- 1. The developer is responsible for determining the level of CEQA review required at the developer's cost. DGS serves as the CEQA Lead Agency; all environmental documents shall be submitted to DGS' Environmental Services Section f(ESS) for review and recommendation for DGS approval.
  - a. Steps to clear CEQA include, but are not limited to the following:
    - i. Site review: developers' environmental staff or environmental consultant (s) must make a physical inspection of the site.
    - ii. The developer shall make the determination of the level of review required based on state environmental laws and submit the justification for same to the Department of General Services (DGS), Environmental Services Section (ESS).
    - iii. If SB 423 or AB 1449 are considered, the developer shall submit an administrative memo to support a Notice of Exemption.
    - iv. If federal funding is anticipated, developer shall also comply with the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA). DGS is <u>not</u> the lead agency for NEPA. Refer to the appropriate Responsible Entity for guidance on NEPA.
- 2. Upon DGS ESS recommendation for approval of the environmental determination submitted to DGS ESS, DGS will sign the final document and return to the developer for posting on the <u>Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR)</u> website (AKA CEQA Net and State Clearinghouse).
- The developer or their environmental consulate shall post the CEQA document on <u>CEQA Net.</u> (refer to OPR to create an account if you do not already have an account.
- 4. The developer shall submit a copy of the CEQA Net posting, which must include the State Clearinghouse number, to DGS ESS' Environmental Service Section. AB 1449 requires posting an NOE with the county clerk.
- 5. It is not necessary to include documentation to support a Notice of Exemption with the CEQA Net filing, however, if the developer chooses to include, all documents and drawings must be ADA remediated for publication.