

# ATTACHMENT B: FINDINGS

## 1.0 CEQA FINDINGS

### **For Project EIRs**

### FINDINGS PURSUANT TO PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE SECTION 21081 AND THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT GUIDELINES SECTIONS 15090 AND 15091:

#### 1. CONSIDERATION OF THE EIR

The Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR), for the Santa Barbara County Single-Use Plastic Bag Ban Ordinance SCH #2013111013, was presented to the Board of Supervisors and all voting members of the Board have reviewed and considered the information in the Final EIR, and its appendices prior to approving the project. In addition, all voting Supervisors have reviewed and considered testimony and additional information presented at or prior to the public hearing on June 16, 2015, July 7, 2015, and July 21, 2015. The Final EIR reflects the independent judgment of the Board of Supervisors and is adequate for this project.

#### 2. FULL DISCLOSURE

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors finds and certifies that the Final EIR (SCH #2013111013) constitutes a complete, accurate, adequate and good faith effort at full disclosure under CEQA. The Board further finds and certifies the Final EIR has been completed in compliance with CEQA.

#### 3. LOCATION OF RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

The documents and other materials which constitute the record of proceedings upon which this decision is based are in the custody of: County Public Works Department, Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division, 130 East Victoria, Suite 100, Santa Barbara, CA 93101.

#### 4. FINDINGS THAT IMPACTS ARE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT AND/OR BENEFICIAL

The Board of Supervisors finds that in accordance with the environmental impact analysis provided in the Final EIR (SCH #210111013 April 2015), all subject areas identified in the Final EIR were considered to cause adverse impacts that are not found to be significant to the environment (Class III) and/or to cause beneficial impacts to the environment (Class IV). Therefore, there are no alterations or mitigation measures required for these impacts.

#### 5. FINDINGS ON PROJECT ALTERNATIVES

The Final EIR, Santa Barbara County Single-Use Plastic Bag Ban Ordinance SCH #2013111013, prepared for the project evaluated the following alternatives:

1. No Project

2. Ban on plastic bags at all retail establishments
3. Mandatory charge of \$0.25 for paper bags
4. Ban on both plastic and paper carryout bags
5. Mandatory charge of \$0.10 for both plastic and paper bags
6. Delayed implementation in North County for the first year

The Board of Supervisors finds that none of the impacts are significant (all are Class III - less than significant and/or Class IV - Beneficial), therefore it is not necessary to make further findings on the feasibility of mitigation measures or project alternatives (Pub. Resource Code § 21081; 14 CCR § 16091(a)). Further, the Board of Supervisors finds that the Final EIR proposed project is preferred over alternatives 1-5 for reasons of meeting the project objectives and because the Proposed Ordinance is consistent with the potential statewide ban on single-use carryout bags (SB 270), whereas alternatives 1-5 are not. In the event that SB 270 is upheld by the voters in November 2016, the Proposed Ordinance would be repealed and replaced.