



# San Francisco Planning

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San Francisco, CA 94103  
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www.sfplanning.org

2023-0000003

# FILED

SAN FRANCISCO County Clerk

January 12, 2023

by: Giselle Romo  
Deputy County Clerk

POSTED

JAN 12 2023

Case No.: 2022-012677ENV  
 Project Title: California Academy of Sciences, 55 Music Concourse Drive  
 Zoning: P (Public)  
 Open Space Height and Bulk District  
 Block/Lot: 1700/001  
 Lead Agency: San Francisco Planning Department  
 Project Sponsor: California Academy of Sciences, Samantha Delucchi  
 (415) 379-5864  
[sdelucchi@calacademy.org](mailto:sdelucchi@calacademy.org)  
 Staff Contact: Don Lewis  
 (628) 652-7543  
[don.lewis@sfgov.org](mailto:don.lewis@sfgov.org)

To: County Clerk, City and County of San Francisco  
 City Hall Room 168  
 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
 San Francisco, CA 94102

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Guidelines of the Secretary for Resources, and San Francisco requirements, this Notice of Exemption is transmitted to you for filing. At the end of the posting period, please return this Notice to the Staff Contact with a notation of the period it was posted.

Attached fee: \$75 filing fee

## Project Description

The California Academy of Sciences seeks a grant with the California Natural Resources Agency through their California Cultural and Historical Endowment Museum Grant Program. The project is for a temporary exhibit within an existing exhibit space (the Naturalist Center) located within the California Academy of Sciences building. No exterior alterations or ground disturbance is proposed.

The Naturalist Center is set apart from the main public floor of the California Academy of Sciences and is dedicated to hands-on learning and is part natural history museum and part dynamic activity space. The collections housed within the Naturalist Center are an exciting amalgam of prolific creatures such as a coot or red-tailed hawk and species Californians may not even know live nearby such as giant sea turtles or bobcats. Additionally, the sheer variety of skulls, pelts, nests, eggs, skins, invertebrates, and botanical specimens details the extraordinary beauty and biodiversity of the natural world, and all of these specimens are in such

close proximity to our guests that they can be touched, observed in minute detail, and even manipulated in ways not available in other parts of the museum. The space is open any time during museum operating hours for the discovery of the splendor of the natural world. Additionally, Rock School Programs are hosted in the Naturalist Center on weekday mornings.

**Determination**

The City and County of San Francisco issued the CEQA exemption on December 28, 2022. A copy of the documents may be examined at the Planning Department, 49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400, San Francisco, CA, 94103 in file no. 2022-012677ENV.

1. An Exemption from Environmental Review has been prepared pursuant to the provisions of CEQA under:
  - 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. Class 1; Section 15301
  - Statutory Exemption. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Community Plan Exemption (Sec. 21083.3; 15183)
  
2. This project in its approved form has been determined to be exempt from environmental review.

This notice is being issued during the suspension of certain CEQA posting requirements pursuant to San Francisco Administrative Code Chapter 31 requirements. This notice complies with local requirements under the March 23, 2020, Fifth Supplement to the Mayoral Proclamation Declaring the Existence of a Local Emergency dated February 25, 2020.

Rich Hillis  
Planning Director

for \_\_\_\_\_

January 4, 2023  
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By Lisa Gibson  
Environmental Review Officer

Date

cc: Samantha Delucchi, California Academy of Sciences

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