on an exemption for the project. Failure to file this notice as provided above, results in the statute of limitations being extended to 180 days.

PARENT CASE NUMBER(S) / REQUESTED ENTITLEMENTS
DIR-2019-3815-DB / Density bonus & Affordable Housing Incentives

LEAD CITY AGENCY **City of Los Angeles (Department of City Planning)** CASE NUMBER ENV-2019-3816-CE

PROJECT TITLE N/A COUNCIL DISTRICT 11

PROJECT LOCATION (Street Address and Cross Streets and/or Attached Map) Map attached.
11961 West Venice Boulevard

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Additional page(s) attached.
The project is a 5-story multi-family residential dwelling measuring 57-foot 6-inches, contains 38 residential dwelling units (including 5 Very Low Income units) and 30,681 square feet of floor area. The project will provide 39 vehicle parking spaces in one subterranean parking level, and will replace 4 vehicle parking spaces with bicycle parking. The project will provide 52 long-term bicycle spaces and 4 short-term bicycle spaces. The existing medical office building will be demolished. There are no existing trees on the subject site. One non-protected tree in the adjacent public right-of-way will be removed to accommodate the proposed driveway. The project will require the grading and export of approximately 8,008 cubic yards of soil.

NAME OF APPLICANT / OWNER:
Scott Walter / 9033 Ramsgate, LLC, 9037 Ramsgate, LLC, & 9043 Ramsgate, LLC

CONTACT PERSON (If different from Applicant/Owner above) **Alix Wisner / Armbruster Goldsmith & Delvac LLP** (AREA CODE) TELEPHONE NUMBER **(310) 209-8800** | EXT.

EXEMPT STATUS: (Check all boxes, and include all exemptions, that apply and provide relevant citations.)
STATE CEQA STATUTE & GUIDELINES
 STATUTORY EXEMPTION(S)
Public Resources Code Section(s) _____
 CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION(S) (State CEQA Guidelines Sec. 15301-15333 / Class 1-Class 33)
CEQA Guideline Section(s) / Class(es) **Sec. 15332 / Class 32**
 OTHER BASIS FOR EXEMPTION (E.g., CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) or (b)(4) or Section 15378(b))

JUSTIFICATION FOR PROJECT EXEMPTION: Additional page(s) attached
The proposed project qualifies for a Class 32 Categorical Exemption as it is developed on an infill site and meets the conditions as follows: (a) The Project is consistent with the applicable general plan designation and all applicable general plan policies as well as with the applicable zoning designation and regulations; (b) The proposed development occurs within city limits on a Project Site of no more than five acres substantially surrounded by urban uses; (c) The Project Site has no value as habitat for endangered, rare or threatened species; (d) Approval of the Project would not result in any significant effects relating to traffic, noise, air quality, or water quality; and (e) The Site can be adequately served by all required utilities and public services.
 None of the exceptions in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 to the categorical exemption(s) apply to the Project.
 The project is identified in one or more of the list of activities in the City of Los Angeles CEQA Guidelines as cited in the justification.

IF FILED BY APPLICANT, ATTACH CERTIFIED DOCUMENT ISSUED BY THE CITY PLANNING DEPARTMENT STATING THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAS FOUND THE PROJECT TO BE EXEMPT.
If different from the applicant, the identity of the person undertaking the project.

CITY STAFF USE ONLY:
CITY STAFF NAME AND SIGNATURE *Esther Serrato* STAFF TITLE City Planning Associate

ENTITLEMENTS APPROVED
Density bonus & Affordable Housing Incentives

FEE: \$5,774.00 RECEIPT NO. 0104058805 REC'D. BY (DCP DSC STAFF NAME) Ulises Gonzalez

DISTRIBUTION: County Clerk, Agency Record

DEPARTMENT OF
CITY PLANNING

COMMISSION OFFICE
(213) 978-1300

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**JUSTIFICATION FOR PROJECT EXEMPTION
CASE NO. ENV-2019-3816-CE**

As the designee of the Director of Planning, I have determined, based on the whole of the administrative record, that the Project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines, Article 19, Section 15332 (Class 32), and that there is no substantial evidence demonstrating that an exception to a categorical exemption pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2 applies.

The Proposed Project is a five-story multi-family residential dwelling measuring 57-foot 6-inches in the C2 Zone and 45-feet in the R3 Zone. The Proposed Project contains 38 residential dwelling units (including 5 Very Low Income units). The building will be approximately 30,681 square feet of floor area, with a Floor Area Ratio ("FAR") of 2.89:1. The project will provide 39 vehicle parking spaces in one subterranean parking level, and will replace four (4) vehicle parking spaces with bicycle parking as permitted by Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Section 12.21 A.4. The project will also provide 52 long-term bicycle spaces and four (4) short-term bicycle spaces. The existing medical office building will be demolished. There are no existing trees on the subject site. One non-protected tree in the adjacent public right-of-way will be removed to accommodate the proposed driveway. The project will require the grading and export of approximately 8,008 cubic yards of soil. As a multi-family residential building and a project which is characterized as in-fill development, the project qualifies for the Class 32 Categorical Exemption.

CEQA Determination – Class 32 Categorical Exemption Applies

A project qualifies for a Class 32 Categorical Exemption if it is developed on an infill site and meets the following criteria:

- (a) **The project is consistent with the applicable general plan designation and all applicable general plan policies as well as with the applicable zoning designation and regulations.**

The subject site is located within the Palms – Mar Vista – Del Rey Community Plan and is designated for Community Commercial Land Uses, corresponding to the CR, C2, C4, RAS3, and RAS4 Zones. The site is zoned C2-1 and is consistent with the land use designation. As shown in the case file, the project is consistent with the applicable Palms – Mar Vista – Del Rey Community Plan designation and policies and all applicable zoning designations and regulations.

