



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

CEQA Categorical Exemption Determination

PROPERTY INFORMATION/PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project Address		Block/Lot(s)
888 POST ST		0300009
Case No.		Permit No.
2019-023636ENV		2019-1223-0310
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Addition/ Alteration	<input type="checkbox"/> Demolition (requires HRE for Category B Building)	<input type="checkbox"/> New Construction
<p>Project description for Planning Department approval.</p> <p>The project site is located at the northeast corner of Hyde and Post streets in the Downtown/Civic Center neighborhood. The project site is occupied by a 48-foot-tall, three-story, commercial building (constructed in 1919) that is approximately 31,968 square feet in size. The existing building is currently vacant. Former uses of the building included retail at the ground-floor, professional office space at the second floor, and automobile storage for approximately 35 vehicles at the third floor. The project sponsor proposes a change of use of the existing building to an institutional use operated by Goodwill and a navigation center operated by the San Francisco Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH). Goodwill would occupy the ground floor and would use the space for a donation center and job training facility. The job training facility would be opened from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday to Thursday, and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday. The training facility would also be open one Wednesday a month until 7 p.m. The donation facility would be open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., 7 days a week. HSH would occupy the second and third floors and would operate a navigation center for homeless youth in transition. The navigation center would include 76 shelter beds and various on-site support services. The navigation center</p> <p>FULL PROJECT DESCRIPTION ATTACHED</p>		

STEP 1: EXEMPTION CLASS

The project has been determined to be categorically exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 1 - Existing Facilities. Interior and exterior alterations; additions under 10,000 sq. ft.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Class 3 - New Construction. Up to three new single-family residences or six dwelling units in one building; commercial/office structures; utility extensions; change of use under 10,000 sq. ft. if principally permitted or with a CU.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Class 32 - In-Fill Development. New Construction of seven or more units or additions greater than 10,000 sq. ft. and meets the conditions described below:</p> <p>(a) The project is consistent with the applicable general plan designation and all applicable general plan policies as well as with applicable zoning designation and regulations.</p> <p>(b) The proposed development occurs within city limits on a project site of no more than 5 acres substantially surrounded by urban uses.</p> <p>(c) The project site has no value as habitat for endangered rare or threatened species.</p> <p>(d) Approval of the project would not result in any significant effects relating to traffic, noise, air quality, or water quality.</p> <p>(e) The site can be adequately served by all required utilities and public services.</p> <p>FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING USE ONLY</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Class ____

STEP 2: CEQA IMPACTS

TO BE COMPLETED BY PROJECT PLANNER

<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Air Quality: Would the project add new sensitive receptors (specifically, schools, day care facilities, hospitals, residential dwellings, and senior-care facilities within an Air Pollution Exposure Zone? Does the project have the potential to emit substantial pollutant concentrations (e.g., backup diesel generators, heavy industry, diesel trucks, etc.)? (refer to EP_ArcMap > CEQA Catex Determination Layers > Air Pollution Exposure Zone)</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Hazardous Materials: If the project site is located on the Maher map or is suspected of containing hazardous materials (based on a previous use such as gas station, auto repair, dry cleaners, or heavy manufacturing, or a site with underground storage tanks): Would the project involve 50 cubic yards or more of soil disturbance - or a change of use from industrial to residential?</p> <p><i>if the applicant presents documentation of enrollment in the San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH) Maher program, a DPH waiver from the Maher program, or other documentation from Environmental Planning staff that hazardous material effects would be less than significant (refer to EP_ArcMap > Maher layer).</i></p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Transportation: Does the project involve a child care facility or school with 30 or more students, or a location 1,500 sq. ft. or greater? Does the project have the potential to adversely affect transit, pedestrian and/or bicycle safety (hazards) or the adequacy of nearby transit, pedestrian and/or bicycle facilities?</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Archeological Resources: Would the project result in soil disturbance/modification greater than two (2) feet below grade in an archeological sensitive area or eight (8) feet in a non -archeological sensitive area? If yes, archeo review is required (refer to EP_ArcMap > CEQA Catex Determination Layers > Archeological Sensitive Area)</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Subdivision/Lot Line Adjustment: Does the project site involve a subdivision or lot line adjustment on a lot with a slope average of 20% or more? (refer to EP_ArcMap > CEQA Catex Determination Layers > Topography). If yes, Environmental Planning must issue the exemption.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Slope = or > 25%: Does the project involve any of the following: (1) square footage expansion greater than 500 sq. ft. outside of the existing building footprint, (2) excavation of 50 cubic yards or more of soil, (3) new construction? (refer to EP_ArcMap > CEQA Catex Determination Layers > Topography) If box is checked, a geotechnical report is required and Environmental Planning must issue the exemption.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Seismic: Landslide Zone: Does the project involve any of the following: (1) square footage expansion greater than 500 sq. ft. outside of the existing building footprint, (2) excavation of 50 cubic yards or more of soil, (3) new construction? (refer to EP_ArcMap > CEQA Catex Determination Layers > Seismic Hazard Zones) If box is checked, a geotechnical report is required and Environmental Planning must issue the exemption.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Seismic: Liquefaction Zone: Does the project involve any of the following: (1) square footage expansion greater than 500 sq. ft. outside of the existing building footprint, (2) excavation of 50 cubic yards or more of soil, (3) new construction? (refer to EP_ArcMap > CEQA Catex Determination Layers > Seismic Hazard Zones) If box is checked, a geotechnical report will likely be required and Environmental Planning must issue the exemption.</p>
<p>Comments and Planner Signature (optional): Don Lewis</p> <p>PLEASE SEE ATTACHED</p>	

