

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Zoë Carlson, 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.:** 22GPA-00000-00004

Location: Unincorporated communities of Ventucopa, Cuyama, New Cuyama, Sisquoc, Garey, Casmalia, and Los Alamos.

Project Title: Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Update – Land Use Element Amendment

Project Applicant: County of Santa Barbara

Project Description: Government Code § 65302.10(c) requires the County of Santa Barbara to periodically review and update the Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities (DUC) appendix of the Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan Land Use Element. The update must include an analysis of water, wastewater, stormwater drainage, and structural fire protection needs or deficiencies for each identified DUC. It must also include an analysis of potential funding mechanisms for the improvement and/or extension of services and facilities to identified DUCs. The County identified seven DUCs: Ventucopa, Cuyama, New Cuyama, Sisquoc, Garey, Casmalia, and Los Alamos.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Santa Barbara

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

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial
- Statutory Exemption
- Categorical Exemption
- Emergency Project
- Declared Emergency
- No Possibility of Significant Effect, CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3)

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guidelines Section: Section 15061(b)(3) (Review for Exemption) – “Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA.”

Reasons to support exemption findings: The DUC update to the Land Use Element is a research and analysis-based update. The update is limited to identifying communities that meet the definition of DUC and documenting deficiencies related to water, wastewater, stormwater drainage, and structural fire protection within each DUC. The update does not include any new policies, regulations, or projects. Any projects to address identified deficiencies or that otherwise occur as a result of this update will be subject to compliance with CEQA, if applicable. Therefore, it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that this project may have a significant effect on the environment, and it is not subject to CEQA according to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3).

Lead Agency Contact Person: Zoë Carlson

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Department/Division Representative: _____

Date: _____

Acceptance Date: _____

Distribution: Hearing Support Staff

Date Filed by County Clerk: _____