- (b) **The proposed development occurs within city limits on a project site of no more than five acres substantially surrounded by urban uses.**

The subject site is wholly within the City of Los Angeles, on a site that is approximately 0.27 acres. The existing site is improved with a medical office building. Lots adjacent to

the subject site are developed with the following urban uses: commercial and multi-family residential uses.

- (c) **The project site has no value as habitat for endangered, rare or threatened species.**

The site is previously disturbed and surrounded by development and therefore is not, and has no value as, a habitat for endangered, rare or threatened species. There are trees on the subject site. There is one non-protected tree in the adjacent public right-of-way, as identified in the Tree Report prepared by McKinley & Associates on October 17, 2019, which will be removed to accommodate the proposed driveway.

- (d) **Approval of the project would not result in any significant effects relating to traffic, noise, air quality, or water quality.**

The project will be subject to Regulatory Compliance Measures (RCMs), which require compliance with the City of Los Angeles Noise Ordinance, pollutant discharge, dewatering, stormwater mitigations; and Best Management Practices for stormwater runoff. More specifically, RCMs include but are not limited to:

- **Regulatory Compliance Measure RC-AQ-1(Demolition, Grading and Construction Activities): Compliance with provisions of the SCAQMD District Rule 403.** The project shall comply with all applicable standards of the Southern California Air Quality Management District, including the following provisions of District Rule 403:
 - All unpaved demolition and construction areas shall be wetted at least twice daily during excavation and construction, and temporary dust covers shall be used to reduce dust emissions and meet SCAQMD District Rule 403. Wetting could reduce fugitive dust by as much as 50 percent.
 - The construction area shall be kept sufficiently dampened to control dust caused by grading and hauling, and at all times provide reasonable control of dust caused by wind.
 - All clearing, earth moving, or excavation activities shall be discontinued during periods of high winds (i.e., greater than 15 mph), so as to prevent excessive amounts of dust.
 - All dirt/soil loads shall be secured by trimming, watering or other appropriate means to prevent spillage and dust.
 - All dirt/soil materials transported off-site shall be either sufficiently watered or securely covered to prevent excessive amount of dust.
 - General contractors shall maintain and operate construction equipment so as to minimize exhaust emissions.
 - Trucks having no current hauling activity shall not idle but be turned off.
- **Regulatory Compliance Measure RC-GEO-1 (Seismic):** The design and construction of the project shall conform to the California Building Code seismic standards as approved by the Department of Building and Safety.
- **Regulatory Compliance Measure RC-NO-1 (Demolition, Grading, and Construction Activities):** The project shall comply with the City of Los Angeles Noise Ordinance and any subsequent ordinances, which prohibit the emission or creation of noise beyond certain levels at adjacent uses unless technically infeasible.

These RCMs will ensure the project will not have significant impacts on noise and water. Furthermore, the project does not exceed the threshold criteria established by the Los

Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) for preparing a traffic study. Therefore, the project will not have any significant impacts to traffic. Interim thresholds were developed by DCP staff based on California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod) runs relying on reasonable assumptions, consulting with AQMD staff, and surveying published air quality studies for which criteria air pollutants did not exceed the established SCAQMD construction and operational thresholds.

(e) **The site can be adequately served by all required utilities and public services.**

The project site will be adequately served by all public utilities and services given that the construction of a multi-family residential building will be on a site which has been previously developed and is consistent with the General Plan. Therefore, the project meets all of the Criteria for the Class 32.

CEQA Section 15300.2: Exceptions to the Use of Categorical Exemptions

There are five (5) Exceptions which must be considered in order to find a project exempt under Class 32:

(a) **Cumulative Impacts.** *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.*

There is not a succession of known projects of the same type and in the same place as the subject project. Therefore, no cumulative impacts would occur.

(b) **Significant Effect Due to Unusual Circumstances.** *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.*

As mentioned, the project proposes a multi-family residential building in an area zoned and designated for such uses. Adjacent lots are developed with commercial and multi-family residential uses, and the subject site is of a similar size and slope to nearby properties. The project proposes a Floor Area Ratio (FAR) of 2.89:1 on a site that is permitted to have a maximum FAR of 3:1 through the Density Bonus Affordable Housing Program and pursuant to LAMC Section 12.22 A.25. The project size and height is not unusual for the vicinity of the subject site. Thus, there are no unusual circumstances which may lead to a significant effect on the environment.

(c) **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 only State Scenic Highway within the City of Los Angeles is the Topanga Canyon State Scenic Highway, State Route 27, which travels through a portion of Topanga State Park. The State Route 27 is approximately 8.9 miles northwest of the subject site. Therefore, the subject site will not create any impacts within a designated as a state scenic highway.

- (d) **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*

According to Envirostor, the State of California's database of Hazardous Waste Sites, neither the subject site, nor any site in the vicinity, is identified as a hazardous waste site.

- (e) **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 site has not been identified as a historic resource by local or state agencies, and the project site has not been determined to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, California Register of Historical Resources, the Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments Register, and/or any local register; and was not found to be a potential historic resource based on the City's HistoricPlacesLA website or SurveyLA, the citywide survey of Los Angeles. Finally, the City does not choose to treat the site as a historic resource. Based on this, the project will not result in a substantial adverse change to the significance of a historic resource and this exception does not apply.