

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

RECEIVED

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

2026 MAY 13 A 10: 30

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

CLERK OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

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

LOCATION: First and Fourth Supervisorial Districts

PROJECT TITLE: Amendment of Speed Limits Specified in County Code Sections 23-15.4, 23-15.5, 23-15.6, and 23-15.9; in the First and Fourth Supervisorial Districts

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed project is in accordance with changes to the California Vehicle Code (CVC) by the adoption of Assembly Bill 43, the Public Works Department reviewed the County speed zones and prepared the attached Ordinance to amend the County Code to establish safety corridors on roadways with serious injury or fatal collisions.

On October 8, 2021 the Governor signed Assembly Bill 43 into law taking effect on January 1, 2022. The adoption of Assembly Bill 43 changed California Vehicle Codes governing speed limits. Public Works Department reviewed the County speed zones and prepared an Ordinance to amend the County Code pertaining to speed limits at locations shown below:

FIRST DISTRICT:

- Santa Claus Lane - Public Works recommends your Board approve new 30 mph speed limit on Padaro Lane from to a point one thousand three hundred sixty-three feet southeast of Padaro Lane
- San Antonio Creek Road – Public Works recommends your Board remove the existing 40 mph speed limit and approve a new 35 mph speed limit from Via Los Santos to State Route 154. San Antonio Creek Road currently has a posted 40 mph speed limit

FOURTH DISTRICT

- California Boulevard - Public Works recommends your Board remove the existing 30 mph speed limit and a new speed limit of 25 mph will be posted from Broadway to the Santa Maria City Limits based on the speed limit law.

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 change to vehicle speed limits as an effective method for improving traffic safety and circulation. Speed limit regulations on public roadways are established based upon safety, sight distance restrictions, necessity and how it relates to the use by the community as a whole. 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 changes to speed limits on 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 vehicle speed limits 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.

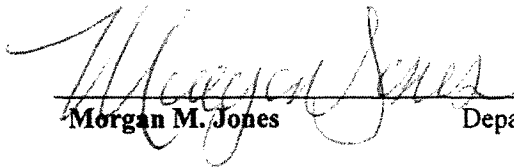
The roadways involved are not identified as a historical resource. In addition, changes in roadway speed limits would not involve any structural modifications to existing facilities. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Mostafa Estaji, Deputy Director, Public Works
Transportation/Engineering Division, Phone: (805) 368-3064

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

Acceptance Date: **Administrative – Set Hearing (April 7, 2026); Departmental (May 5, 2026:
First Reading); Administrative (May 12, 2026: Second Reading)**

Distribution: Hearing Support Staff for posting



Morgan M. Jones

Department Representative

March 6, 2026

Date

NOTE: A copy of this document a must be filed with the County Clerk of the Board after project approval to begin a 35-day
statue of limitations on legal challenges.

Distribution: Date Filed by County Clerk: 5-13-2026



one
COUNTY
one
FUTURE

2026 CEQA Transmittal Memorandum

County of Santa Barbara - Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

105 E. Anapamu St. Room 407 • Santa Barbara • CA • 93101

(805) 568-2240

Complete this form when filing a Notice of Determination (Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, Environmental Impact Report) or Notice of Exemption.			
A scanned copy of the Department of Fish and Wildlife Receipt, Transmittal Memorandum and the CEQA filing, including the date/time of posting will be emailed to the Lead Agency and Project Applicant. If you would like a return copy, please submit an extra copy along with a pre-addressed, stamped envelope.			
Contact Person Emily Ferguson		Phone 805-568-3064	
Lead Agency Public Works Department - Transportation Division		Lead Agency Email EK Ferguson@countyofsb.org	
Project Title Speed Limit Ordinance Amendment			
Project Applicant Gary Smart	Email gmart@countyofsb.org	Phone 805-568-3088	
Project Applicant Address 123 E Anapamu St	City Santa Barbara	State CA	Zip 93101

DOCUMENT BEING FILED:

- Notice of Determination - Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
 2026 Filing Fee \$4,227.50
 Previously Paid (**must attach receipt**) \$0.00
 No Effect Determination (**must be attached**) \$0.00
 Environmental Filing Fees will be collected *only* for projects that are approved. The Applicant must attest to the following:
 This project has been approved. Date of Approval:

