

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Kylie Brown, Planner, Planning & 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: 023-340-013 and 023-340-015 **Case No.:** 23EMP-00003

Location: 1212 Mission Canyon Road

Project Title: Santa Barbara Botanic Garden Emergency Permit

Project Applicant: Steve Windhager

Project Description: The proposed project is for replacement of components of an existing bridge over Mission Dam that were damaged during the 2023 storm. The 2023 storm event washed away the bridge railing and walking surface, creating dangerous emergency conditions for Botanic Garden guests and staff. Components to be replaced include decking, handrails, and safety cables. The wood decking will be integrally reinforced with steel. All work will be conducted in conformance with the recommendations of Archaeologist Mike Imwalle as outlined in his letter, dated February 25, 2023, including use of lime cement. All work will be completed to the specifications outlined in the structural calculations and drawings prepared by Van Sande Structural Consultants, Inc., dated January 23, 2023. No grading or tree removal is proposed. The work is expected to be completed within 30 days of permit issuance. The parcel will continue to be served by the Santa Barbara City Water and Sanitation Districts and the Santa Barbara County Fire Department. Access will continue to be provided off of Mission Canyon Road. The application involves Assessor's Parcel Numbers 023-340-013 and 023-340-015. The property is zoned REC and located at 1212 Mission Canyon Road in the Mission Canyon Community Plan area, First Supervisorial District.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Santa Barbara

Name of Person or Entity Carrying Out Project: Santa Barbara Botanic Garden

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial
- Statutory Exemption
- Categorical Exemption
- Emergency Project
- Declared Emergency

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guidelines Section: Section 15269(c), Emergency Projects

Reasons to support exemption findings: *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15269(c) exempts “specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency.” Emergency action is warranted in this case because the 2023 storm event washed away the existing bridge railing and walking surface, creating dangerous emergency conditions for Botanic Garden guests and staff. Therefore, this statutory exemption applies to the proposed project.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Kylie Brown, Planner

Phone #: (805) 568-2507 **Department/Division Representative:** _____

Date: February 28, 2023

Acceptance Date: _____

Distribution: Hearing Support Staff

Date Filed by County Clerk: _____