

ATTACHMENT 1: FINDINGS FOR APPROVAL

Case Nos. 23ORD-00000-00001

1.0 CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) FINDINGS

1.1 State CEQA Guidelines Exemption Findings

1.1.1 The Board of Supervisors finds, that the proposed amendments to the County Land Use and Development Code (LUDC) (23ORD-00000-00001) are exempt from environmental review pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15061(b)(3), 15301, 15303, and 15305.

2.0 ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS

In compliance with LUDC Section 35.104.060.A, the following findings shall be adopted by the Board of Supervisors in order to approve a text amendment to the LUDC:

2.1 The request is in the interests of the general community welfare.

The proposed ordinance amendment is in the interest of the general community welfare since it will continue to protect public health and provide other forms of relief to support economic recovery from the impacts of COVID-19 by extending the expiration date of the COVID-19 temporary ordinance amendments to October 31, 2024 or when the COVID-19 provisions are terminated earlier by ordinance amendment.

The ordinance amendment will allow the Temporary Development Standard Suspension Ordinance to stay in effect to continue to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the residents in the unincorporated area of Santa Barbara County, and supports business and organization operations in a manner that will enable applicable businesses and community entities to reopen and operate and to assist the local economy, provides local employment opportunities, and supports the general welfare of the population and assists in the economic recovery from the impacts of COVID-19. Finally, the ordinance amendment is temporary in nature and therefore will not cause long-term impacts to communities.

2.2 The request is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan, the requirements of the State planning and zoning laws, and this Development Code [LUDC].

The ordinance amendment is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan, the requirements of the State planning and zoning laws, and the County Land Use and Development Code because the extension of the Temporary Development Standard Suspension Ordinance expiration date to October 31, 2024 will allow the Temporary Development Standard Suspension Ordinance to stay in effect, and the ordinance will therefore continue to implement regulations regarding the

temporary suspension of compliance with certain requirements of approved permits, legal non-conforming uses, and a hardship time extension in order to protect public health and/or support economic recovery from the impacts of COVID-19.

As described in the Planning Commission staff report, dated April 4, 2023 and incorporated herein by reference, the ordinance amendment does not alter the purpose and intent of any policies of the Comprehensive Plan and Community Plans as they are temporary in nature. The suspensions allowed by this extension of the Temporary Development Standard Suspension Ordinance are limited to project changes that are necessary to support economic recovery from the impacts of COVID-19. The extension to continue to allow the temporary suspension of development standards for applicable projects supports the local economy and general welfare of the community by allowing projects to operate and assist ongoing economic recovery efforts, but does not allow projects to operate in violation of any federal, state, or local public health orders.

2.3 The request is consistent with good zoning and planning practices.

The proposed ordinance amendment is consistent with good zoning and planning practices because the revised expiration date to October 31, 2024 or when the COVID-19 provisions are terminated earlier by ordinance amendment will temporarily allow development relief from certain development standards in order to support economic recovery from the impacts of COVID-19.

Extending the temporary suspension of compliance with certain requirements of approved permits to support ongoing economic recovery efforts from the impacts of COVID-19. The temporary accommodations will allow businesses and community entities that have an approved permit to operate as previously-approved or businesses and community entities that are non-conforming to operate with modifications necessary to protect public health or support ongoing economic recovery efforts.

The ordinance amendment is further consistent with good zoning and planning practice because it does not alter the purpose and intent of any policies of the Comprehensive Plan and Community Plans as the ordinance amendments are temporary in nature and are drafted to allow applicable projects to comply with state and local mandates to protect public health.

The expiration date change for the COVID-19 related temporary allowances would enable applicable businesses and community entities to reopen and operate which assists the local economy, provides local employment opportunities, and supports the general welfare of the population, while supporting ongoing economic recovery efforts from the impacts of COVID-19.