

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT TRANSMITTAL  
TO THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE  
SUPPLEMENTAL  
CF 13-1482-S3**

<b>CITY PLANNING CASE:</b>			<b>ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT:</b>			<b>COUNCIL DISTRICT:</b>		
CPC-2018-6005-CA			ENV-2019-4121-ND			1-Cedillo, 2-Krekorian, 4-Ryu, 8-Harris-Dawson, 9-Price, 10-Wesson, 13-O'Farrell, 14-Huizar, 15-Buscaino		
<b>PROJECT ADDRESS:</b>								
The Project Location consists of the 19 unexpired Redevelopment Project Areas located throughout the City. The 19 unexpired Redevelopment Project Areas are: North Hollywood, Chinatown, Broadway/Manchester, Wilshire/Koreatown, Crenshaw, Crenshaw/Slauson, Watts Corridor, Council District 9, Hollywood, Mid-City, Western/Slauson, Vermont/Manchester, Laurel Canyon, Westlake, Exposition/University Park, Adelante Eastside, Pacific Corridor, City Center, and Central Industrial.								
<b>PLANNER CONTACT INFORMATION:</b>			<b>TELEPHONE NUMBER:</b>			<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>		
Giselle Corella Susan Wong			(213) 978-1357 (213) 978-1472			<a href="mailto:giselle.corella@lacity.org">giselle.corella@lacity.org</a> <a href="mailto:susan.s.wong@lacity.org">susan.s.wong@lacity.org</a>		

<b>NOTES / INSTRUCTION(S):</b>	
<p>The Department of City Planning (DCP) in its initial review of the proposed project pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(a) determined the proposed project is categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15308 and 15320. Based on this, the DCP prepared a notice of exemption pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15062 and processed the project with an exemption through all public hearings on the project, including the December 20, 2018 City Planning Commission hearing and the March 19, 2019 Planning and Land Use Management Council Committee (PLUM) hearing. At the March 19, 2019, PLUM hearing, the City received numerous comments on the City's environmental review of the project. Based on the entire administrative record, including all comments received at the PLUM hearing and this initial study, the DCP is recommending that the project is exempt under CEQA Guidelines section 15308 and 15320.</p> <p>With the above said, courts have recognized that a lead agency may prepare and approve multiple CEQA documents for the same project all of which may be valid and comply with CEQA. See, e.g., Rominger v. County of Colusa (2014) 229 Cal.App.4th 690, 700 (county not prohibited from both approving MND and arguing CEQA exemption); Santa Barbara County Flower and Nursery Growers Assoc., Inc. v. County of Santa Barbara (2004) 121 Cal.App.4th 864 (county did not waive exemption argument by preparing an EIR). Based upon this and in light of comments received at the March 19, 2019 PLUM Committee Hearing, the DCP desires to provide additional review and analysis for the public and the decision-maker prior to final project approval. Therefore, the DCP has prepared this Initial Study/Negative Declaration and will circulate it for public review consistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15072 and 15073 prior to going back to PLUM with the project for Council approval. CEQA Guidelines Section 15202. Notwithstanding the preparation and/or adoption of this Initial Study/Negative Declaration, the City does not intend to waive the ability of the City to determine that the project is exempt from CEQA.</p> <p>The City Council is requested to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Find, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15074(b), after consideration of the whole of the administrative record, including the Negative Declaration, No. ENV-2019-4121-ND ("Negative Declaration"), and all comments received, there is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment; Find the Negative Declaration reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the City; and Adopt Negative Declaration; and</li> <li>2. Find, pursuant to California Public Resources Code, Section 15378(b)(5), determine the proposed resolution and ordinance is not a project under CEQA. Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Sections 15308 and 15320, that the proposed resolution and ordinance is exempt from CEQA and that there is no substantial evidence demonstrating that an exception to a categorical exemption pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2 applies.</li> </ol>	
<b>TRANSMITTED BY:</b>	<b>TRANSMITTAL DATE:</b>
Jenna Monterrosa, Council Liaison	7/18/19