I. CONSIDERATION OF CEQA DETERMINATION

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act, Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq. (“CEQA”) and the State CEQA Guidelines, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Sections 15000 et seq. (“CEQA Guidelines”), and the University of California Procedures for Implementation of CEQA, the Board of Regents of the University of California or its delegate (collectively referred to herein as the “University”), has prepared this CEQA Determination to evaluate the operational decision to schedule a capacity event (an event attended by more than 10,000 ticketed spectators) at California Memorial Stadium (CMS) on a weekday evening in July on Tuesday July 21, 2015, including installation and removal of a natural grass playing field (the Project; see also Project Description, below).

In making this CEQA Determination the University has considered the Final Environmental Impact Report prepared for the University of California, Berkeley’s ("UC Berkeley" or "Berkeley campus") 2020 Long Range Development Plan ("LRDP"), State Clearinghouse Number 2003082131, which was certified by the University in January 2005, amended by Addendum #5 thereto which analyzed Amendment #1 to the 2020 LRDP to address climate change, and was approved by the University in July 2009 (collectively, the “2020 LRDP EIR”). The University also considered a Tiered Focused Final Environmental Impact Report from the 2020 LRDP FEIR for UC Berkeley’s Southeast Campus Integrated Projects ("SCIP" or “the Integrated Projects”), State Clearinghouse Number 2005112056, certified by the University in December 2006 (the “Integrated Projects EIR”), and a Subsequent Final Environmental Impact Report to the SCIP for the California Memorial Stadium Corrections and West Program Improvements Project, certified by the University in September 2011 (the
“Subsequent EIR”). The Subsequent EIR included consideration of potential capacity use of the CMS on weeknights.

Addendum #1 to the Integrated Projects EIR, approved in June 2008 by Chancellor Birgeneau under delegated authorities, omitted stadium use changes from the Project Description for the Integrated Projects EIR, and stated that the Integrated Projects EIR would not be used by the University to support the addition (in addition to use of the CMS for home football games) of up to seven annual nighttime and/or day time events that might fill the CMS to capacity, and entail operation of lights and use of the sound system. The LRDP EIR and Addendum #5, the Integrated Projects EIR and the Subsequent EIR provide background information regarding operational impacts and are incorporated by reference.

Addendum #1 to the Subsequent EIR, dated November 2013, addressed a specific project within the SCIP – Maxwell Family Field Parking Structure and Replacement Field; the project was approved in 2013 and as of April 2015 construction is complete and the structure is operating and open.

The University also considered the categorical exemptions to CEQA at sections 15301 to 15332 of the CEQA Guidelines, including the Existing Facilities exemption (Class 1) which allows for operation of existing facilities in accordance with typical operation of the facility, and the Normal Operations of Facilities for Public Gatherings exemption (Class 23) for the normal operations of existing facilities for public gatherings.

The 2020 LRDP FEIR, including the information contained in Addendum #5, the Tiered Southeast Campus Integrated Projects EIR, the Subsequent EIR and all comments and responses thereto, insofar as these address typical operations of the CMS, contains environmental analysis and information relevant to the approval of the Project, as set forth below.

Pursuant to an Order of the Alameda County Superior Court (March 26, 2010) resolving litigation between the Panoramic Hill Association (PHA) and The Regents (Alameda County Superior Court Case #RG06301644 – hereafter, “the Agreement”), use and operation of the California Memorial Stadium must be planned and proposed in accordance with certain limitations. The proposed Project comports to these limitations.
The University has prepared this Determination to support its conclusion that the proposed operational decision to schedule a capacity event at CMS in July 2015, and including installation and removal of a natural grass playing field (the Project; see also Project Description, below), is categorically exempt from CEQA. This Determination supports the University’s conclusion that the Project conforms to the requirements of both the Class 1 and Class 23 categorical exemption criteria as articulated in the CEQA Guidelines and that none of the exceptions to the use of a categorical exemption are present. In making this categorical exemption CEQA Determination the University has considered the analysis presented in the 2020 LRDP EIR and Addendum #5 thereto, the Integrated Projects EIR and the Subsequent EIR.

II. ANALYSIS

Having received, reviewed and considered the information cited in support of this Determination, the University hereby finds the Project categorically exempt from CEQA in conjunction with its approval of the Project as set forth in Section III, below.