**STEP 3: PROPERTY STATUS - HISTORIC RESOURCE
TO BE COMPLETED BY PROJECT PLANNER**

PROPERTY IS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING: (refer to Property Information Map)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Category A: Known Historical Resource. GO TO STEP 5.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Category B: Potential Historical Resource (over 45 years of age). GO TO STEP 4.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Category C: Not a Historical Resource or Not Age Eligible (under 45 years of age). GO TO STEP 6.

**STEP 4: PROPOSED WORK CHECKLIST
TO BE COMPLETED BY PROJECT PLANNER**

Check all that apply to the project.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Change of use and new construction. Tenant improvements not included.
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Regular maintenance or repair to correct or repair deterioration, decay, or damage to building.
<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Window replacement that meets the Department's <i>Window Replacement Standards</i> . Does not include storefront window alterations.
<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Garage work. A new opening that meets the <i>Guidelines for Adding Garages and Curb Cuts</i> , and/or replacement of a garage door in an existing opening that meets the Residential Design Guidelines.
<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Deck, terrace construction, or fences not visible from any immediately adjacent public right-of-way.
<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Mechanical equipment installation that is not visible from any immediately adjacent public right-of-way.
<input type="checkbox"/>	7. Dormer installation that meets the requirements for exemption from public notification under <i>Zoning Administrator Bulletin No. 3: Dormer Windows</i> .
<input type="checkbox"/>	8. Addition(s) that are not visible from any immediately adjacent public right-of-way for 150 feet in each direction; does not extend vertically beyond the floor level of the top story of the structure or is only a single story in height; does not have a footprint that is more than 50% larger than that of the original building; and does not cause the removal of architectural significant roofing features.
Note: Project Planner must check box below before proceeding.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Project is not listed. GO TO STEP 5.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Project does not conform to the scopes of work. GO TO STEP 5.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Project involves four or more work descriptions. GO TO STEP 5.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Project involves less than four work descriptions. GO TO STEP 6.

**STEP 5: CEQA IMPACTS - ADVANCED HISTORICAL REVIEW
TO BE COMPLETED BY PROJECT PLANNER**

Check all that apply to the project.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Project involves a known historical resource (CEQA Category A) as determined by Step 3 and conforms entirely to proposed work checklist in Step 4.
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Interior alterations to publicly accessible spaces.
<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Window replacement of original/historic windows that are not "in-kind" but are consistent with existing historic character.
<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Façade/storefront alterations that do not remove, alter, or obscure character-defining features.
<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Raising the building in a manner that does not remove, alter, or obscure character-defining features.
<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Restoration based upon documented evidence of a building's historic condition, such as historic photographs, plans, physical evidence, or similar buildings.

