

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

**TO:** Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Community Services Department

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(s):** N/A

**Case No.:** N/A

**Location:** Countywide

**Project Title:** 2017-2018 Countywide Proposed Library Budget Update

**Project Description:** Library services in the County are provided via the Cities' main libraries and various branch locations as a way to efficiently use existing facilities and prevent the creation of County-operated duplicate establishments. The library service Cities are grouped into three zones with a number of libraries in each zone: Zone 1 (Santa Barbara), Zone 2 (Lompoc) and Zone 3 (Santa Maria). Last fiscal year the County provided \$7.80 per capita to these libraries to provide library services in their respective zones, and the funding totaled approximately \$3.4 million. The libraries are currently developing their fiscal year 2017-2018 budgets to incorporate into the current services agreements they have with the County for said funding. The City of Santa Barbara is proposing to: 1) increase its administrative fee charged to the branch libraries in their zone from 9% of their branch budget to approximately 18% to recover costs incurred in administering the libraries, and 2) change the long used county per capita funding allocation formula to one based on a ratio of a city's population to the total population of all five branch libraries. This would impact four branches positively, but would negatively impact the City of Goleta. The engagement of a library consultant is proposed to analyze the current delivery and funding model, compare to other County delivery systems and provide recommendations for an enhanced funding model, if possible.

**Exempt Status:**

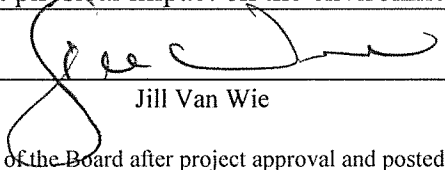
Other

**Cite specific CEQA Guideline Section:** 15378(b)(5)

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

A budget update and contracting with a library financial modeling consultant is an organizational or administrative action and has no direct physical impact on the environment.

Department/Division Representative \_\_\_\_\_

  
Jill Van Wie

Date April 27, 2017

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.

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