A. Description of Proposed Project

In the evening of Tuesday July 21, 2015 UC Berkeley proposes to host an international soccer match (hereafter, the Match) at California Memorial Stadium (CMS). The Match is anticipated to begin at 8:00PM and end at approximately 10:00PM; all Match day maintenance activities will occur between 6:30AM, and 11:00PM.

The event promoter will install and remove a natural grass field at the CMS. A plastic cover will be placed over the current synthetic turf field, a plywood surface will be placed over the plastic, and sod will be rolled to create the natural grass field. All weekday maintenance activities related to the Match will occur between 7:00AM and 5:00PM.

The Project as proposed – including all event operations – includes and incorporates all provisions for capacity CMS events as established in the Integrated Projects EIR, Subsequent EIR and the Panoramic Hill Agreement, including arranging for an emergency vehicle on the Oakland side of the PHA neighborhood during operation of the Match. Existing sound and
video equipment at the CMS will be used. The equipment and use period of amplified sound would be equivalent to, or less than, equipment use during football games, such as use described in the Subsequent EIR to address potential use of CMS for week night football games.

The California Memorial Stadium event will see the San Jose Earthquakes face Manchester United as part of the Guinness International Champions Cup. The game will be televised. The event is expected to sell to the capacity of the CMS, or approximately 62,500 spectators.

The University would not hold an event at the Hearst Greek Theatre during the day or evening of July 21, 2015.

All mitigation measures and continuing best practices in the 2020 LRDP FEIR and Addendum #5 and SCIP FEIR and Subsequent EIR relevant to the Project are included in the Approval and are made conditions of the Project.

In response to a litigation settlement agreement (Agreement) between the Panoramic Hill Association (PHA) and The Regents (Alameda County Superior Court Case #RG06301644), operations of the California Memorial Stadium are planned and proposed in accordance with certain limitations. The proposed Project comports to these limitations.

The Match would take place on a weeknight during the summer, and will incorporate mitigation measures and best practices to address weeknight capacity events as outlined in the Subsequent EIR. However, in July 2015 the UC Berkeley campus will be in summer session with significantly reduced campus activity: in the fall 2014 UC Berkeley campus enrollment was at 37,581 (download from www.berkeley.edu/about/bythenumbers on April 16, 2015) and estimated total summer 2015 enrollment is anticipated to be a little more than 40% of this amount, or 16,000 students over the course of the summer (download from summer.berkeley.edu/about on April 16, 2015). Traffic, transportation and parking impacts are likely to be less severe for the Project than those outlined in the Subsequent EIR for a weeknight football game in the fall.
B. Relation of the Proposed Project to the 2020 LRDP FEIR

The proposed Project would use an existing seismically improved, updated facility for international soccer with resulting promotion of the University internationally and benefits to the University community toward building a vital and diverse community. The project would help to maintain and enhance the public image of the University. The project brings an anticipated use to an optimal location. It also allows the University to gain revenue to support other critical University functions.

The project fully complies with LRDP land use guidelines for the blocks immediately adjacent to campus.

C. Relation of the Proposed Project to the SCIP FEIR

The Southeast Campus Integrated Projects (SCIP) is an overall program of projects for the southeast portion of campus. The Regents adopted and certified the Integrated Projects EIR in November 2006. The SCIP program included seven projects:

• California Memorial Stadium (CMS) Seismic Corrections and Program Improvements
• Parking Structure and Sports Field at Maxwell Family Field
• Law and Business Connection building
• Southeast Campus and Piedmont Avenue Landscape Improvements
• School of Law Program Improvements
• Haas School of Business Program Improvements
• Renovation and Restoration of the houses at 2222 to 2240 Piedmont Avenue

In accordance with the Integrated Projects EIR the California Memorial Stadium has been seismically strengthened, programmatically improved, and has modern up to date lighting and sound systems. Use of the Stadium as proposed by the Project is consistent with a settlement agreement between the Panoramic Hill Association (PHA) and The Regents (Alameda County Superior Court Case #RG06301644), resolving litigation involving the Integrated
Projects EIR and approval of the first phase of the CMS Seismic Corrections and Program Improvements. The settlement specifies use criteria for operation of the California Memorial Stadium. The proposed Project comports to these use criteria.

