

**ATTACHMENT C:**  
**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Dr. Glenn S. Russell, Director, 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.

Case No.: 17ORD-00000-00017

Location: Countywide

Project Title: Guidelines for Determining the Significance of and Impacts to Cultural Resources Archaeological, Historic, and Tribal Cultural Resources

Project Description: The project entails adoption of a revised chapter 8, Guidelines for Determining the Significance of and Impacts to Cultural Resources- Archaeological, Historic, and Tribal Cultural Resources, to the County's *Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines Manual*. The project establishes revised thresholds for the determination of the significance of and impacts to cultural resources during the environmental review of discretionary development projects required by CEQA.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Santa Barbara

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Planning & Development Department

Exempt Status:

Ministerial

Statutory Exemption

Categorical Exemption

Emergency Project

Declared Emergency

Other

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section: §§15308 & 15378(b)

Reasons to support exemption findings:

The adoption of thresholds of significance pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15064.7 is not itself a "project" requiring CEQA review, because the CEQA Guidelines, §15064.7, prescribe a process that public agencies must follow to adopt thresholds of significance, and prior CEQA review is not part of the process.

CEQA Guidelines, §15308 categorically exempts actions taken by regulatory agencies as authorized by state or local ordinance, to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement or protection of the environment where the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment. Adoption of these thresholds establishes procedures that will protect cultural resources.

CEQA Guidelines, §15378(b) specifies that adoption of a regulation does not constitute a project. Adoption of these thresholds is the adoption of such a regulation.

The action to adopt thresholds does not have the potential to result in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. The adoption of this threshold is not related to any particular development project and individual projects will be subject to compliance with CEQA, as applicable.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Dr. Glenn S. Russell



Department/Division Representative: Dr. Glenn S. Russell

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Date: December 12, 2018

Acceptance Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Distribution: Hearing Support Staff

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