

# NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Attachment C

TO: Recorder/County Clerk  
1600 Pacific Highway, M.S. A33  
San Diego, CA 92101

FROM: San Diego County Fire  
County Operations Center  
5560 Overland Avenue, Suite 400  
San Diego, CA 92123

SUBJECT: **FILING OF NOTICE OF EXEMPTION IN COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE SECTION 21108 OR 21152**

**Project Name:** San Diego County Fire – Station Hardening Project (FEMA PDM FY24)

**Project Location:** Multiple existing San Diego County Fire Protection District facilities located throughout San Diego County. See Attachment A for a complete list of station locations and addresses. All work occurs within previously developed fire station sites.

**Project Applicant:** San Diego County Fire, 5560 Overland Avenue, Suite 400, San Diego, CA 92123

**Project Description:** The project consists of wildfire mitigation and facility hardening improvements at existing County fire stations to reduce wildfire risk and enhance operational resilience. Improvements include replacement or retrofit of existing vents with ember- and flame-resistant vents, installation of ember-resistant mesh, sealing of gaps with non-combustible materials, removal of combustible materials within the 0–5 foot perimeter (Zone 0), and installation of non-combustible hardscape (e.g., gravel and weed barrier). All work will occur within previously developed facilities and will not expand building footprints or change land use. The project is funded through the FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Program and has completed federal Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation (EHP) review.

**Agency Approving Project:** County of San Diego

**County Contact Person:** Dave Nissen                      **Telephone Number:** 858-974-5999

**Date Form Completed:** March 25, 2026

This is to advise that the Director of San Diego County Fire has approved the above described project on **03/25/2026** and found the project to be exempt from the CEQA under the following criteria:

- Exempt status and applicable section of the CEQA ("C") and/or State CEQA Guidelines ("G"): (check only one)
  - Declared Emergency [C 21080(b)(3); G 15269(a)]
  - Emergency Project [C 21080(b)(4); G 15269(c)]
  - Statutory Exemption. G Section:
  - Categorical Exemption. G Section: 15304, Minor Alterations to Land (Class 4) and 15301, Existing Facilities (Class 1)
  - G 15061(b)(3) - It can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment and the activity is not subject to the CEQA.
  - G 15182 – Residential Projects Pursuant to a Specific Plan
  - G 15183 – Projects Consistent with a Community Plan, General Plan, or Zoning
  - Activity is exempt from the CEQA because it is not a project as defined in Section 15378.
- Mitigation measures  were  were not made a condition of the approval of the project.
- A Mitigation reporting or monitoring plan  was  was not adopted for this project.

Statement of reasons why project is exempt: The Class 1 exemption applies because the project involves the operation, maintenance, and minor alteration of existing public facilities, including retrofitting fire stations with ember-resistant vents and sealing existing openings, with negligible or no expansion of use. The Class 4 exemption applies because the project includes minor alterations to land, including removal of combustible vegetation and installation of non-combustible hardscape within the 0–5 foot perimeter (Zone 0) surrounding existing structures. These activities occur within previously developed areas and would not result in a significant environmental impact, as supported by the project record and completed federal Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation (EHP) review.

The following is to be filled in only upon formal project approval by the appropriate County of San Diego decision-making body.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: (619) 455-5309

Name (Print) Jessica Martinez Title: Group Program Manager

This Notice of Exemption has been signed and filed by the County of San Diego. This notice must be filed with the Recorder/County Clerk as soon as possible after project approval by the decision-making body. The Recorder/County Clerk must post this notice within 24 hours of receipt and for a period of not less than 30 days. At the termination of the posting period, the Recorder/County Clerk must return this notice to the Department address listed above along with evidence of the posting period. The originating Department must then retain the returned notice for a period of not less than twelve months. Reference: CEQA Guidelines Section 15062.

<b>Station Locations</b>				
<b>#</b>	<b>Station</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Zip</b>
1	24	551 Harbison Canyon Rd	Harbison Canyon	92019
2	36	14024 Peaceful Valley Ranch Rd	Jamul	91935
3	37	2383 Honeysprings Rd	Jamul	91935
4	42	29690 Oak Dr	Campo	91906
5	47	40080 Ribbonwood Road	Boulevard	91905
6	49	33947 Mount Laguna Drive	Mount Laguna	91948
7	56	3407 Highway 79	Julian	92036
8	58	37370 Montezuma Way	Ranchita	92025
9	59	35227 Highway 79	Warner Springs	92086
10	79	21610 Crestline Road	Palomar Mountain	92060
11	82	3410 Dye Road	Ramona	92065
12	85	25858 Highway 78	Ramona	92065