

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Kylie Brown, Planner, Planning & Development

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: 023-340-013 and 023-340-015 **Case No.:** 23EMP-00003

Location: 1212 Mission Canyon Road

Project Title: Santa Barbara Botanic Garden Emergency Permit

Project Applicant: Steve Windhager

Project Description: This is a report to the Board of Supervisors of the Director of P&D's action to issue an Emergency Permit to allow a repair to an existing bridge over Mission Dam at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden. The Emergency Permit was issued for replacement of components of an existing bridge over Mission Dam that were damaged during the 2023 storm. The 2023 storm event washed away the bridge railing and walking surface, creating dangerous emergency conditions for Botanic Garden guests and staff. Components that were replaced include decking, handrails, and safety cables. The wood decking was integrally reinforced with steel. All work was conducted in conformance with the recommendations of Archaeologist Mike Imwalle as outlined in his letter, dated February 25, 2023, including use of lime cement. All work was completed per the specifications outlined in the structural calculations and drawings prepared by Van Sande Structural Consultants, Inc., dated January 23, 2023. No grading or tree removal was required. Repairs to the bridge occurred between March 1, 2023 and March 10, 2023. The parcel will continue to be served by the Santa Barbara City Water and Sanitation Districts and the Santa Barbara County Fire Department. Access will continue to be provided off of Mission Canyon Road. The application involves Assessor's Parcel Numbers 023-340-013 and 023-340-015. The property is zoned REC and located at 1212 Mission Canyon Road in the Mission Canyon Community Plan area, First Supervisorial District.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Santa Barbara

Name of Person or Entity Carrying Out Project: Santa Barbara Botanic Garden

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial
- Statutory Exemption
- Categorical Exemption
- Emergency Project
- Declared Emergency
- Not a Project

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guidelines Section: CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5) (Not a Project).

Reasons to support exemption findings: *CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5)* states that an organizational or administrative activity of governments that will not result in direct or indirect impacts to the environment is not considered a project under CEQA. Providing a report that describes the Emergency Permit to the Board of Supervisors is an administrative responsibility that has no impact on the environment and thus is not a project under CEQA.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Kylie Brown, Planner

Phone #: (805) 568-2507 **Department/Division Representative:** _____

Date: March 3, 2023

Acceptance Date: _____

Distribution: Hearing Support Staff

Date Filed by County Clerk: _____