- Notice of Determination - Negative Declaration (ND) or Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND).....
 2026 Filing Fee \$3,043.75
 Previously Paid (**must attach receipt**) \$0.00
 No Effect Determination (**must be attached**) \$0.00
 Environmental Filing Fees will be collected *only* for projects that are approved. The Applicant must attest to the following:
 This project has been approved. Date of Approval:

Notice of Exemption \$0.00

County Administrative Handling Fee (**required for all filings, effective 7/19/18**) \$50.00

TOTAL: \$ 50.00

PAYMENT METHOD: ALL APPLICABLE FEES MUST BE PAID AT THE TIME OF FILING

- Cash Credit Check # _____ Journal Entry # JE-1078179
 In person only Ensure Workday status reflects "Posted" prior to filing

View Event: Journal: JE-1078179 on
03/01/2026 for \$100.00 by LORI GRIFFIN-
LYNCH



For JE-1078179 - County of Santa Barbara California - 03/01/2026 - Processing/fee-Notice of Exemp 2026-04-07 Speed Limit ord BL
 Overall Process Journal: JE-1078179 on 03/01/2026 for \$100.00 by LORI GRIFFIN-LYNCH
 Overall Status In Progress
 Due Date 03/20/2026
 Calendars In Use Consecutive Days (No Calendars Selected)

Journal Entry View

Journal JE-1078179 - County of Santa Barbara California - 03/01/2026 - Processing/fee-Notice of Exemp 2026-04-07 Speed Limit ord BL

Journal Number JE-1078179
 Status Reserved
 Event In Progress Accounting Journal
 Budget Check Status Pass

Journal Entry Information

Originated by LORI GRIFFIN-LYNCH
 Accounting Date 03/01/2026
 Currency USD
 Period Mar-FY 2025-26 Actuals (County of Santa Barbara California)
 Ledger County of Santa Barbara California : Actuals
 Journal Source Manual Journal
 Balancing Fund FD-0015 Roads-Operations
 Book Code

Journal Entry Details

Memo Processing/fee-Notice of Exemp 2026-04-07 Speed Limit ord BL
 External Reference ID
 Adjustment Journal No
 Create Reversal No
 Balanced Yes
 Total As-Entered Ledger Debits 100.00
 Total As-Entered Ledger Credits 100.00

As Entered
Journal Entry Lines

View Event: Journal: JE-1078179 on
03/01/2026 for \$100.00 by LORI GRIFFIN-
LYNCH



Journal Line	Company	Ledger Account	Debit Amount	Credit Amount	Memo	External Reference ID	Budget Date	Spend Category	Revenue Category	Grant	Project Task	Program	Cost Center	*Fund	Additional Worktags	Interworking Affiliates	Exceptions
Accounting Journal: County of Santa Barbara California - 03/01/2026, 6300:Charges for Services, Debit, Credit:50 Activity	County of Santa Barbara California	6300:Charges for Services	0.00	50.00	Processing fees-Notice of Exemp 2026-04-07 Speed Limit Ord BL		03/01/2026		RC-5746 Administrative Revenue			PG-0124020 Clerk of the Board	CC-12000 County Executive	FD-0001 General			
Accounting Journal: County of Santa Barbara California - 03/01/2026, 1000:Cash in Treasury, Debit:0, Credit:50 Activity	County of Santa Barbara California	1000:Cash in Treasury	0.00	50.00	Processing fees-Notice of Exemp 2026-04-07 Speed Limit Ord BL		03/01/2026					PG-0542110 Management Support	CC-54210 Public Works- Roads	FD-0015 Roads- Operations	Bank Account: z_Claim on Cash	Find Affiliate: FD-0015 Roads-Operations	
Status History																	
Created	03/18/2026 08:58:04:167 AM																
In Progress	03/18/2026 09:21:07:555 AM																
Reserved	03/18/2026 09:21:08:729 AM																
Notice of Exemption Amendment of Speed Limits in the First & Fourth Supervisorial Districts.pdf																	
File Name application/pdf																	
Content Type LORI GRIFFIN-LYNCH																	
Updated By LORI GRIFFIN-LYNCH																	
Upload Date 03/18/2026 08:58:04 AM																	
Comment																	
2026 CEDA Transmittal Memorandum.pdf																	
File Name application/pdf																	
Content Type LORI GRIFFIN-LYNCH																	
Updated By LORI GRIFFIN-LYNCH																	
Upload Date 03/18/2026 08:58:04 AM																	
Comment																	
Attachment D - Notice of Exemption (1).pdf																	
File Name application/pdf																	
Content Type LORI GRIFFIN-LYNCH																	
Updated By LORI GRIFFIN-LYNCH																	
Upload Date 03/18/2026 08:58:04 AM																	
Comment																	
AP2 Review 2026-04-07 Speed Limit Ord BL - AK.pdf																	

Entered On
lorilyn@countyotfb.org / LORI GRIFFIN-LYNCH
lorilyn@countyotfb.org / LORI GRIFFIN-LYNCH
wd-support

Worktag Account

View Event: Journal: JE-1078179 on
03/01/2026 for \$100.00 by LORI GRIFFIN-
LYNCH



File Name AF2 Review 2026-04-07 Speed Limit Ord BL - AK.pdf
Contact Type application/pdf
Updated By LORI GRIFFIN-LYNCH
Upload Date 03/18/2026 08:58:04 AM
Comment

Process	Step	Status	Completed On	Due Date	Parent (Up to 5)	All Persons	Comment
Accounting Journal Event	Accounting Journal Event	Step Completed	03/18/2026 08:21:07 AM	03/20/2026	LORI GRIFFIN-LYNCH	1	
Accounting Journal Event	Review Journal	Not Required		03/20/2026		0	
Check Budget (Financial)	Check Budget (Financial)	Automatic Complete	03/18/2026 08:21:07 AM	03/20/2026		0	
Check Budget (Financial)	Batch/Job: Run Budget Check	Step Completed	03/18/2026 08:21:08 AM			0	
Check Budget (Financial)	Review Budget Check	Not Required		03/20/2026		0	
Check Budget (Financial)	Review Budget Check	Not Required		03/20/2026		0	
Check Budget (Financial)	Review Budget Check	Not Required		03/20/2026		0	
Check Budget (Financial)	Override Budget Check	Not Required		03/20/2026		0	
Check Budget (Financial)	Service: Reserve Budget in Budget Check	Step Completed	03/18/2026 08:21:08 AM			1	Workday Service
Accounting Journal Event	Approval by Cost Center Manager	Awaiting Action				2	DAWN HOLDEN (Cost Center Manager) ()
Accounting Journal Event	Approval by Cost Center Manager	Awaiting Action				2	STEVEN YEE (Cost Center Manager) ()
Accounting Journal Event	Approval by Cost Center Manager	Awaiting Action				2	IVAN LAZARO (Cost Center Manager) ()
Accounting Journal Event	Approval by Cost Center Manager	Awaiting Action				2	MARISOL VILLALOBOS (Cost Center Manager) ()

Click on the button below to review remaining process details.

Remaining Process



State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife
2026 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT
 DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/26) Previously DFG 753.5a

Print



Save

RECEIPT NUMBER:
 42 — 05/13/2026 — 081
 STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (If applicable)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY Public Works Transportation	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL EK Ferguson@countyofsb.org	DATE 05/13/2026
COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING Santa Barbara	DOCUMENT NUMBER	

PROJECT TITLE
Speed Limit Ordinance Amendment

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME Gary Smart	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL gsmart@countyofsb.org	PHONE NUMBER (805) 568-3088
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS 123 E Anapamu St	CITY Santa Barbara	STATE CA
		ZIP CODE 93101

PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)

Local Public Agency
 School District
 Other Special District
 State Agency
 Private Entity

CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

- Environmental Impact Report (EIR) \$4,227.50 \$ 0.00
- Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND) \$3,043.75 \$ 0.00
- Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW \$1,437.25 \$ 0.00

- Exempt from fee
 - Notice of Exemption (attach)
 - CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)
- Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)

- Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only) \$850.00 \$ 0.00
- County documentary handling fee \$ 50.00
- Other \$

PAYMENT METHOD:

- Cash
 Credit
 Check
 Other
- TOTAL RECEIVED \$ 50.00

SIGNATURE <i>X Katherine Douglas</i>	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE Katherine Douglas, Deputy Clerk
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