

## Notice of Exemption

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**To:**  Office of Planning and Research  
PO Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 222  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044  
 County Clerk, County of \_\_\_\_\_

**From:** University of California, San Diego  
Campus Planning, MC 0074  
9500 Gilman Drive  
La Jolla, California 92093-0074

**Project Title:** Alvarado Hospital Medical Center Acquisition

**Project Location – Street:** 6645-6655 Alvarado Street

**Project Location – City:** San Diego

**Project Location – County:** San Diego

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project (Project Description):** UC San Diego Health purchased the existing Alvarado Hospital Medical Center, located at 6645 and 6655 Alvarado Street. The site is approximately 6.05 acres of developed land, and includes a 302-licensed bed acute care hospital, associated structures, and 557 total parking spaces located in a surface lot and structure. The hospital is currently operational and includes two patient towers, providing acute care and post-acute care services, respectively. UC San Diego Health would continue to operate the facility as a hospital, with no expansion in services provided and no increase in the number of licensed hospital beds. The existing post-acute care patient tower is planned to be converted to inpatient behavior health services and the existing acute care patient tower would remain dedicated to acute care services. The structures are compliant with UC seismic safety policy and all other statutory requirements, which with the exception of the acute care patient tower which requires seismic-related upgrades to bring the facility into compliance with Senate Bill 1953 seismic requirements for acute care facilities by the year 2030. Therefore, the University will construct the necessary seismic retrofits on the acute care patient tower to bring the facility to compliance by 2030.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** University of California, San Diego

**Parties Undertaking Project:** University of California, San Diego

**Exempt Status:**

- 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. State type and section number: Section 15301, Class 1: Existing Facilities and Section 15302, Class 2: Reconstruction
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: 20180.35
- General Exemption (Sec. 15061(b)(3)).

**Reason Why Project is Exempt:** The project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Class 1: Existing Facilities) because the project involves existing facilities with negligible or no expansion of use. On a separate and independent basis, the project is also categorically exempt from CEQA under Section 15302 (Class 2: Replacement or Reconstruction) because the project would construct seismic retrofits on an existing facility with no substantial change in purpose or capacity of the facility. None of the exceptions to exemptions listed in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 are applicable. The property will continue to be operated within its pre-existing capacity. The proposed acquisition does not commit the campus to any future redevelopment project on the site, and none is currently planned by the University. Any potential future modification of the property would be subject to additional environmental review pursuant to CEQA as well as discretionary approval by the University and is not part of the project.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Lauren Lievers,

**Title:** Principal Environmental Planner, UC San Diego Campus Planning

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**Signature:**



**Date:** October 17, 2023

- Signed by Lead Agency
- Signed by Applicant