D. Impacts of the Proposed Project

The Project consists of the normal operations of CMS for sporting events similar to the kind of activity that has occurred in the past, and implements measures to reduce operational impacts applicable to all CMS events; entails use of an existing facility in a manner compatible with its original intent, namely, to accommodate sporting events and generate revenue for the University of California, Berkeley; is consistent with community agreements for use of the facility; and the Project would not represent a change in the operation of CMS, meeting the criteria for the Existing Facilities (Class 1) and Normal Operations of Facilities for Public Gatherings (Class 23) categorical exemption under CEQA. None of the exceptions to Class 1 or Class 23 categorical exemption set forth in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 applies to the Project.

The University finds that the proposed Project is categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15323 (Class 23). The Class 23 categorical exemption exempts from CEQA review the “normal operations of existing facilities for public gatherings for which the facilities were designed, where is a past history of the facility being used for the same or similar kind of purpose.” The Class 23 categorical exemption defines “past history” as meaning that the same or similar kind of activity has been occurring for at least three years and that is a reasonable expectation that the future occurrence of the activity would not represent a change in the operation of the facility. The Class 23 categorical exemption includes a non exclusive list of facilities, as follows: racetracks, stadiums, convention centers, auditoriums, amphitheaters, planetariums, swimming pools and amusement parks. Because the proposed Project approving a capacity event at CMS involves a sporting event that is similar to activities for which CMS has been used for more than the past 3 years – Cal Bears football games with attendance up to 62,500 spectators, including a weeknight football game on November 2, 2012, as well as hosting the Guinness International Cup in July 2014 -- the University hereby finds that the proposed Project satisfies the criteria set forth under CEQA Guidelines Section 15323.
The University further finds that the proposed Project is categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guideline 15301 (Class 1). Class 1 exempts from CEQA review the “operation…leasing…of existing public or private structures, facilities….involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency’s determination”. The Class 1 exemption applies because the proposed Project would occur under ordinary capacity event operating conditions in an existing facility. The Project does not expand beyond the anticipated use of the California Memorial Stadium, which is a public facility for major sporting events. The Class 1 determination is further applicable because under existing conditions CMS is typically used eight times a year for capacity Cal Bears football games and during the 2015 football season only six games will be scheduled at CMS. Further, under existing conditions, CMS may be used for weeknight football games one year in a two year cycle yet none has been scheduled since November 2012 and no weeknight football game is scheduled at CMS in 2015. The capacity of the anticipated crowd is the same as anticipated for Cal football games; operations will use the existing sound and lighting system, and will be subject to agreements and mitigation requirements applicable to all existing operations of the CMS.

To qualify for a categorical exemption a proposed project must not implicate any of the exceptions to the exemptions as specified in CEQA Guideline 15300.2. The University finds that none of the exceptions identified under CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 apply. CMS is not located in a “particularly sensitive environment” as it is located in an area often used by the Berkeley campus for athletic events and would not “impact an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern” given its location. CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2(a). The proposed Project is a special event and would not create “cumulative impacts from successive projects of the same type in the same place,” in part due to limitations set in legally binding agreements on the number of possible events. CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2(b). There is nothing known to the University that creates a “reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.” CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2(c). The proposed Project will not impact any designated scenic highway, and in fact there is none in the immediate vicinity of the CMS (2020 LRDP EIR Vol 1 p. 4.1-16).
AESTHETICS

The Project is an operational action that would allow use of an existing facility. It would not result in significant aesthetic impacts, since no change in the form or character of any facilities would occur. No aspect of the Project would introduce permanent new aesthetics impacts. The temporary field change and other special event accessories as may be installed will not create a permanent change to any visual condition at the CMS. The University finds that the Project will not result in any exceptional aesthetic impacts and the Project is appropriately categorically exempt.

AIR QUALITY

The Project is an operational action that would allow use of an existing facility. No aspect of the Project would introduce new air quality impacts. The site is well located to support alternative transit use among spectators. The UC Berkeley campus is a regional destination. It regularly hosts special events and conferences, year round, drawing regional and international visitors; the Project is no exception and would not exceed parameters for vehicle trips or GHG emissions identified in the 2020 LRDP EIR. The Subsequent EIR also concluded that weeknight games would have no effect on the air quality analysis contained in the 2020 LRDP EIR and the Integrated Projects EIR (Subsequent EIR, page 132). The University finds that the Project will not result in any exceptional air quality impacts and the Project is appropriately categorically exempt.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

