

## Notice of Exemption

Form D

To Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency) City of Los Banos  
520 J Street  
Los Banos, CA 93635

County Clerk

County of Merced

2222 M Street

Merced, CA 95340

Project Title Site Plan Review #2022-05 LBUUSD Los Banos High School Loftin Stadium Renovation

Project Location - Specific 1414 S. Seventh St., Assessor's Parcel Numbers: 026-110-004

Project Location - City Los Banos

Project Location - County Merced

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project The proposed project renovation will consist of the development of three (3) new buildings totaling 6,112 square feet, an all-weather track and synthetic turf, and associated site improvements.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project City of Los Banos

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project Los Banos Unified School District

### Exempt Status (check one)

- ☐ 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 – Sec. 15302 Replacement or Reconstruction
- ☐ Statutory Exemption – State code number:

### Reasons why project is exempt

CEQA provides several "categorical exemptions" which are applicable categories of projects and activities that the Lead Agency has determined generally do not pose a risk of significant impacts on the Environment. The project consists of a Site Plan Review entitlement for the renovation of Loftin Stadium. The renovation of Loftin Stadium will consist of the demolishing and removal of existing structures and the development of three (3) new buildings totaling 6,112 square feet, an all-weather track and synthetic turf, and associated site improvements located at 1414 S. Seventh St. within the Park Zoning District. The project is exempt pursuant to Section 15302 of the State CEQA Guidelines (Class 2 Replacement or Reconstruction). The project meets the criteria for a Replacement or Reconstruction exemption described in Section 15302 of the State CEQA Guidelines as explained below.

The CEQA Replacement or Reconstruction Categorical Exemption, Section 15302, allows for the replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities in which new structures and new facilities will be redeveloped on the same site the existing structures and facilities and will maintain the same capacity, purpose, and use of a sports stadium for Los Banos High School. Thus, the project is categorically exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Article 19, Section 15302 Replacement or Reconstruction.

The City has further considered whether the project is subject to any of the exceptions to the use of a categorical exemption found at CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2. This section prohibits the use of categorical exemptions under the following circumstances:

- (a) for certain classes of projects (Classes 3,4,5,6 and 11) due to location where the project may impact an environmental resource or hazardous or critical concern;
- (b) when the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time, is significant;
- (c) where there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances;
- (d) where the project may result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, historic buildings rock croppings , or similar resources within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway;
- (e) where the project is located on a state designated hazardous waste site: and
- (f) where the project may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

Section 15300.2(a) does not apply to the Class 2 category exemptions. Nonetheless, the project site is not located in or near an area of sensitive or critical concern.

With regard to Section 15300.2(b) there are no successive projects of the same type in the same place anticipated for this location. There is no cumulative impact and. Therefore this exception does not apply.

Regarding Section 15300.2(c), the project would not result in any significant effects on the environment due to unusual circumstances. The project would not result in any significant effects on the environment due to unusual circumstances. The project site is surrounded by urban development and not located within a sensitive resource area. The project site is located and mapped in a non-hazardous area, as is all of the surrounding area.

Section 15300.2(d) does not apply to the project site as the site is not located adjacent to or visible from a designated scenic highway.

Section 15300.2(e) does not apply because the site is not a state-designated hazardous waste site. The project site is located in a mapped non-hazardous area as is all of the surrounding area.

Section 15300.2(f) does not apply because there are no historic resources or structures located within or around the project site.

For the reasons cited above, the project will not result in a significant environmental impact and qualifies for an exemption pursuant to Section 15302 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.

**Lead Agency Contact Person** Rudy Luquin,  
Associate Planner **Area Code/Telephone/Extension** (209) 827-2432

**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 No

Signature

July 14, 2022

Date

Associate Planner

Title

☒ Signed by Lead Agency

☐ Signed by Applicant

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