

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
CPC-2020-4926-CA

LEAD CITY AGENCY City of Los Angeles (Department of City Planning)	CASE NUMBER ENV-2021-325-CE-SE
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PROJECT TITLE Local Emergency Code Amendment	COUNCIL DISTRICT Citywide
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PROJECT LOCATION (Street Address and Cross Streets and/or Attached Map) Citywide	<input type="checkbox"/> Map attached.
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Code Amendment (CA) to Article 6 of Chapter 1 of the LAMC, to provide regulatory relief from specific Zoning Code provisions during a declared Local Emergency. See attachment for further detail.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional page(s) attached.
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NAME OF APPLICANT / OWNER:
City of Los Angeles

CONTACT PERSON (If different from Applicant/Owner above) Andrew Pennington	(AREA CODE) TELEPHONE NUMBER EXT. (213) 978-1395
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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) 21080.25

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION(S) (State CEQA Guidelines Sec. 15301-15333 / Class 1-Class 33)
CEQA Guideline Section(s) / Class(es) Sec. 15301/Class 1

OTHER BASIS FOR EXEMPTION (E.g., CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) or (b)(4) or Section 15378(b))

JUSTIFICATION FOR PROJECT EXEMPTION:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional page(s) attached
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Please see attachment.

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 Andrew Pennington	STAFF TITLE Planning Assistant

ENTITLEMENTS APPROVED

FEE:	RECEIPT NO.	REC'D. BY (DCP DSC STAFF NAME)
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Attachment to Notice of Exemption ENV-2021-325-CE-SE

Project Description

The Local Emergency Code Amendment project is an ordinance amending and establishing new provisions within Article 6 of Chapter I of the Los Angeles Municipal Code. This amendment will supplement the current provisions and procedures within Article 6, which details the various temporary regulations available during a declared local emergency. The proposed ordinance will provide the Los Angeles City Council and Mayor with a mechanism, during a declared local emergency, to enact an extension of time limits for certain conditional use permits and related actions, suspension of valet and off-site parking conditions of approval for certain entitlements, and suspension of additional parking requirements when a change of use occurs to a nonresidential use as well as for the creation or expansion of outdoor dining or outdoor eating areas. Certain eligibility criteria must be meant to take advantage of these regulatory relief measures. All these provisions will only be available for activation during a local emergency declared by the City of Los Angeles or State of California. Furthermore, the provisions will only be available upon approval of an affirmative resolution by Council by majority vote or by emergency order by the Mayor, and the time period they are applicable during are time limited. However, if activated, the automobile parking provisions for changes of use and outdoor dining will be permanent for approved projects. The suspension of valet parking and off-site parking conditions of approval are limited to the time frame the provisions are active. Finally, the project will rename Article 6 and create an exception, for these provisions, from the general activation clause of the Article.

Justification for CEQA Exemption (PRC Section 21080.25 & Class 1, Category 15301 Existing Facilities)

Chapter 2.6, Section 21080.25 of the State's Public Resources Code provides a statutory exemption from CEQA for "a project carried out by a city or county to reduce minimum parking requirements." A central component of this Project pertains to reductions in automobile parking requirements and provisions.

The Project provides regulatory relief from certain automobile parking requirements during a declared local emergency and for a short period thereafter, among other provisions. The relief provided allows for existing buildings undergoing a change of use to maintain its existing required parking, and not be required to provide additional parking even if it would otherwise be required. This provision is permanent for applicable properties and businesses and in some instances will result in an overall reduction of required parking below current Code parking requirements for the life of that use and/or structure.

Furthermore, it temporarily relieves, during said local emergency and for a short period thereafter, certain requirements for off-site parking, valet parking, and for the creation or expansion of outdoor dining or outdoor eating areas. The suspension of these requirements will limit the available automobile parking, regardless of whether said parking is a requirement itself, for any operators thus resulting in a reduction of minimum parking requirements.

Article 19, Section 15301, Class 1 of the State's CEQA Guidelines exempts projects that consist 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."

The Project is limited in scope and applicability. The Project is tailored to impact only existing structures and entitlement approvals, and only in relation to its automobile parking requirements and time limits for utilization of previously approved and environmentally reviewed projects by the City. Its applicability is limited to times of local emergency and for a short period thereafter only. The Project does not change any zoning or General Plan designations, create any zoning entitlements, approve any development, authorize new construction, or introduce any new uses. Due to the limitations imposed on the provided relief, including the limits on their applicability to times of local emergencies and restrictions on the size and age of structures eligible for parking reductions, it is reasonable to expect no more than a negligible expansion of use or development capacity.

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2, none of the exceptions to qualifying for a Categorical Exemption apply. The Project does not authorize any construction projects, and thus will not result in a construction project having a significant effect or unusual circumstance, or affect scenic highways, hazardous waste sites, or historical resources.