The Project is an operational action that would allow use of an existing facility and will not involve a physical change to existing properties. The 2020 LRDP EIR found that the Adjacent Blocks, including the site of the proposed California Memorial Stadium improvements and Maxwell Family Field parking structure “occur in urbanized areas with little or no remaining natural vegetation and limited wildlife habitat values. No sensitive natural communities, special status species, wetlands or important wildlife movement corridors occur in these zones” (p. 4.3-
18 to 4.3-19, 2020 LRDP EIR Vol 1). No aspect of the Project would result in biological impacts. The University finds that the Project will not result in any exceptional biological resource impacts and the Project is appropriately categorically exempt.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

The California Memorial Stadium is an important historic resource, constructed for playing and viewing college sports. It was also constructed originally with an understanding of the fact that sports could help finance University programs (see California Memorial Stadium Historic Structure Report, 1998, Siegel & Strain Architects, p. 5). The Match is an international professional sports event. The proposed operational action would use the facility in a manner consistent with its historic use. Temporary turf replacement would not impact the historic significance of the CMS. The UC Berkeley campus is a regional destination, with many historically important buildings. It regularly hosts special events and conferences, year round, drawing regional and international visitors; use of the campus and campus buildings in no way diminishes their historic significance; similarly, the Project in no way impacts the historic significance of the CMS. No aspect of the Project would introduce new cultural resource impacts. The University finds that the Project will not result in any exceptional cultural resource impacts and the Project is appropriately categorically exempt.

GEOLOGY, SEISMICITY, AND SOILS

Risk of strong seismic ground shaking is characteristic of properties in the east campus area, which sits on or near the Hayward Fault. However, the CMS has been seismically upgraded in a major capital improvement project, has an emergency egress plan and is an existing facility. The Integrated Projects EIR analyzed adding up to seven additional capacity events annually at the CMS after implementation of the CMS West project and thus bringing more people to the location of an active fault even though the CMS West project reduced seating capacity at the Stadium. The IP EIR was based upon the discussion in CEQA Guidelines section 15126.2(a), which offers as an example of a significant impact building a new subdivision upon an active fault and thus bringing more people to live daily in the vicinity of the risk. As discussed above,
Addendum #1 to the IP EIR analyzed the impacts of removing from the IP EIR project description the increased use of CMS for seven capacity events; a later agreement with the Panoramic Hill Association reduces the potential number of additional capacity events by more than half that anticipated in the IP EIR, to no more than nine (9) “in any three (3) year period provided that no more than four (4) occur in any one (1) year period of which no more than two (2) may exceed 30,000 ticketed spectators.” (Agreement, page 6-7). The Project will bring individuals to the area for a limited period, and will bring them to a seismically retrofitted Stadium. See especially discussion in the Subsequent EIR, July 2011, page 153 to 155. Accordingly, the conclusion of significant and unavoidable geology and seismicity impacts in the IP EIR related to active fault rupture is no longer supported. The Project does not introduce new geology, seismicity or soils risks. The University finds that the Project will not result in any exceptional geology, seismicity and soils impacts and the Project is appropriately categorically exempt.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

The 2020 LRDP EIR concluded that projects implementing the 2020 LRDP, incorporating existing best practices and 2020 LRDP EIR mitigation measures, would not result in new significant hazardous materials-related impacts (2020 LRDP EIR Vol 1 p. 4.6-20 to 4.6-35). The proposed operational action would not result in new or more severe impacts than analyzed in the prior certified or adopted CEQA analysis. No aspect of the Project would introduce new hazardous materials impacts. The University finds that the Project will not result in any exceptional hazardous materials impacts and the Project is appropriately categorically exempt.

HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

The Project is an operational action that would allow use of an existing facility. It would not result in new permanent changes to landscape or drainage or impact stormwater. The UC Berkeley campus is a regional destination. It regularly hosts special events and conferences; use of the campus and campus buildings does not significantly impact hydrology and water quality; similarly, the Project in no way impacts hydrology and water quality. No aspect of the
Project would introduce new hydrology or water quality impacts not previously analyzed in the LRDP EIR. The University finds that the Project will not result in any exceptional hydrology and water quality impacts and the Project is appropriately categorically exempt.

LAND USE

The Project is an operational action that would allow use of an existing facility. Land uses in the project area would not change. The UC Berkeley campus is a regional destination. It regularly hosts special events and conferences drawing regional and international visitors; use of the campus and campus buildings for events is common; similarly, the Project does not conflict with land use in its vicinity. The Subsequent EIR also concluded that weeknight games would not alter land use (Subsequent EIR, page 183). No aspect of the Project would introduce new land use impacts, as the proposed Project is consistent with the historic purpose and use of CMS. The University finds that the Project will not result in any exceptional land use impacts and the Project is appropriately categorically exempt.