<input type="checkbox"/>	7. Addition(s) , including mechanical equipment that are minimally visible from a public right-of-way and meet the <i>Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation</i> .		
<input type="checkbox"/>	8. Other work consistent with the <i>Secretary of the Interior Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties</i> (specify or add comments):		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	9. Other work that would not materially impair a historic district (specify or add comments): Subject property previously determined ineligible for the National Register Lower Nob Hill Apartment Hotel District. Proposed alterations to a non-contributing property will not materially impact the historic district. Alterations are primarily limited to reconfiguring of door and window openings, and minimally visible storefront openings. <i>(Requires approval by Senior Preservation Planner/Preservation Coordinator)</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	10. Reclassification of property status. <i>(Requires approval by Senior Preservation Planner/Preservation</i> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Reclassify to Category A a. Per HRER or PTR dated b. Other (<i>specify</i>): </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Reclassify to Category C <i>(attach HRER or PTR)</i> </td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> Reclassify to Category A a. Per HRER or PTR dated b. Other (<i>specify</i>):	<input type="checkbox"/> Reclassify to Category C <i>(attach HRER or PTR)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Reclassify to Category A a. Per HRER or PTR dated b. Other (<i>specify</i>):	<input type="checkbox"/> Reclassify to Category C <i>(attach HRER or PTR)</i>		
Note: If ANY box in STEP 5 above is checked, a Preservation Planner MUST sign below.			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Project can proceed with categorical exemption review. The project has been reviewed by the Preservation Planner and can proceed with categorical exemption review. GO TO STEP 6.		
Comments (optional):			
Preservation Planner Signature: Elizabeth Gordon Jonckheer			

**STEP 6: CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION DETERMINATION
TO BE COMPLETED BY PROJECT PLANNER**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No further environmental review is required. The project is categorically exempt under CEQA. There are no unusual circumstances that would result in a reasonable possibility of a significant effect.	
	Project Approval Action: Planning Commission Hearing	Signature: Don Lewis
	If Discretionary Review before the Planning Commission is requested, the Discretionary Review hearing is the Approval Action for the project.	02/11/2020
Once signed or stamped and dated, this document constitutes a categorical exemption pursuant to CEQA Guidelines and Chapter 31 of the Administrative Code. In accordance with Chapter 31 of the San Francisco Administrative Code, an appeal of an exemption determination can only be filed within 30 days of the project receiving the approval action. Please note that other approval actions may be required for the project. Please contact the assigned planner for these approvals.		

Full Project Description

The project site is located at the northeast corner of Hyde and Post streets in the Downtown/Civic Center neighborhood. The project site is occupied by a 48-foot-tall, three-story, commercial building (constructed in 1919) that is approximately 31,968 square feet in size. The existing building is currently vacant. Former uses of the building included retail at the ground-floor, professional office space at the second floor, and automobile storage for approximately 35 vehicles at the third floor.

The project sponsor proposes a change of use of the existing building to an institutional use operated by Goodwill and a navigation center operated by the San Francisco Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH). Goodwill would occupy the ground floor and would use the space for a donation center and job training facility. The job training facility would be opened from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday to Thursday, and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday. The training facility would also be open one Wednesday a month until 7 p.m. The donation facility would be open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., 7 days a week. HSH would occupy the second and third floors and would operate a navigation center for homeless youth in transition. The navigation center would include 76 shelter beds and various on-site support services. The navigation center would include an open-air lounge at the third floor.

The project would renovate the entire building and would be seismically strengthened; building expansion is not proposed. The proposed façade alterations are primarily limited to reconfiguring door and window openings, and storefront openings. The project proposes to retain the two existing off-street loading spaces; no off-street parking is proposed. Entrance to the navigation center would be from Hyde Street on a reconstructed mezzanine between the ground floor and second floor. Goodwill's proposed drop-off operations would use the existing ground-floor drive aisle that has access from both Post and Hyde streets. The existing approximately 15-foot-wide curb cut at the northern side of the building on Hyde Street would be removed and standard sidewalk and curb dimensions restored.

CEQA Impacts

Hazardous Materials: The project is subject to the Maher Ordinance (Article 22A of the Health Code), which is administered by the Department of Public Health. The project sponsor enrolled in the Maher Program on 12/18/2019.

