

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

**TO:** Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Jessi Steele, Planner  
Planning and Development Department

The project or activity identified below is determined to be exempt from further environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as defined in the State and County Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA.

**APN:** N/A

**Case No.:** N/A

**Location:** Countywide

**Project Title:** *2017 Comprehensive Plan Annual Progress Report*

**Project Applicant:** N/A

**Project Description:** Government Code Section 65400 requires the Montecito and County Planning Commissions to provide by April 1<sup>st</sup> of each year an annual report on the County Comprehensive Plan to the Board of Supervisors, the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research, and the California Department of Housing and Community Development. As required in Section 65400, the County’s *2017 Comprehensive Plan Annual Progress Report* summarizes (1) the status of the Comprehensive Plan, (2) the County’s progress in meeting its share of regional housing needs pursuant state housing element law; and (3) the degree to which the Comprehensive Plan complies with state guidelines for maintaining such plans, as well as the date of the last revision to the Comprehensive Plan.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** County of Santa Barbara

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Planning and Development Department  
Long Range Planning Division

**Exempt Status:** (Check one)

- Ministerial
- Statutory Exemption
- Categorical Exemption
- Emergency Project
- Declared Emergency
- Not a project as defined by CEQA

**Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section(s):** Section 15061(b)(3) – An activity is not subject to CEQA if the activity is not a project as defined in Section 15378. Section 15378(b)(5) – Projects do not include organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

**Reasons to support exemption findings:** The *2017 Comprehensive Plan Annual Progress Report* contains three key components. First, the report summarizes the projects that the Planning and Development Department undertook in 2017 to maintain and implement the Comprehensive Plan. Second, the report provides housing production statistics, including separate statistics for Isla Vista and

Mission Canyon. Lastly, the report includes the “Housing Successor Annual Report, Low and Moderate Income Housing Asset Fund, Fiscal Year 2016-2017.”

CEQA Guidelines Section 15060(c)(3) states that an activity is not subject to CEQA if the activity is not a “project.” Section 15378(b)(5) specifies that projects do not include “[o]rganizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.” As described above, the *2017 Comprehensive Plan Annual Progress Report* is an administrative activity that does not authorize new development or otherwise result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment. Therefore, the report is not a project as defined by CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5) and is not subject to CEQA per CEQA Guidelines Section 15060(c)(3).

Lead Agency Contact Person: Jessi Steele, Planner

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Department/Division Representative: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Klemann, Deputy Director

Date of Final Action on Project: \_\_\_\_\_

Distribution: Hearing Support Staff

Date Filed by County Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_