

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Selena Evilsizor, Planning and Development Department

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: N/A

Case Numbers: 17GPA-00000-00004, 17ORD-00000-00015

Location: Unincorporated portions of the Coastal Zone of Santa Barbara County

Project Title: *Santa Barbara County Coastal Resiliency Project*

Project Applicant: N/A

Project Description: Staff is (1) providing a briefing regarding the Coastal Resiliency Project, which will include a discussion of the “Sea Level Rise and Coastal Hazards Vulnerability Assessment” and preliminary draft Local Coastal Program (LCP) policies, and (2) seeking initial comments and direction from the Montecito Planning Commission regarding potential amendments to the Coastal Land Use Plan and Coastal Zoning Ordinance that would address sea level rise as a coastal hazard to be considered in future permitting and planning processes.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Santa Barbara

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Planning and Development Department
Long Range Planning Division

Exempt Status:

☐ Ministerial
☐ Statutory Exemption
☐ Categorical Exemption
☐ Emergency Project
☐ Declared Emergency
☒ Not a project as defined by CEQA

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section(s): Section 15060(c)(3) – “An activity is not subject to CEQA if...[t]he activity is not a project as defined in Section 15378.” Section 15378(b)(2) – Organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Reasons to support exemption findings: Staff is seeking initial comments and direction from the Board of Supervisors (Board) on potential amendments to the Coastal Land Use Plan and Coastal Zoning Ordinance. Comments and direction would include the suggestion of new or enhanced existing policies and development standards that may be needed or desired to address sea level rise hazards in future permitting and planning activities. Staff will incorporate the Board’s feedback into a proposed

LCP amendment and will return to each Planning Commission separately for a formal recommendation to the Board and, ultimately, to the Board for consideration of adoption of the LCP amendment.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15060(c)(3) states that an activity is not subject to CEQA if the activity is not a project. Section 15378(b)(2) specifies that a project does not include general policy making or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment. The staff briefing and request for the Board's comments and direction is an administrative activity that does not authorize new development and will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment. Therefore, this activity is not a project as defined by CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(2) and is not subject to CEQA per CEQA Guidelines Section 15060(c)(3).

Lead Agency Contact Person: Selena Evilsizor, Planner

Phone #: (805) 568-3577

Department/Division Representative: _____
Daniel Klemann, Deputy Director

Date of Final Action on Project: _____

Distribution: Hearing Support Staff

Date Filed by County Clerk: _____