

CEQA DETERMINATION OF EXEMPTION

Subject: This California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Determination of Exemption is in compliance with Carlsbad Municipal Code Section 19.04.060. An appeal to this determination must be filed in writing with the required fee within ten (10) calendar days of the City Planner's decision consistent with Carlsbad Municipal Code Section 21.54.140.

City Planner Decision Date: November 7, 2022

Project Number and Title: Valley & Magnolia Street and Under Ground Utilities Improvements

Project Location - Specific: Valley Street from Chestnut Avenue to Magnolia Avenue, and the north portion of Magnolia Avenue

Project Location - City: Carlsbad

Project Location - County: San Diego

Description of Project: The project will provide street improvements within the city right-of-way along both sides of Valley Street from Chestnut Avenue to Magnolia Avenue. The improvements will provide continuous sidewalk, curb and gutter, ADA-compliant pedestrian curb ramps, bike sharrows, and add street lighting in the area. The project will also replace an old potable water main, and related services, in Valley Street. The project will also relocate existing overhead power lines to an underground system and remove existing overhead utility poles along a section of Valley Street and Magnolia Avenue. A 1,500 linear foot trench will be excavated to accommodate gas main, telecommunication and electrical conduits. The project would consist of trenching approximately five feet deep and 2.5 feet wide along the public right-of-way, installing conduit and substructures such as electric transformer boxes and telecommunication pedestals, installing cable through conduits, backfilling, removing existing overhead utility lines and poles. Utility poles may need to be installed or upgraded at the boundary of the undergrounding district were determined necessary for the transition from the existing aerial system to the new underground system. Utility poles, transformer boxes and pedestals will be installed in the public right-of-way. Individual customer connections will be made by boring laterally underground from the main line in the right-of-way to the front of the structure to install conduit and cable. If lateral boring is not feasible, open trenches approximately three feet deep and two feet wide will be dug and surfaces will be restored to pre-existing conditions when work is complete. Some properties may require electric service panel upgrades and/or installation of conduit and a junction box on the exterior of the building.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Carlsbad

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: City of Carlsbad, Public Works

Name of Applicant: Lauren Ferrell, Associate Engineer

Applicant's Address: 1635 Faraday Avenue, Carlsbad, CA 92008

Applicant's Telephone Number: 442-339-2558

Name of Applicant/Identity of person undertaking the project (if different from the applicant above):
N/A

Exempt Status: (Check One)

- Ministerial (Section 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Section 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Section 21080(b)(4); 15269 (b)(c));

- Categorical Exemption - State type and section number: Section 15302 (d): Replacement or Reconstruction (Class 2) and Section 15301 (c): Existing Facilities (Class 1)
- Statutory Exemptions - State code number: _____
- Common Sense Exemption (Section 15061(b)(3))

Reasons why project is exempt: The California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), and its implementing regulations ("CEQA Guidelines") adopted by the Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency, list classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment and as a result are exempt from further environmental review under CEQA. City staff completed a review of the project and potential environmental impacts associated with the project pursuant to CEQA and concluded that the project qualified for an exemption pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15302(d) (Replacement or Reconstruction) and section 15301 (c) (Existing Facilities)

The CEQA Guidelines include a list of classes of projects which have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment and which shall, therefore, be exempt from the provision of CEQA. CEQA guidelines Section 15301 is a Class 1 exemption for existing facilities, and includes (c) Existing highways and streets, sidewalks, gutters, bicycle and pedestrian trails, and similar facilities (this includes road grading for the purpose of public safety), and other alterations such as the addition of bicycle facilities, including but not limited to bicycle parking, bicycle-share facilities and bicycle lanes, transit improvements such as bus lanes, pedestrian crossings, street trees, and other similar alterations that do not create additional automobile lanes. The improvements to these streets involve negligible expansion of the current uses beyond existing and does not result in additional automobile lanes. In addition, the water infrastructure are existing facilities that will not be expanding capacity.

ICEQA Guidelines §15302(d) [Replacement or Reconstruction], allows for the replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities, including the conversion of overhead electric utility distribution system facilities to underground when the surface restored to the existing condition, and where the new structure will be located on the same site have substantially the same purpose and capacity; and where the exceptions listed in CEQA Section 15300.2 would not apply in that no cumulative impacts were identified and no significant effects on the environment were identified.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Izzak Mireles, Associate Planner

Telephone: 442-339-2693



Eric Lardy, City Planner

11/7/22

Date