

# ATTACHMENT K

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

**FROM:** Stephen Peterson, Project Manager, Comprehensive Planning Division

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):** Not applicable

**Case No.:** 06MIS-00000-00002

**Location:** The proposed design guidelines would apply to parcels that are within the boundaries of both the Core and Peripheral areas of the Pedestrian Area Old Town Orcutt (PA-OTO) overlays in the Old Town Orcutt area, an area of approximately 47 acres.

**Project Title:** Old Town Orcutt Design Guidelines

### **Project Description:**

The Old Town Orcutt Design Guidelines describes the Old Town Orcutt “western oil town” architectural style using written explanation, photographs, and drawings. The document improves upon and clarifies previous informal guidelines developed by the OTOBAR and provides a more user-friendly guide to the Old Town Orcutt architectural vernacular.

Exempt Status: (Check one)

- Ministerial
- Statutory
- Categorical Exemption
- Emergency Project
- Not a project

**Cite specific CEQA Guideline Sections:** §15060 (c) (3), which states, “Once an application is deemed complete, a lead agency must first determine whether an activity is subject to CEQA before conducting an initial study. An activity is not subject to CEQA if the activity is not a project as defined in Section 15378,” and §15378, which states that a “Project means the whole of an action, which has a potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment.”

**Reasons to support exemption findings:** This exemption would apply because this is not a project that has the potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. The context of the proposed Design Guidelines is essentially identical to the current informal guidelines developed by the OTOBAR. The proposed document simply improves upon and clarifies the informal guidelines by including more detailed text and graphic examples of the Old Town Orcutt architectural vernacular. The purpose of the guidelines is to assist the applicants, architects, planners, decision makers, and the NBAR in designing projects that will reflect the OTO historical small town architectural character and style. In addition, the Guidelines are a tool to promote OTO as a business, residential, and cultural center that is safe and comfortable for local residents and will attract shoppers, businesses, and tourists consistent with the policies of the Orcutt Community Plan.

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Department/Division Representative

Date

Acceptance Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Filed by County Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: A copy of this form must be posted at P&D six days prior to a decision on the project. Upon project approval, this form must be filed with the County Clerk of the Board and posted by the Clerk of the Board for a period of 30 days to begin a 35 day statute of limitations on legal challenges.

Distribution:

Hearing Support Staff  
Project file