Traffic: The department's transportation staff reviewed the proposed project and determined that additional transportation review is not required. The existing porte cochere on the project site would accommodate the estimated loading demand for the proposed project, and truck loading trips would occur outside of the p.m. peak hour. Additionally, there are no bicycle- or transit-only lanes directly adjacent to the project site's frontages. The project sponsor would coordinate the location and design of any on-street loading zones with the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency.

Noise: The project would use typical construction equipment that would be regulated by Article 29 of the Police Code (section 2907, Construction Equipment). No impact pile driving or nighttime construction is required. Construction vibration would not be anticipated to affect adjacent buildings. The proposed project would not generate sufficient vehicle trips to noticeably increase ambient noise levels, and the project's fixed noise sources, such as heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, would be subject to noise limits in Article 29 of the Police Code (section 2909, Noise Limits).

Air Quality: The proposed project's construction would be subject to the Dust Control Ordinance (Article 22B of the Health Code). The proposed land uses are below the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's construction and operational screening levels for requiring further quantitative criteria air pollutant analysis. The project site is not located within an air pollutant exposure zone.

Water Quality: The project's construction activities are required to comply with the Construction Site Runoff Ordinance (Public Works Code, article 2.4, section 146). The project would be required to implement best management practices to prevent construction site runoff. Stormwater and wastewater discharged from the project site during operations would flow to the City's combined sewer system and be treated to the standards in the City's National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit.

Natural Habitat: The project site is entirely covered by the existing three-story commercial building and is located within a developed urban area. The project site has no significant riparian corridors, estuaries, marshes, wetlands, or any other potential wildlife habitat that might contain endangered, rare or threatened species. Thus, the project site has no value as habitat for rare, threatened, or endangered species.

Public Notice: A "Notification of Project Receiving Environmental Review" was mailed on January 27, 2020 to adjacent occupants and owners of buildings within 300 feet of the project site and the Downtown/Civic Center neighborhood group list. Two members of the public responded to this notice and expressed concerns related to the operation of the navigation center in the neighborhood. Concerns and issues raised by the public in response to this notice were taken into consideration and incorporated in the environmental review as appropriate for CEQA analysis.

STEP 7: MODIFICATION OF A CEQA EXEMPT PROJECT

TO BE COMPLETED BY PROJECT PLANNER

In accordance with Chapter 31 of the San Francisco Administrative Code, when a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exempt project changes after the Approval Action and requires a subsequent approval, the Environmental Review Officer (or his or her designee) must determine whether the proposed change constitutes a substantial modification of that project. This checklist shall be used to determine whether the proposed changes to the approved project would constitute a "substantial modification" and, therefore, be subject to additional environmental review pursuant to CEQA.

PROPERTY INFORMATION/PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project Address (If different than front page)		Block/Lot(s) (If different than front page)
888 POST ST		0300/009
Case No.	Previous Building Permit No.	New Building Permit No.
2019-023636PRJ	2019-1223-0310	
Plans Dated	Previous Approval Action	New Approval Action
	Planning Commission Hearing	
Modified Project Description:		

DETERMINATION IF PROJECT CONSTITUTES SUBSTANTIAL MODIFICATION

Compared to the approved project, would the modified project:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Result in expansion of the building envelope, as defined in the Planning Code;
<input type="checkbox"/>	Result in the change of use that would require public notice under Planning Code Sections 311 or 312;
<input type="checkbox"/>	Result in demolition as defined under Planning Code Section 317 or 19005(f)?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Is any information being presented that was not known and could not have been known at the time of the original determination, that shows the originally approved project may no longer qualify for the exemption?
If at least one of the above boxes is checked, further environmental review is required.	

DETERMINATION OF NO SUBSTANTIAL MODIFICATION

<input type="checkbox"/>	The proposed modification would not result in any of the above changes.
If this box is checked, the proposed modifications are categorically exempt under CEQA, in accordance with prior project approval and no additional environmental review is required. This determination shall be posted on the Planning Department website and office and mailed to the applicant, City approving entities, and anyone requesting written notice. In accordance with Chapter 31, Sec 31.08j of the San Francisco Administrative Code, an appeal of this determination can be filed within 10 days of posting of this determination.	
Planner Name:	Date: