

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, as defined in the State and County Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA.

APN(s): ROW **Case No.:** County Project No. 862383

LOCATION: 105 East Anapamu Street, 4th Floor Board of Supervisors Hearing Room

PROJECT TITLE: Agreement between Cachuma Operations and Maintenance Board (COMB) and the County of Santa Barbara to Design and Construct Crossing 8 on Refugio Road in the Third Supervisorial District.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Public Works Department request the Board of Supervisors authorize a Construction Cooperation Agreement with COMB to define the responsibilities and requirements for the delivery of Preliminary Engineering, Environmental, Right of Way, Utility and Construction Administration services for the design and ultimate construction of crossing 8 on Refugio Road. The Public Works Department has an agreement with COMB to design and construct Crossing 8. This crossing spans Quita Creek and is located approximately 3 miles south of the Santa Ynez River Bridge on South Refugio Road. The objective of the project is to improve roadway safety for the public traveling while enhancing steelhead passage at Crossing 8. The Federal Highway Bridge Program (HBP) will reimburse 100% of program participating costs. Any remaining (non-participating) costs to COUNTY will be reimbursed by COMB.

EXEMPT STATUS: (Check One)

- Ministerial
- Statutory
- Categorical Exemption
- Emergency Project
- No Possibility of Significant Effect [Sec. 15061(b, 3)]
- Not a Project [Sec. 15378(b, 2)]

Cite specific CEQA Guideline Section: Section 15378 project means the whole of an action, which has the potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect change, and that is any of the following: (b), Project does not include: (2) Continuing administrative or maintenance activities, such as purchases for supplies, personal-related actions, general policy and procedure making...

Reasons to support exemption findings (attach additional material, if necessary):

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors is the responsible agency to approve, authorize and execute the Agreement between COMB and the County of Santa Barbara. The term project refers to the activity which is being approved and which may be subject to several discretionary approvals by governmental agencies. The term project does not mean each separate governmental approval. Further, the agreement with COMB will not create any unusual circumstances which would create a possibility that there would be a significant effect. Therefore, the actual agreement between COMB and the County of Santa Barbara is not a project it can be found to be exempt from CEQA.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Chris Sneddon, Deputy Director Public Works Transportation/Engineering Division, Phone: (805) 568-3064

Department Representative: Morgan M. Jones, Senior Engineering Environmental Planner

Acceptance Date: **July 12, 2016**

Distribution: Hearing Support Staff for posting



Morgan M. Jones

May 24, 2016
Date

NOTE: A copy of this document must be posted with the County's Planning & Development Department 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 with Planning & Development

Date filed with Clerk of Board