

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Planning & Development, Energy & Minerals 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: 115-051-004

Case No.: n/a

Location: 1065 Guadalupe Street, Guadalupe, CA 93436

Projects Title: Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund Grant for Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Center Exhibits Project

Projects Description: Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund Grant in the amount of \$76,000 to Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Center for funding grantee's proposal to install four new exhibits in its Center and install native landscape to an area outside the building.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: n/a
Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Center

Exempt Status: (Check one)

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

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section: 15301(a) and 15304(b)

Reasons to support exemption findings:

CEQA Section 15301(a) exempts interior or exterior alterations of existing facilities, involving such things as partitions, plumbing and electrical conveyances. CEQA Section 15304(b) exempts minor alterations to land, including new landscaping. The project is exempt since there is no increase in square footage of the existing facility, the interior alterations include minor electrical work, partitions, and shelving, and minor alterations to land include new landscaping.

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.**

The proposed exhibits will be located in an existing building, and the native landscaping will be installed in an area where concrete was recently removed. 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.**

Successive projects of the same type in the same places as the proposed project would not result in significant cumulative impacts. There are no significant incremental or measurable cumulative impacts associated with the proposed exhibits or landscaping. 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.**

There are no unusual circumstances associated with the proposed exhibits and landscaping where there is a reasonable possibility that the exhibits or landscaping would have a significant effect on the environment. The proposed exhibits will be located in an existing building, and the native landscaping will be installed in an area where concrete was recently removed. 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.**

This project will not result in any damage to scenic highways. 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.**

The project is not located on sites included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code. 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.**

The proposed project would not result in any substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Kevin Drude

Phone #: 568-2519

Department/Division Representative: Kathy Pfeifer

Date: September 28, 2015

Acceptance Date: 9/28/15

distribution: Hearing Support Staff

Project file (when P&D permit is required)

Date Filed by County Clerk: _____