NOISE

The Project is an operational action that would allow use of an existing facility for its intended use. The University contracted with specialists to complete a noise study during the Guinness Cup event held in 2014 at the CMS. Meters were located at three sites on neighboring Panoramic Hill. The loudest sounds resulted from the cheering. Shots on goal resulted in noise levels ranging from about 75 to 85 dBA Lmax. The maximum instantaneous noise level reached 89 dBA Lmax when Real Madrid scored the first goal of the game. The public address system announcements and music were normally less than 75 dBA.

Operational noise from CMS sometimes results in substantial periodic increase in noise levels – noise from football games was most recently analyzed in the Southeast Campus Integrated Projects EIR, SCH #200512056 - see section 4.6. As noted at p.4.6-19 of the IP EIR and reiterated at page 187 of the Subsequent EIR:
“Another question is the relative sensitivity of people to noise from a football game during the daytime or the evening. It is assumed that on a weekend day or weekend evening, there is the same likelihood that people would be at home (as opposed to a typical workday.) Furthermore, it is more likely that people would be outdoors on their property on a fall day than at night, and therefore exposed to higher absolute levels of noise. However, people may find the intrusiveness more significant when they are inside, even if the absolute levels of the sound from the game are lower. There is, however, no firm basis for making a finding that the noise would be more intrusive and cause a greater impact during the evening, when most people are inside, as opposed to during the daytime when people may be either inside or outside of their houses. The installation of permanent lighting of the field under the Integrated Projects, which would possibly facilitate a shift in the time from daytime to evening, would therefore not cause a substantial increase in noise, even though it could be perceived as such by some sensitive receptors because of the nighttime hours.” (IP EIR p. 4.6-19)

The Project would not result in a cumulative noise impact due to a substantial increase in intrusive noise levels beyond existing noise levels for operation of the CMS. There are also no unusual circumstances related to the proposed Project. Further, the Project is a single proposed event, and under terms of a community agreement, the potential number of such events has been severely circumscribed - where the Integrated Projects EIR analyzed seven additional annual capacity events at the CMS, the current agreement limits them to no more than nine in three years, with four or fewer in a one year period, where only two of these may exceed 30,000 spectators. As noted in the noise analysis in the Integrated Projects EIR, pp 4.6-19, “When evaluating the significance of an increase in the number of events, one must consider to what extent each event causes intrusive noise. If it is determined that an event would cause noise levels that substantially exceed existing ambient noise levels, the next question is whether the proposed number of these periodic events would lead to a finding that there would be a substantial increase in the noise environment...” and at page 4.6-20, “Given the intrusiveness of the noise described above, and the proposed increase in the number of events (approximately a doubling in the number of events annually increasing the number of events to an average of more than one per month), this increase is a significant noise impact.” This rate of increase in the number of events is not foreseeable given limitations set in community agreements and therefore no significant impact is anticipated.  

No aspect of the Project would introduce new noise impacts not previously considered. The University finds that the Project will not result in any exceptional noise impacts and the Project is appropriately categorically exempt.
POPULATION

The Project is an operational action that would allow use of an existing facility in a manner consistent with its intended use. The attendees at the event are transient and no significant permanent employment increase in the vicinity would result from the Project. The Project would not induce population growth in the area, nor displace people. The University finds that the Project will not result in population impacts and the Project is appropriately categorically exempt.

PUBLIC SERVICES

The Project is an operational action that would allow use of an existing facility in a manner consistent with its intended use. Operation of the CMS for capacity events includes implementation of mitigation measures and best practices for public services for special event planning. The fact that the project would bring a capacity event to the stadium on a weeknight may reconfigure where and when traffic and parking impacts from the event occur, as well as possibly alter usual capacity event practices of police, fire and emergency protection personnel. Implementation of Continuing Best Practice IPE-10 and IP SEIR Mitigation Measures TRA-IPE-10Rc through TRA-IPE-10Rf would require consultation with representatives from the City of Berkeley, including its Police and Fire Departments, to mitigate such impacts to the extent feasible. The University also provides $600,000 annually to the City of Berkeley for fire and emergency services pursuant to the UC Berkeley/City of Berkeley 2020 LRDP Settlement Agreement, and, as noted above, has agreed pursuant to an agreement with PHA to provide for the assignment of an additional emergency vehicle on the Oakland side of the PHA neighborhood during all capacity events at CMS. While the circumstances for July 2015 are specific, special event planning for remarkable events in Berkeley is common, and the Project is not expected to result in new impacts on Public Services. No aspect of the Project would introduce new public services impacts beyond existing conditions. The University finds that the Project will not result in any exceptional public services impacts and the Project is appropriately categorically exempt.
TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC

