

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Public Works Department, Resource Recovery and Waste Management 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(s): Multiple Case No.: Not Applicable

Location: Unincorporated, urbanized community of Mission Canyon (CSA 12) in the 1<sup>st</sup> Supervisorial District.

Project Title: County Service Area 12 (Mission Canyon Sewer District), Sewer Service Charges and Sewer Connection Charges -Fiscal Year 2023-2024

**Project Description:** The proposed action is to set the sewer service charges and connection charges for fiscal year 2023-2024 for County Service Area 12 (CSA 12), which serves the Mission Canyon area. The annual service charge is proposed to remain at \$316.82 per user. The revenue from this service charge funds annual operating, maintenance, and reserve costs. The connection charge is a one-time fee paid for the use of system capacity by new development, which is proposed to remain at \$5,633 per residential unit.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Santa Barbara

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Public Works Department

**Exempt Status:** (Check one)

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

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section: CEQA Guidelines (CCR Section 15273(a)(1)-(4), "Rates, Tolls, Fares, and Charges".

Reasons to support exemption findings (attach additional material, if necessary): CSA 12 was formed pursuant to Resolution 84-72 by the Board on February 21, 1984 in order to alleviate health and safety concerns related to poorly performing septic systems. Operationally, CSA 12 provides wastewater collection services and tracks septic system performance for residents in Mission Canyon. Operation and maintenance includes sewer system cleaning, video inspections, and capital repairs as needed. The proposed actions are for the establishment of rates for CSA 12 for the purposes of meeting operating and capital expenses, as well as for meeting financial reserve needs required to maintain services within the existing service area. Said rates are not for the expansion of the service system. Therefore, consistent with CEQA Guidelines section

Notice of Exemption

County Service Area 12 (Mission Canyon Sewer District), Sewer Connection Charges, Sewer Service Charges and Resolution Relative to Collection of Said Charges on the Tax Roll - Fiscal Year 2023-2024

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15273(a) (1)-(4), the establishment of County Service Area 12 Charges and Fees for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 is exempt from CEQA.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Martin Wilder, Utilities Manager

Phone #: (805) 803-8755

Department/Division Representative: Joddi Leipner, Sr. Eng. Environmental Planner

Date: February 27, 2023

Acceptance Date: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE FILED BY CLERK OF THE BOARD

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