

CEQA NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Santa Barbara County

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: 029-212-010

Location: 1016 Santa Barbara Street, City of Santa Barbara

Project Title: Dignity Moves Santa Barbara

Project Applicant: Santa Barbara County

Project Description: Lease County parking lot to Good Samaritan Shelter for placement and installation of up to 20 approximately 64 square foot pallet structures thereon to be used for emergency shelter beds and programming at the site. The lease agreement will provide a term of 3 years. Installation of the pallet shelters will also require electrical connections to the pallet shelters and related trenching.

The pallet shelters will be temporarily used onsite to provide additional shelter capacity. Each pallet shelter can accommodate two adults, though some may only be used to shelter one person depending on needs of the individuals. The pallet shelters are each 64 sq. ft. in area and include a bunk bed and desk inside. The pallet shelters are only connected to electrical utilities and do not have plumbing or cooking facilities. Bathroom, shower and laundry facilities will connect to City sewer and water through a new sewer lateral and water main connections. Provided meals will be served in a 259 square foot dining commons for all persons sheltered in the pallet shelters. Additional accessory structures include 132 square foot storage building for persons sheltered in the pallet shelters, three (3) 66 square foot offices, a 132 square foot clinic for providing on-site services, and a mechanical room and waste collection area.

Services provided on-site will include housing navigation and supportive services, public health nurse visits, meals, and overnight shelter. The project will be operated 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. The project site is served by the Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District (MTD) bus service.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Santa Barbara

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: County of Santa Barbara

Exempt Status: (Check one)

Ministerial

<u> X </u>	Statutory Exemption (Cal. Gov. Code, § 8698.4, subd. (a)(4))
<u> X </u>	Categorical Exemption (Guidelines, § 15304)
<u> X </u>	Emergency Project (Guidelines Section 15269, subd. c)
<u> </u>	Declared Emergency

CEQA Guideline Sections 15269 and 15304 and Government Code Section 8698.4, subd. (a)(4)

15269(c). Emergency Projects. CEQA Guidelines Section 15269 provides an exemption for specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency.

Cal. Gov. Code 8698.4, subd. (a)(4). CEQA does not apply to actions taken by a county to lease, convey, or encumber land owned by a county or to facilitate the lease, conveyance, or encumbrance of land owned by the local government for, or to provide financial assistance to, a homeless shelter constructed or allowed by this section.

15304. Minor Alterations to Land. CEQA Guidelines Section 15304 exempts minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry and agricultural purposes. Examples include but are not limited to:

- (a) Grading on land with a slope of less than 10%, except that grading shall not be exempt in a waterway, in any wetland, in an officially designated scenic area, or in officially mapped areas of severe geologic hazard
- (e) Minor temporary use of land having negligible or no permanent effects on the environment.
- (f) Minor trenching and backfilling where the surface is restored.

Reasons to support exemption findings:

Approval of a lease agreement with Good Samaritan Shelter and related sitework for placement of modular units consists of the minor public alterations in the condition of land detailed in CEQA Section 15304. People experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of experiencing homelessness are considered inherently “impacted by COVID-19,” as they are most likely to have a lower life expectancy, be at a higher risk of infectious and chronic illness, and suffer from substance abuse and poor health. The proposed additional overnight shelter resources will add capacity at a time when most needed for homeless persons and public health considerations. The project does not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees. Little to no grading on project site will be required as the current use is a parking lot with a slope of less than 10%. Trenchwork involving extension, grading and undergrounding of existing electrical facilities to the project site will be backfilled and asphalt surface restored accordingly.

With regard to the proposed project, the exceptions to the Existing Facilities categorical exemption that must be considered 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 resources of***

hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state or local agencies.

The project site is located entirely outside of any designated or existing Environmentally Sensitive Habitat (ESH) areas. Therefore, no significant impacts that threaten the environment would result from the project.

(b) Cumulative Impact. All exemptions of these classes are inapplicable when the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time is significant.

The cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place is not anticipated for this location and would not be significant. There is no cumulative impact, and, 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 proposed project does not involve unusual circumstances, including future activities, resulting in or which might reasonably result in significant effects on the environment. The proposed project will not result in a significant effect on the environment.

(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.

There are no state scenic highways in the project area. 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 listed compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

This proposed project is not located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code. The nearest Hazardous Waste site is the City of Santa Barbara Police Department approximately 0.1 miles to the north. Therefore, the project site is not located on a hazardous waste site and 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.

This proposed project does not involve any historical resources. The nearest sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places is the US Post Office and Santa Barbara County Courthouse approximately 0.12 miles away on Anacapa Street. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

As described above, none of the exceptions to the categorical exemptions contained within Section 15300.2 of the State CEQA Guidelines apply to this project.

Department/Division Representative: Ted Teyber

Date: 1/18/2022

Date Filed by County Clerk: _____



2022 CEQA Transmittal Memorandum

County of Santa Barbara - Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

105 E. Anapamu St. Room 407 ♦ Santa Barbara ♦ CA ♦ 93101

(805) 568-2240

Complete this form when filing a Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, Environmental Impact Report or Notice of Exemption.

You will need to submit one original for posting plus one copy for the Department of Fish & Wildlife. A scanned copy including the date/time of posting will be emailed to the Lead Agency and Project Applicant. If you would like a return copy, please submit an extra copy along with a pre-addressed, stamped envelope.

Contact Person		Phone	
Lead Agency		Lead Agency Email	
Project Title			
Project Applicant	Email	Phone	
Project Applicant Address	City	State	Zip

DOCUMENT BEING FILED:

- Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
- 2022 Filing Fee\$3,539.25
- Previously Paid (**must attach receipt**) \$0.00
- No Effect Determination (**must be attached**)..... \$0.00

- Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration
- 2022 Filing Fee\$2,548.00
- Previously Paid (**must attach receipt**) \$0.00
- No Effect Determination (**must be attached**)..... \$0.00

- Notice of Exemption \$0.00

- County Administrative Handling Fee (**required for all filings, effective 7/19/18**) \$50.00

TOTAL: _____

PAYMENT METHOD: ALL APPLICABLE FEES MUST BE PAID AT THE TIME OF FILING

- Cash Credit Card Check # _____ Journal Entry # _____
- (in person only)