

Attachment D

CEQA Notice of Exemption

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Community Services Department

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.

Location: 6549 El Colegio Rd, Goleta CA 93117 (APN 075-034-005)

Project Title: Provision of Housing Navigation Services and Operation of an Emergency Shelter

Project Description: The impacts of COVID-19 have included an increase in unsheltered homelessness footprint and activity. Emergency shelter is a high priority in the Isla Vista unincorporated area of the County, with approximately 80 persons unhoused persons in need of shelter. Unsafe conditions for persons remaining unsheltered include risk of fire, impacts on public recreation areas and the environment, safety of the greater Isla Vista community and visitors, and concern for the health and safety of those experiencing homelessness. These concerns have been identified through an increase in calls for law enforcement service, the need for sanitation services and removal of biohazard, and the deterioration of parks due to work delays or cancellations caused by encampment activity. Based on the identified need for a contracted service provider to coordinate and operate emergency shelter/temporary housing in or near the Isla Vista Community, General Services pursued a site to meet the need for emergency shelter beds, and Community Services pursued agencies to operate an emergency shelter. On May 13, 2021, a Request for Letters of Interest and Statement of Qualifications (LOI/SOQ) was released to affordable housing and shelter service providers in order to identify a qualified respondent to provide emergency shelter/temporary housing for unsheltered homeless households in Isla Vista. The purpose of the Emergency Shelter at the site in Isla Vista is to address concerns for the health and safety of those experiencing homelessness, as well as concern for the environment and safety of community members and visitors. People experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of experiencing homelessness are considered inherently “impacted by COVID-19,” as they are most likely to have a lower life expectancy, be at a higher risk of infectious and chronic illness, and suffer from substance abuse and poor health. Moreover, COVID 19 public emergency response measures, such as social distancing requirements, reduced capacity of existing emergency shelter beds. The proposed additional overnight emergency shelter resources will add capacity at a time when most needed for homeless persons and public health considerations.

This project will consist of the following.

- A lease between the County and 6549 El Colegio, LLC for up to one year for period of June 15, 2021 through May 31, 2022 with an option to extend an additional one year.
- A license agreement with Good Samaritan Shelter granting control of or access to the emergency shelter site beginning June 15, 2021.
- A subrecipient agreement with Good Samaritan for the operation of the El Colegio property as an emergency shelter site following completion of job order contracts, using Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) CARES (ESG-CV) funds and Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention program (HHAP) funds. The subrecipient agreement will provide for the provision of housing navigation and essential services from July 1, 2021 through May 31, 2022.

Alterations will consist of the following:

- Construction improvements are limited to minor exterior modifications of walking surfaces to correct accessible path of travel from the public sidewalk, and from the rear parking lot to the front door.
- Minor parking lot striping to provide a van accessible parking stall.
- Minor interior alterations to improve emergency exiting.
- Minor interior alterations to improve accessibility to restrooms.
- Testing, certification, and activation of fire suppression system.
- Cleaning, testing, and activation of heating system.

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial
- Statutory Exemption (Guidelines 15269)
- Categorical Exemption (Guidelines 15301)
- Emergency Project
- Declared Emergency

Cite specific CEQA Guideline Sections:

15269(c). Emergency Projects. CEQA Guidelines Section 15269 provides a statutory exemption for specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency.

15301. Existing Facilities. CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 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 existing or former use. The key consideration is whether the project involves negligible or no expansion of use. Non-exclusive examples include interior or exterior alterations involving such things as interior partitions, plumbing, and electrical conveyances;

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

People experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of experiencing homelessness are considered inherently “impacted by COVID-19,” as they are most likely to have a lower life expectancy, be at a higher risk of infectious and chronic illness, and suffer from substance abuse and poor health. Moreover, COVID 19 public emergency response measures, such as social distancing requirements, reduced capacity of existing emergency shelter beds. The proposed additional overnight emergency shelter resources will add capacity at a time when most needed for homeless persons and public health considerations. The actions provide emergency shelter options and services such as case management, professional medical and mental health care, food, security and cleaning to ensure a safe and secure location for people experiencing homelessness in order to protect human life and minimize strain on health care system capacity, and do not constitute a project subject to CEQA.

The lease, license and minor interior alterations consist of accessibility improvements and minor exterior landscape improvements and will involve negligible or no expansion of existing or former use.

With regard to the proposed project, the exceptions to the Existing Facilities categorical exemption that must be considered 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 in 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 Guideline Section 15301 is a Class 1 exemption. Therefore, this exception is not applicable.

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

The cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place is not anticipated for this location and would not be significant. There is no cumulative impact and, 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 proposed project does not involve unusual circumstances, including future activities, resulting in or which might reasonably result in significant effects on the environment. The proposed project will not result in a significant effect on the environment.

(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.


There are no state scenic highways in the project area. This exception does not apply.

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

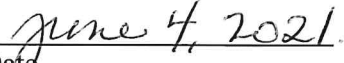
This proposed project is not located on a site which is included on any listed compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code. Therefore, it is not located on a hazardous waste site and this exception does not apply.

(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.

This proposed project does not involve any historical resources. This exception does not apply.



Department/Division Representative



Date

Note: A copy must be filed with the County Clerk of the Board after project approval and posted by the Clerk of the Board for a period of 30 days.

Copies to: Community Services Department
File

Date File of Counter Clerk



2021 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 Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, Environmental Impact Report or Notice of Exemption.

You will need to submit one original for posting plus one copy for the Department of Fish & Wildlife. A scanned copy 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 Kimberly Albers		Phone 805-568-2459	
Lead Agency Santa Barbara County Community Services Dpt		Lead Agency Email kalbers@co.santa-barbara.ca.us	
Project Title Homeless Assistance Programs Manager			
Project Applicant same as above	Email	Phone	
Project Applicant Address 123 E. Anapamu St., 2nd Floor	City Santa Barbara	State CA	Zip 93101

DOCUMENT BEING FILED:

- Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
 - 2021 Filing Fee \$3,445.25
 - Previously Paid (must attach receipt) \$0.00
 - No Effect Determination (must be attached)..... \$0.00

- Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration
 - 2021 Filing Fee \$2,480.25
 - Previously Paid (must attach receipt) \$0.00
 - No Effect Determination (must be attached)..... \$0.00

- 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 Card Check # _____ Journal Entry # 0219056