

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department of Public Works – Transportation Division
(Lead Department/Division)

Based on a preliminary review of the project the following activity 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): Various **Case No.: N/A**

LOCATION: 105 East Anapamu Street, 4th Floor Board of Supervisors Hearing Room

PROJECT TITLE: State of California 2015/16 Exchange and State Match Program, Agreement for the Exchange of Federal Highway Dollars.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an agreement with the State of California, Department of Transportation, for the exchange of Federal Highway dollars for Non-Federal State Highway Account dollars, for Fiscal Year 2015/16 apportionments in the amount of \$558,115. Authorize the Director of Public Works or designee to apportion these Regional Surface Transportation Program funds to the City of Buellton, the City of Guadalupe and the City of Solvang for FY 2015/2016, in the amounts established under Section 182.6(d)(1) of the Streets and Highways Code and by Santa Barbara County Association of Governments guidelines;

EXEMPT STATUS: (Check One)

- Ministerial
- Statutory
- Not a Project [Sec. 15378(b, 4)]
- Emergency Project
- No Possibility of Significant Effect [Sec. 15061(b, 3)]
- Categorical Exemption

Cite specific CEQA Guideline Section: Section 15378 project means the whole of an action, which has the potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect change, and that is any of the following: (b), Project does not include: 4) The creation of government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

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

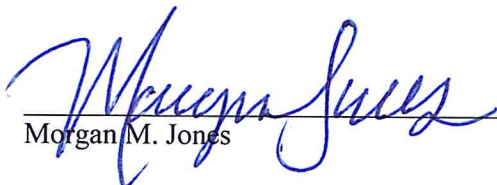
The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors is the responsible agency to transfer funds for transportation projects in all Supervisorial Districts. The County of Santa Barbara has the opportunity to exchange Federal Highway dollars for Non-Federal State Highway Account dollars through an agreement between the State and the County. This exchange gives the County the flexibility to use these funds for a wide range of transportation projects. The Federal mandates associated with Federal funds are not applicable to funds converted to State Highway Account dollars; therefore, these funds can be used without Federal restrictions. The re-allocation of funding is not a project by definition. The term project refers to the activity which is being approved and which may be subject to several discretionary approvals by governmental agencies. The term project does not mean each separate governmental approval. The transfer of funds will not result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Chris Sneddon Deputy Director Public Works Transportation/Engineering Division, Phone: (805) 568-3064

Department Representative: Morgan M. Jones, Senior Engineering Environmental Planner

Acceptance Date: **June 21, 2015**

Distribution: Hearing Support Staff for posting



Morgan M. Jones

May 13, 2016

Date

NOTE: A copy of this document must be posted with the County's Planning & Development Department at least 6 days prior to consideration of the activity by the decision-makers to comply with County CEQA guidelines and a copy must be filed with the County Clerk of the Board after project approval to begin a 35 day statute of limitations on legal challenges.

Distribution:

Date filed with Planning & Development

Date filed with Clerk of Board