

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 – 10th Street, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
Office of Facility Planning, Construction and Management
9838 Old Placerville Road, Suite B, Sacramento, CA 95827

PROJECT TITLE: Statewide Medication Distribution Phase II

Description Of Nature, Purpose, And Beneficiaries Of Project: The purpose of this project is to design and construct medication distribution rooms (MDRs) and medication preparation rooms (MPRs) within multiple California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) facilities. See attached list for the statewide facility locations. All work shall be compliant with CDCR Design Criteria and Construction Policy Guidelines, Building Codes, Americans With Disabilities Act, and State Fire Marshal Requirements. The following describes both MDR and MPR projects:

MDR: Lack of adequate MDRs and windows for the inmates does not allow for timely, effective, and secure medication distribution. Without adequate medication distribution windows, nursing staff are exposed to safety risks daily. Medication distribution is performed on the dayroom floor where inmates have open access. There is a possibility that medications could be stolen or vandalized due to the medication cart being in the open dayroom rather than in a secured room. WiFi data connectivity is also not available on the dayroom floor for access to information management systems for review of inmate-patient medical records. As a result, nursing staff are unable to access electronic health care records from the dayroom which prevents nursing staff from resolving any discrepancies that could lead to medication errors. The existing system also requires a subsequent activity after distribution is completed to record the medication that has been provided to each inmate. This existing medication distribution system is susceptible to medication errors which can lead to deterioration of an inmate-patient's medical condition, potentially subjecting CDCR to medical liability claims.

MPR: The existing MPRs are inadequately sized to accommodate the medication preparation nursing functions and there is no secure location to store medications. The spaces lack sinks in the medication room violating infection control standards. In addition, the spaces have inadequate Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) systems, leading to spoilage and degradation of medications, inadequate clinical response to medications, and the possibility for further health complications for inmate-patients.

These improvements will increase staff productivity and safety as well as ensure compliance with the Plata Court by providing timely inmate-patient access to medication. The project will not change the overall use of the existing facility.

Name Of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

Name Of Person Or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Office of Facility Planning, Construction, and Management, 9838 Old Placerville Road, Sacramento, CA 95827

EXEMPT STATUS:

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268)
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))
- Categorical Exemption Class 1, CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Existing facilities)

Reason Why Project Is Exempt: The project consists of reconfiguring/renovation and minor expansion to existing facilities involving negligible or no expansion of use but to improve existing health care services to inmate-patients. All components of the project are within developed and disturbed areas. This project meets the criteria of classes of projects that the Secretary for Resources has found do not have a significant effect on the environment, and therefore is declared to be categorically exempt from the requirement for preparing an environmental document.

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