

Attachment B

Notice of Exemption

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## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

**FROM:** Heather Allen, 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:** Countywide

**Project Title:** Coastal Commission LCP Planning Assistance Grant Application Authorization

**Project Description** Planning and Development staff is applying for grant funding from the Local Coastal Program Planning Assistance Grant Program to amend the County of Santa Barbara's Local Coastal Program with new and enhanced existing policies and adaptation strategies addressing coastal hazards. The project implements the policies in the Local Coastal Program adopted by the Board of Supervisors. The resolution authorizes the Director of Santa Barbara County Planning and Development to apply for and enter into a contract to accept a grant if received from the California's Coastal Commission for a Local Coastal Program Planning Assistance Grant in compliance with California Coastal Commission 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. 15265 – CEQA does not apply to activities and approvals pursuant to the California Coastal Act that involve any local government preparing or adopting a local coastal program.

**Reasons to support exemption findings:** The application for grant funding for a Local Coastal Program Amendment qualifies for an exemption under CEQA Guidelines Section 15262 because the project involves planning studies and consideration of environmental factors for identification of possible future actions that have not been approved, adopted, or funded by the County. Furthermore, Section 15265 shifts the burden of CEQA compliance from the local agency to the California Coastal Commission, as they certify the local coastal programs.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Heather Allen Phone #: (805) 884-8082

Department/Division Representative: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Distribution: Hearing Support Staff

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