

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department of Public Works/Real Property 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 (Pub. Res. Code Section 21000 et seq.), as defined in the State CEQA Guidelines and County Revised CEQA Guidelines.

APN(s) 135-210-004, -005, -006, -008, -009, -011, -014, and -016
Project No. Public Works Real Property Folio No. R-402

LOCATION: Unnamed Alley in Los Olivos, CA

PROJECT TITLE: Vacation and Quitclaim of County right-of-way adjacent to various properties in the 2600 blocks of San Marcos Avenue and Grand Avenue in Los Olivos.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed project is for the vacation and quitclaim of a portion of County right-of-way ("ROW") adjacent to properties in the 2600 blocks of San Marcos Avenue and Grand Avenue in Los Olivos. The ROW being vacated has never been used by the public as a road and is not in the County's maintained road system.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Santa Barbara

Name of Person or Agency Processing the Request for Vacation: Public Works Department

EXEMPT STATUS:(Check One)

- ☐ Ministerial
- ☐ Statutory
- ☒ X Categorical Exemption [Sec. 15312(a)]
- ☐ Emergency Project
- ☐ No Possibility of Significant Effect [Sec. 15061(b,3)]

Cite specific CEQA Guideline Section: 15312- Surplus government property sales – "...consists of sales of surplus government property except for parcels of land located in an area of statewide, regional, or area wide concern identified in the State CEQA Guidelines Section 15206(b)(4). The proposed vacation, quitclaim and sale is exempt per 15312(a) as the area being considered for transfer "does not have significant values for wildlife habitat or other environmental purposes, and (1) the property is of such size, shape, or inaccessibility that it is incapable of independent development or use."

Reasons to support exemption findings: The area being vacated and quitclaimed is a narrow (20') strip which was originally intended for use as an alley. That alley was never constructed and is outside the traveled roadway. The property does not have significant values for wildlife habitat or other environmental purposes. The property is of such size, shape, or inaccessibility

that it is incapable of independent development or use. The property to be vacated would qualify for an exemption under any other class of categorical exemption. The use of the property and adjacent property has not changed since the time of purchase by the public agency.

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) **Location.** Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, and 11 are qualified by consideration of where the project is to be located -- a project that is ordinarily insignificant in its impact on the environment may in a particularly sensitive environment be significant. Therefore, these classes are considered to apply in all instances, except where the project may impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15312 is a Class 12 exemption; therefore, this exception does not apply.

- (b) **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.

There are no other identified projects in the immediate area which would contribute to cumulative impacts of successive projects of this type at this location. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

- (c) **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 vacation and quitclaim of this untraveled ROW would not create a reasonable possibility of a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

- (d) **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 execution of the Summary Order to Vacate and Quitclaim would not impact any scenic, historic or similar resources. There are no scenic resources such as a state scenic

highway, historic buildings, rock outcroppings or similar resource at the location which may be damaged by the project. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

- (e) **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 waste site locations on public roads. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

- (f) **Historical Resources.** A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

No adjacent properties or the Portion to be vacated have been identified as historical resources. Execution of the Order to Vacate and the Quitclaim does not involve modification or substantial change to any historic or cultural resource. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Jeff Havlik, Real Property Agent, Public Works, 805 568-3073

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


Morgan M. Jones

December 12, 2013
Date

Acceptance Date: _____
(Distribution) Hearing Support Staff for posting

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:

RECEIVED
JAN 21 2014
S.B. COUNTY
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Date filed with Planning & Development

Date filed with Clerk of Board