



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

FILING REQUESTED BY AND WHEN FILED, RETURN TO:

Marin County Parks and Open Space District
3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 260, San Rafael, CA 94903
www.marincountyparks.org
(415) 473-6387

FILED

12/14/2022

To: Marin County Clerk
3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 255
San Rafael, CA 94903

SHELLY SCOTT
MARIN COUNTY CLERK
By **J. Gilardi, Deputy**
21-2022 - 269

Date: December 13, 2022

Project Title: LICENSE AGREEMENT: SOUTHERN MARIN FIRE DISTRICT

Project Location: Homestead Valley Community Center; 315 Montford Avenue, Mill Valley, Unincorporated Marin County, CA

Assessor's Parcel: 047-161-05

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of the Project: The proposed project consists of granting a License Agreement between the County of Marin and Southern Marin Fire District (SMFD) for emergency siren system purposes on a portion of County owned land, which is the site of the Homestead Valley Community Center within the boundaries of County Service Area 14. The SMFD has requested a license to install and operate an outdoor warning siren system known as the Southern Marin Emergency Notification Network Long-Range Acoustic Device (LRAD siren). The LRAD siren is used to alert citizens of an imminent hazard and provides life-safety measures to protect the community. Hearing the sirens should prompt those citizens to seek further information or follow the verbal prompts to take immediate action from within their community. County staff has reviewed the request and has determined that the LRAD siren provides an emergency service to the Southern Marin community and will not interfere with County's use of the property.

The LRAD siren would require a minimal amount of space in the southeastern corner of the parcel. Installation would include a fifty-five-foot-tall steel utility pole, which would be earth-toned with a raw metal finish. A total of eight horns would be installed consisting of four stacks of two horns each. Together, the horns would provide 360-degree siren coverage. One utility box would be installed on the utility pole no higher than 14 feet above ground level and would house the batteries to power the sirens. Two 120-watt solar panels would be mounted on the utility pole to provide the primary source of power to recharge the back-up batteries within the utility box and would be installed no higher than 30 feet above ground level. No additional or underground electrical service would be required. When the LRAD siren is activated, the tone would be sounded in conjunction with a verbal message providing instructions. This sequence would be sounded for 3-to-5 minutes, resounding for the duration of the threat. Potential threats would include severe weather and live-threatening events.

The license agreement would provide the SMFD with access and parking, if needed, to conduct inspection and maintenance of the LRAD siren, which would include monthly testing of the system on the first Saturday of each month at noon. The monthly testing would be suspended for the months of February through July, during bird-nesting season.

Public Agency Approving Project: Marin County Parks

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out the Project: Max Korten, Director of Marin County Parks

Reasons for Exemption: Marin County Parks has reviewed the license agreement and has determined that authorization of the license agreement is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act under the following sections of the California Administrative Code:

Section 15301: Existing Facilities. The proposed project consists of issuing a license agreement at an existing public facility to the Southern Marin Fire District for installation, maintenance, and operation of the Southern Marin Emergency Notification Network Long-Range Acoustic Device (LRAD siren). Implementation of the proposed LRAD siren would not result in any expansion of existing or former use of the public facility. Furthermore, implementation of the proposed LRAD siren would not result in cumulative impacts; significant impacts on the environment due to unusual circumstances; affect the significance of historical resources. The event area is not located within an officially designated scenic highway or on a hazardous waste site pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.

Lead Agency Contact Person:

Michelle Julene

Michelle Julene, Regulatory Open Space Planner
Marin County Parks and Open Space District
(415) 444-6740 (office cell)

POSTED: 12/14/2022 TO: 01/14/2022



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION – LOCATION MAP

**HOMESTEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER
LICENSE AGREEMENT: SOUTHERN MARIN FIRE DISTRICT FOR LRAD SIREN SYSTEM**

December 13, 2022

