

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department of Public Works/Transportation Division
(Lead Department/Division)

Based on a preliminary review of the project the following activity is determined to be exempt from further environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970 (Pub. Res. Code Section 21000 et seq.), as defined in the State CEQA Guidelines and County Revised CEQA Guidelines.

APN(s) County owned Right of Way **Project No.** N/A

LOCATION: First and Third Supervisorial Districts

PROJECT TITLE: Proposed new and modifying parking restrictions in the First and Third Supervisorial Districts

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This item is on the agenda to establish parking restrictions in the First and Supervisorial Third Districts. In collaboration with fire departments, State Parks and community members, the Public Works department evaluated the locations and recommends these parking restrictions. Approval by the Board will provide law enforcement the discretion to tow vehicles that are parked in violation of the proposed restrictions.

Proposed Parking Restrictions:

Pursuant to County Code 23-11 permitted by California Vehicle Code Sections 22507, 22507.5 and 22651(n), the Board of Supervisors, by resolution, may regulate vehicle parking on certain streets or highways, or portions thereof, during all or certain hours of the day.

Via Real - First Supervisorial District

Public Works recommends that your Board adopt the proposed parking restrictions on Via Real in the First Supervisorial District. These parking restrictions are to address safety issues with bicyclist and pedestrian safety. When vehicles are parked on the south side of Via Real in these areas they block the marked bicycle lane and pedestrians cross a high speed, high volume roadway. The parking restrictions will not impact residents that front Via Real. The oversize vehicle restriction is to address safety issues with public health and safety hazards caused by oversized vehicles parking adjacent to agricultural farmlands. The parking restriction will not impact farming activity. Public Works recommends that your Board adopt by resolution the following:

No Parking, Stopping, or Standing Tow Away Zone

- On the south side of Via Real from the centerline of Greenwell Avenue to a point 280 feet west of the centerline of Toro Canyon Road.
- On the south side of Via Real from 360 feet west of the centerline of Sentar Road to the centerline of Nidever Road.

- On the south side of Via Real from 1340 feet west of the centerline of Nidever Road to 1120 feet west of centerline of Cravens Lane.

No Parking, Stopping, or Standing Tow Away Zone of Oversized Vehicles 10:00 P.M. to 5:00 A.M.

- On the south side of Via Real from the centerline of Nidever Road to a point 1340 feet east of the centerline of Nidever Road.

East Mountain Drive - First Supervisorial District

Public Works recommends that your Board adopt the proposed parking restriction on East Mountain Drive in the First Supervisorial District. These parking restrictions are to address safety issues with emergency access and pedestrian safety near the Hot Springs Trailhead. The parking restrictions will not impact residents since the parking is used by hikers only. Sunset to 8 A.M. matches the times that the County Trail is closed. Public Works recommends that your Board adopt by resolution the following:

No Parking Sunset to 8:00 A.M. Tow Away Zone

- On the north side of East Mountain Drive from the centerline of Riven Rock Road to a point 105 feet east of the centerline of Riven Rock Road.
- On the south side of East Mountain Drive from the centerline of Riven Rock Road to a point 295 feet east of the centerline of Riven Rock Road.
- On the south side of east Mountain Drive from the centerline of Hot Springs Road to a point 450 feet east of the centerline of Riven Rock Road.

No Parking, Stopping, or Standing Tow Away Zone

- On the south side of East Mountain Drive from the centerline of Ashley Road to a point 730 feet east of the centerline of Ashley Road.

Frontage Road #3399 (Arroyo Quemada Lane) - Third Supervisorial District

Public Works recommends that your Board adopt the proposed parking restriction on Frontage Road #3399 (Arroyo Quemada Lane) in the Third Supervisorial District (Vicinity Map #3). This parking restriction is to address safety issues with emergency access and, public health and safety. The parking restriction will be enforced by State Park Rangers and will address the camping activity in the roadway that is taking place in this area. Public Works recommends that your Board adopt by resolution the following:

No Parking 2:00 A.M. to 6:00 A.M. Tow Away Zone

- On both sides of Frontage Road #3399 (Arroyo Quemada) from the 101 State Highway to a point 3215 feet west of the 101 State Highway.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Santa Barbara

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Public Works Transportation Division

Exempt Status: (Check one)

- ☐ Ministerial
- ☐ Statutory Exemption
- ☒ **Categorical Exemption {15301(c)}**
- ☐ Emergency Project
- ☐ Declared Emergency

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section: 15301(c) Existing Facilities – Class 1

consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination. The types of "existing facilities" itemized below are not intended to be all inclusive of the types of projects which might fall within Class 1. The key consideration is whether the project involves negligible or no expansion of an existing use. Examples include but are not limited to: (c) Existing highways and streets, sidewalks, gutters, bicycle and pedestrian trails, and similar facilities (this includes road grading for the purpose of public safety).

Reasons to support exemption findings: Consistent with this exemption, the proposed project involves a change in parking restrictions, stopping controls, and mid-block crosswalks for public traffic safety. Such are established based upon safety, sight distance restrictions, necessity and how it relates to the use by the community. The project allows for a public safety activity designed to maintain a safe traveling condition of the highway facility as it was constructed. Further, there are no unusual circumstances which would create a possibility that there would be a significant effect. Therefore, the project can be found to be categorically exempt from CEQA.

There is no substantial evidence that there are unusual circumstances (including future activities) resulting in (or which might reasonably result in) significant impacts which threaten the environment. The exceptions to the categorical exemptions pursuant to Section 15300.2 of the State CEQA Guidelines are:

- (a) **Location. Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, and 11 are qualified by consideration of where the project is to be located -- a project that is ordinarily insignificant in its impact on the environment may in a particularly sensitive environment be significant. Therefore, these classes are considered to apply all instances, except where the project may impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.**

CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 is a Class 1 exemption; therefore, this exception does not apply.

- (b) **Cumulative Impact.** All exemptions for these classes are inapplicable when the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time is significant.

The project involves parking restriction changes to areas on existing public roads. In addition, there are no other identified projects which would contribute to cumulative impacts. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

- (c) **Significant Effect.** A categorical exemption shall not be used for an activity where there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.

The project involves a routine updating of parking regulations and public safety improvements on public roads. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

- (d) **Scenic Highways.** A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources, within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway. This does not apply to improvements which are required as mitigation by an adopted negative declaration or certified EIR.

The project does not involve a scenic highway or a project which may result in damage to a scenic resource, removal of trees, rock outcropping or similar resource.

- (e) **Hazardous Waste Sites.** A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

There are no hazardous wastes site locations on public roads. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

- (f) **Historical Resources.** A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

The roadways involved are not identified as a historical resource. In addition, changes in roadway parking regulations would not involve any structural modifications to existing facilities. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Mostafa Estaji, Deputy Director, Public Works-Transportation Division, Phone: (805) 568-3064.

Department/Division Representative: Morgan Jones, Engineering Environmental Regulatory Compliance Manager III.

Acceptance Date: **December 9, 2025**

Distribution: Hearing Support Staff for posting



Morgan Jones

Department Representative

November 18, 2025

Date

NOTE: A copy of this document must be posted at least 6 days prior to consideration of the activity by the decision-makers to comply with County CEQA guidelines and a copy must be filed with the County Clerk of the Board after project approval to begin a 35 day statute of limitations on legal challenges.

Distribution: Date Filed by County Clerk: _____.