The Project is an operational action that would allow for use of an existing facility. Operation of the CMS for capacity events includes implementation of mitigation measures and best practices addressing transportation and traffic for special event planning, including promotion of alternative travel modes. See for example the Integrated Projects EIR, Continuing Best Practice IPE-10.

The fact that the project would bring a capacity event to the stadium on a weeknight may reconfigure where and when traffic and parking impacts from the event occur, as well as possibly alter usual capacity event practices of police, fire and emergency protection personnel. Implementation of Continuing Best Practice IPE-10 and IP SEIR Mitigation Measures TRA-IPE-10Rc through TRA-IPE-10Rf would require consultation with representatives from the City of Berkeley, including its Police and Fire Departments, to mitigate such impacts to the extent feasible.

The weeknight scheduling may exacerbate traffic and parking impacts over typical capacity events at the Stadium, because game arrival times may coincide with commuter departures from campus, and coincide with weekday commuter movement throughout the parking, roadway and transportation system. Capacity events at the CMS currently exceed the capacity of the surrounding parking, traffic and transportation systems during peak demand periods, and this condition would be exacerbated by overlap with the weekday commute period and may be further exacerbated by overlap with local events at other venues.

The Subsequent EIR examined the traffic impacts of weeknight capacity events at the CMS. However, in July 2015 the UC Berkeley campus will be in summer session with significantly reduced campus activity: in the fall 2014 UC Berkeley campus enrollment was at 37,581 (download from www.berkeley.edu/about/bythenumbers on April 16, 2015) and estimated total summer 2015 enrollment is anticipated to be a little more than 40% of this amount, or 16,000 students over the course of the summer (download from summer.berkeley.edu/about on April 16, 2015). Traffic, transportation and parking impacts are likely to be less severe for the Project than those outlined in the Subsequent EIR for a weeknight football game in the fall.
The Subsequent EIR included the following mitigation measures, incorporated into the Project as proposed, substituting “the weekday of the Project” for “game day Friday”:

IP SEIR Mitigation Measure TRA-IPE-10Ra: Through coordinated communications planning, UC Berkeley would emphatically encourage campus and area commuters, including those at LBNL, and gameday patrons, to use alternative routes and/or transit to commute to and from work on a game day Friday.

IP SEIR Mitigation Measure TRA-IPE-10Rb: Supported by coordinated communications planning, UC Berkeley would require and implement expanded stacked parking at campus parking lots in the vicinity of the CMS, including but not limited to Underhill, Foothill, and other area parking lots, starting four hours prior to game time on a game day Friday, in order to accommodate gameday patrons who drive in addition to the typical Friday commuters. UC Berkeley would require these lots to be emptied of commuter parking by 5 pm on a game day Friday.

The Department of Intercollegiate Athletics is working with UC Berkeley’s Parking and Transportation on implementation of this item (Panarese, April, 2015).

IP SEIR Mitigation Measure TRA-IPE-10Rc: Prior to the selection of the date for Friday evening game, UC Berkeley Intercollegiate Athletics will contact other campus and community entities that operate large venues, such as Cal Performances, and the Berkeley Community Theatre, to determine if other large events have already been scheduled for a Friday. Intercollegiate Athletics will inform PAC-12 of these scheduled large Friday events, such as basketball games, or performances at the Greek Theater, to minimize the potential for simultaneous events. Once a game day Friday is selected (UC Berkeley anticipates that the schedule will be known in June before the fall football season) UC Berkeley Intercollegiate Athletics will seek to reschedule activities that may be preliminarily scheduled to coincide (for example, basketball competitions). Intercollegiate Athletics will also inform other campus entities of the date for the Friday football game. Intercollegiate Athletics will coordinate with others to minimize the potential for other large simultaneous events. If other large events on the game day Friday evening cannot be rescheduled, Intercollegiate Athletics will coordinate event management including parking provisions with other entities.

There does not appear to be any conflicts at large nearby venues for the scheduled date. Intercollegiate Athletics, working with other campus departments including Community Relations, is undertaking broad consultation and coordination of logistics planning.

