

Campus Planning 100 Campus Center, Bldg 37 Seaside, CA 93955-8001 831-582-5098/aspear@csumb.edu

## Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research P.O. Box 3044, Room 113 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 County of: <u>Monterey</u> <u>168 W Alisal Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor</u> <u>Salinas, CA 93901</u>

From: <u>California State University</u>, <u>Monterey</u> Bay 100 Campus Center, Bldg 37 Seaside, CA 93955

Project Title: <u>Building #36 Renovation for Custodial Services</u> Project Applicant: <u>California State University</u>, <u>Monterey Bay (CSUMB)</u> Project Location - Specific: <u>CSUMB campus</u>, on <u>Butler St between 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> avenues</u> Project Location – City: <u>N/A</u>, <u>unincorporated Monterey County</u> Project Location County: <u>Monterey</u>

## Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

## Nature of Project:

The proposed project will renovate a 4,130-square-foot (SF) portion of a 14,000-SF warehouse building (Building #36 on the campus master plan map) in order to provide office, laundry, a staff break room, and training space for 26 custodial staff. The building is located in the southeast corner of campus (between 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> avenues south of Butler Street). Interior building improvements will include: accessibility, electrical, HVAC, interior, plumbing, fire/life safety, telecom and mechanical improvements to meet current code requirements. The HVAC system will run off heat pumps, thereby eliminating Scope 1 (direct) greenhouse gases associated with traditional gas heating. Exterior building improvements include: trenching within existing asphalt to create a water connection, removing bollards and creating an accessible parking stall, installation of heat pumps on the west and east sides of the building, and replacement of an existing electricity line on the west side of the building. Approximately 100 feet of trenching is required to replace the existing electric connection within a disturbed area west of the building.



## **Project Purpose and Beneficiaries:**

The project will implement improvements and repurpose existing space in order to accommodate all campus custodial services, which are currently housed in Building #37, in Building #36. New and expanded bathroom, laundry and office space proposed in Building #36 will improve working conditions and efficiency of custodial staff. The space in Building #37 to be vacated by custodial staff will allow Facilities Services and Operations and Campus Planning & Development departments to collocate in that building.

## Name of Public Agency Approving Project: <u>The Trustees of The California State University</u> Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: <u>CSUMB</u>

## **Exempt Status:**

The project qualifies for the common sense exemption (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3))), which states, "Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA". A biological assessment found no sensitive habitat or species in the project area and no significant impacts on other environmental resources or related to other environmental issues are anticipated.

## Reasons why the project is exempt:

The project consists of minor alteration of an existing public structure and will involve only minor modifications to the building exterior. Although the project is otherwise consistent with the qualifications for Class I and Class 3 categorical exemptions from CEQA per Sections 15301 and 15303 of the State CEQA Guidelines, the CSU Monterey Bay campus is located on the former Fort Ord Superfund site, and pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300(h), Hazardous Waste Sites, categorical exemptions are inapplicable for projects so located. Because the majority of the proposed improvements will take place interior to an existing building, with the limited exception in a disturbed area as described above, it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed project may have a significant effect on the environment.

## Lead Agency Contact Person: Anya Spear

Area Code/Telephone/Email: (831) 582-5098 / aspear@csumb.edu



#### If filed by applicant:

- 1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
- 2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project?

Yes<u>x</u>No

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Signature:

Title: Associate Director for Regional Environmental Planning

X Signed by Lead Agency or Signed by Applicant

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

MAY 14 2020

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_

# **STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

Authority cited: Public Resources Code Section 21083

State Code Number and Reference: <u>Public Resources Code Section 21108; State</u> <u>CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3)) (Common Sense Exemption)</u>