

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Planning & Development, Energy 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: 045-250-012

Case No.: City of Santa Barbara's Project Number: MST2009-00495

Location: 100, 1201 & 1335 Shoreline Drive, Santa Barbara, Ca

Projects Title: Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund Grant for City of Santa Barbara's Shoreline Park Improvements, Phase I

Projects Description: Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund Grant in the amount of \$40,000 to City of Santa Barbara for funding allocation for City proposal to install Phase 1 of the Shoreline Park Improvement Project.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Santa Barbara
Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Parks & Recreation Department

Exempt Status: (Check one)

- Ministerial
Statutory Exemption
X Categorical Exemption
Emergency Project
Declared Emergency

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section: 15378(b)(4)

Reasons to support exemption findings:

CEQA Section 15378(b)(4) exempts when, "Project does not include 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."

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 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.

County of Santa Barbara is setting aside funding through a contract for this project. City will comply with CEQA prior to receiving this funding.

(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.

(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.

- (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.
- (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.
- (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.

The exceptions to Categorical Exemptions do not apply to the awarding of CREF funding to the Shoreline Park Improvement Project because CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4) provides that creating a funding mechanism is not a project.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Doug Anthony

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Department/Division Representative: Kathy Pfeifer

Date: January 17, 2012

Acceptance Date: 

distribution: Hearing Support Staff

Project file (when P&D permit is required)

Date Filed by County Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_