IP SEIR Mitigation Measure TRA-IPE-10Rd: Once a game day Friday is selected (UC Berkeley anticipates that the schedule will be known in June before the fall football season) UC Berkeley Intercollegiate Athletics will host one or more event planning meetings that include campus units Cal Performances, Parking & Transportation and UC Police; representatives from BART and AC Transit; representatives from the local business districts; representatives from the City of Berkeley including Police and Fire, to manage communications and logistics planning related to the Friday evening game and
any events that coincide. Attendee lists and action item meeting minutes shall be recorded as part of mitigation monitoring.

Intercollegiate Athletics is undertaking broad consultation and coordination of logistics planning, in accordance with this measure and past practice. An operations meeting will be planned (Panarese).

IP SEIR Mitigation Measure TRA-IPE-10Re: Within four weeks following a Friday evening game, UC Berkeley Intercollegiate Athletics will host one or more post event meetings that include campus units Cal Performances, Parking & Transportation, and UC Police Department; representatives from BART and AC Transit; representatives from the local business districts; representatives from the City of Berkeley including Police and Fire Departments, to review game day practices and problems and establish practice improvements. Attendee lists and action item meeting minutes shall be recorded as part of mitigation monitoring.

The post event meeting occurred after last year’s Guinness World Cup match, and would occur again following the proposed event.

IP SEIR Mitigation Measures TRA-IPE-10Rf: Intercollegiate Athletics will commence and continue data gathering to improve information and planning in preparation for Friday evening games, including data to facilitate Friday origin location analysis for ticket holders.

Intercollegiate Athletics tracks origin information for ticket holders and results inform transportation communications.

IP SEIR Mitigation Measures TRA-IPE-10Rg: UC Berkeley Intercollegiate Athletics shall consider using satellite parking facilities, such as Golden Gate Fields, to provide parking for Friday evening games that are expected to be at or near capacity. Intercollegiate Athletics will operate regular shuttle service before and after the game between CMS and the satellite parking facilities.

Intercollegiate Athletics is exploring opportunities with Golden Gate Fields for the proposed event, and expects to operate shuttle service.

IP SEIR Mitigation Measures TRA-IPE-10Rh: UC Berkeley Intercollegiate Athletics will provide information on transit access to and from the CMS on game day as part of regular communications, such as emails and regular mail, with football patrons. In addition, Intercollegiate Athletics will explore the potential for fully or partially subsidizing the cost of transit for season ticket holders who do not purchase a parking pass. The subsidy can be in the form of a pre-paid Clipper Card which is accepted by a number of Bay Area transit providers including BART and AC Transit.
Communication to ticket holders about game day transportation is being closely reviewed and will emphasize transit options.

IP SEIR Mitigation Measure TRA-IPE-10Ri: UC Berkeley Intercollegiate Athletics would develop programs to incentivize alternative transportation and carpooling by football patrons throughout the season, but particularly for any Friday night game. Records of compliance will include records of promotional information distributed, and funds expended.

Communication to ticket holders about game day transportation is being closely reviewed and will emphasize transit options.

IP SEIR Mitigation Measure TRA-IPE-10Rj: To accommodate transit demand and travel impacts associated with Friday evening football, AC Transit may modify bus routes to avoid closed roadways, operate additional buses to maintain the same headways in congested corridors, operate additional buses to accommodate the increased transit demand generated by the game, or extend hours of operations to meet the transit demand after game ends.

IP SEIR Mitigation Measure TRA-IPE-10Rk: To accommodate transit demand and travel impacts associated with Friday evening football, BART may run additional trains, run longer trains, and extend hours of operations for the Richmond-Daily City/Millbrae Line to meet the additional demand for BART service, and implement measures at the Downtown Berkeley BART Station to reduce overcrowding on BART trains, station platform, and/or escalators and stairs.

Intercollegiate Athletics is undertaking broad consultation and coordination of logistics planning, in accordance with this measure and past practice.

