

**ATTACHMENT 2: 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(s):** Not applicable

**Case No.:** Not applicable

**Location:** Countywide

**Project Title:** Local Early Action Planning (LEAP) Grants Program Application

**Project Description:** The Planning and Development Department (P&D) is requesting the Board of Supervisors’ authorization to apply for a \$500,000 grant under the California Department of Housing and Community Development’s (HCD) Local Early Action Planning (LEAP) Grants Program. P&D would use the funds to help cover the cost of preparing and adopting the *2024-2032 Housing Element Update* (Housing Element Update) during Fiscal Years 2020-2021 through 2022-2023.

**Exempt Status:**

- Ministerial
- Statutory
- Categorical Exemption
- Emergency Project
- No Possibility of Significant Effect

**Cite specific CEQA Guideline Section:** CEQA Guidelines Sections 15378(b)(5) and 15060(c)(3)

**Reasons to support exemption findings:** CEQA Guidelines Section 15060(c)(3) states, “an activity is not subject to CEQA if ... the activity is not a project as defined in Section 15378.” Additionally, CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5) provides that a project does not include “administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.” The approval and submittal of the LEAP Grants Program application and required grant documents to HCD is an administrative government activity that will not result in physical changes to the environment. Thus, this activity is not a “project” pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5) and is not subject to environmental review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15060(c)(3).

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Department/Division Representative

Date

Acceptance Date (date of final action on project): \_\_\_\_\_

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