

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Bret McNulty, Planning and Development

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.:** N/A **Location:** Santa Ynez Valley, Santa Barbara County, near the intersection of State Highways 154 and 246

Project Title: Caltrans Community-Based Transportation Grant Application Authorization

Project Description: Planning and Development is seeking authorization from the Board of Supervisors to apply for grant funding from the Caltrans Community-Based Transportation Grant Program for planning and concept level planning and design studies for the Santa Ynez Valley Trail and Township Pedestrian Circulation and Parking Plans. The project implements the policies in the Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan adopted by the Board of Supervisors in 2009. The resolution authorizing application for the grant also authorizes the Director of Santa Barbara County Planning and Development to enter into contracts to accept grants from Caltrans for the Caltrans Community-Based Transportation Planning Grant Program for the Santa Ynez Valley Trail and Township Pedestrian Circulation and Parking Plans in compliance with Caltrans requirements.

Name of Person or Agency Approving Project: Santa Barbara County Planning and Development

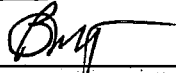
Exempt Status: (Check one)

- Ministerial
- Statutory Exemption
- Categorical Exemption
- Emergency Project
- Declared Emergency

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section: 15262 – A project involving only feasibility or planning studies for possible future actions which the agency, board, or commission has not approved, adopted, or funded does not require the preparation of an EIR or Negative Declaration but does require consideration of environmental factors. This section does not apply to the adoption of a plan that will have a legally binding effect on later activities.

Reasons to support exemption findings: The application for grant funding and the conceptual Santa Ynez Valley Trail and Township Pedestrian Circulation and Parking Plans qualify for an exemption under CEQA Guidelines Section 15262 because the project involves planning studies for identification of possible future actions that have not been approved, adopted, or funded by the County.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Bret McNulty **Phone #:** (805) 568-3380

Department/Division Representative:  **Date:** 3/7/13

Acceptance Date: _____

Distribution: Hearing Support Staff

Date Filed by County Clerk: _____