While the particulars of the event for July 2015 are specific, special event planning for remarkable events in Berkeley is common, and the Project is not expected to result in new impacts on transportation and traffic. While neighbors in the vicinity of the project site may have reduced access to street parking and driveways due to traffic management associated with the Project on the two days of the Project, there would not be a new significant environmental impact due to the inconvenience not addressed in previous documents. The University finds that the Project will not result in any exceptional transportation and traffic impacts and the Project is appropriately categorically exempt.
UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

The Project is an operational action that would allow use of an existing facility for its intended purpose. It would not result in significant utilities and service systems impacts, since no change in the built environment, nor in the form or character of any facilities, would occur. No aspect of the Project would introduce new utilities and service system impacts. The University finds that the Project will not result in any exceptional transportation and traffic impacts and the Project is appropriately categorically exempt.

E. Incorporation by Reference

This Determination incorporates by reference in their entirety the 2020 LRDP FEIR and Addendum #5 thereto, as well as the SCIP FEIR, and the Findings adopted in support of the 2020 LRDP and Amendment #1 and Amendment #2 previously certified and/or adopted by the University. Without limitation, this incorporation is intended to elaborate on the scope and nature of the proposed Project, its potential environmental impacts and the basis for determining the proposed Project is categorically exempt from CEQA.

F. Mitigation Monitoring

The proposed Project incorporates relevant and previously adopted 2020 LRDP FEIR and SCIP FEIR and Subsequent EIR mitigation measures and/or continuing best practices that will be monitored pursuant to the existing 2020 LRDP FEIR and SCIP FEIR and Subsequent EIR monitoring programs previously adopted by the University in connection with its approvals of the 2020 LRDP and SCIP, as amended.

G. Record of Proceedings

Various documents and other materials constitute the record of proceedings upon which the University bases its findings and decision contained herein. Because of the complexity of the issues addressed in connection with the review of the Project, these documents and materials
are located in various offices of the Berkeley campus, the Office of Capital Projects, and/or offices of consultants retained by the University to assist with the development and analysis of the Project. The custodian for these documents and materials is the Berkeley campus Real Estate Division, Physical and Environmental Planning office, located at 300 A & E Building, Berkeley, California, 94720-1382.

H. Summary

Based on the foregoing Analysis and the information contained in the administrative record, the University makes the following conclusions with respect to the proposed Project:

1. The Project is categorically exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act, as it entails normal operations of facilities for public gatherings and use of an existing facility for its intended purpose as prescribed by CEQA Guidelines Sections 15323 and 15301.

2. All 2020 LRDP FEIR and SCIP FEIR and Subsequent EIR mitigation measures relevant to the Project are incorporated and included as part of the Project and all components of the proposed Project described in Section II.A. of this Determination, are made a condition of approval. Additionally, use of the Stadium as proposed by the Project is consistent with a settlement agreement between the Panoramic Hill Association (PHA) and The Regents (Alameda County Superior Court Case #RG06301644), resolving litigation involving the Integrated Projects EIR and approval of the first phase of the CMS Seismic Corrections and Program Improvements. The settlement specifies use criteria for operation of the California Memorial Stadium. The proposed Project comports to these use criteria.

3. The Project supports the mission of the University and benefits the University. The proposed event aligns with the mission of the University of California, Berkeley in that the event will be promoted internationally, advancing the international prominence of UC Berkeley and facilitating interest in UC Berkeley teaching, research, students and alumni. The agreement with the event promoter further assigns some fees and revenue to the University; other revenues will address constrained campus funding. Additionally, UC Berkeley is reserving some portion of the spectator ticketing for the opportunity to invite members of the campus community to attend, connecting the excitement of international professional soccer with the
community that supports an internationally renowned public University. The event will also provide local Bay Area soccer fans the opportunity to see their home town team in a unique setting, which provides additional benefits of community pride to the local geographic area (personal communication with Justin Panarese 4.16.15). Further, use of the Stadium for revenue generation to support University programs is consistent with the historic use of the Stadium as outlined at page five of the Historic Structure Report for California Memorial Stadium. Finally, the Project is consistent with the litigation settlement agreement between the Panoramic Hill Association (PHA) and The Regents (Alameda County Superior Court Case #RG06301644).

III. SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ACTIONS

Based on the foregoing the University intends to take the following actions based on review and consideration of this Determination Memorandum and all referenced materials:

A. Determine the proposed Project categorically exempt for the reasons set forth in Section II, above.

B. Authorize approval and execution of an agreement with the event promoter which incorporates and includes all elements of the Project and relevant 2020 LRDP FEIR and SCIP FEIR mitigation measures and continuing best practices.

Completed May 2015 by Principal Planner Jennifer McDougall, UC Berkeley, based on previous work by McDougall and University Counsel Kelly Drumm, UCOP