

Attachment A
Notice of Exemption

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Santa Barbara County Department of Public Works/Flood Control 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): 111-580-004 Case No. N/A

Location: A-Street Basin, 2400 Block of A. Street in western Santa Maria, Ca.
(Include street address and cross street (if urbanized area) or attach specific location map)

Project Title: A-Street Basin Weir Structure Reconstruction Project

Project Description: Over time, the basin had experienced several storm-related problems that led to repair work. In summer of 2002 the basin weir and inlet structure were repaired. In winter of 2011 additional emergency repairs were made as follows: constructing a slurry cement cut-off wall to prevent further subsurface erosion, and the stabilization of the undermined concrete overflow structure. In 2017 storms caused the concrete weir to leak water during the maximally filled capacity. The structure is likely to become structurally non-functional with the next storm season and the weir must be reconstructed rather than repaired.

The reconstruction will provide the safety for the surrounding area. The preliminary proposed work will include reconstruction of the old, cracked weir. The structure will be reconstructed to the original elevation and original shape.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Santa Barbara County Flood Control District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Santa Barbara County Flood Control District

Exempt Status: (Check one)

- Ministerial
- Statutory Exemption
- Categorical Exemption
- Emergency Project
- No Possibility of Significant Effect

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section: 15301 Existing Facilities. CEQA Guideline Section 15301 (d), Class 1 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 use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination.

Reasons to support exemption findings: Consistent with this exemption, the project is not located in any wetland or an officially designated (by federal, state, or local government action) scenic area, or in officially mapped areas of severe geologic hazard. There are no unusual circumstances which would create a possibility that there would be a significant effect. Therefore, this project can be found to be categorically exempt from CEQA.

There is no substantial evidence that there are unusual circumstances (including future activities) resulting in (or which might reasonably result in) significant impacts which threaten the environment. The exceptions to the categorical exemptions pursuant to Section 15300.2 of the State CEQA Guidelines are:

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

The project is the repair of an existing facility to repair the outlet weir structure within the existing structure footprint. There are no other projects proposed in the area, thus this exception does not apply.

- (b) **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 project is the repair of an existing facility within the existing basin footprint, and not located in any wetland or an officially designated (by federal, state, or local government action) scenic area, or in officially mapped areas of severe geologic hazard. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

- (c) **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.

The project does not involve a scenic highway or a project which may result in damage to a scenic resource, removal of trees, rock outcropping or similar resource. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

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

There are no hazardous wastes sites within the project site. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Maureen Spencer Phone #: (805)568-3437

Department/Division Representative: Maureen Spencer Date: March 3, 2020

Acceptance Date: _____

Note: A copy of this form must be posted at P&D 6 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 (when P&D permit is required)

Date Filed by County Clerk: _____

POSTED

MAR 03 2020

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Planning and Development**