

Attachment B
CEQA Notice of Exemption



2020 CEQA Transmittal Memorandum

County of Santa Barbara - Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

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

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 Ted Teyber		Phone 805 568-3513	
Lead Agency Santa Barbara County		Lead Agency Email teyber@co.santa-barbara.ca.us	
Project Title Bridgehouse Pallet Shelters			
Project Applicant Santa Barbara County	Email teyber@co.santa-barbara.ca.us	Phone 8055683513	
Project Applicant Address 123 E. Anapamu	City Santa Barbara	State CA	Zip 93101

DOCUMENT BEING FILED:

- Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
 - 2020 Filing Fee\$3,343.25
 - Previously Paid (must attach receipt) \$0.00
 - No Effect Determination (must be attached)..... \$0.00

- Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration
 - 2020 Filing Fee\$2,406.75
 - 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: \$ 50.00

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

- Cash Credit Card Check # _____
- Journal Entry # JE-0217162

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: 099-420-016

Location: 2025 Sweeney Road

Project Title: Bridgehouse Pallet Shelter

Project Applicant: Santa Barbara County

Project Description: Expansion of the existing licensed area to Good Samaritan Shelter; relocation, placement and installation of up to 20 approximately 64 square foot pallet structures on unimproved portions thereof to be used for emergency shelter beds and programming at the site. The amended license agreement will provide a term of 5 years with an option to extend an additional 5 years. Installation of the pallet shelters will also require limited grading to level the site, a new 15-foot wide access driveway around the clustered pallet shelters, and the installation of electrical connections to the pallet shelters. The pallet shelters will be clustered east of the existing structures and parking lot, and the new driveway will extend from the existing access road that extends to Sweeney Road, around the east side of the clustered pallet shelters, to the existing parking lot.

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. Meals will be served in the existing multi-purpose building for all persons sheltered in the pallet shelters. An existing County-owned public water system located at 2010 Sweeney Road in Lompoc, California provides potable water to the project site. Temporary portable sanitary facilities and showers will be provided for up to one year for the occupants of the pallet structures until permanent facilities (showers/restrooms) are designed and constructed, and the on-site septic system has been expanded for the proposed use.

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 Bridgehouse Shelter is served by the City of Lompoc Transit (COLT) bus service, with a bus stop outside the multi-purpose dormitory.

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
- Statutory Exemption (Guidelines 15269; Cal. Gov. Code 8698.4(a(4)))
- Categorical Exemption (Guidelines 15303 and 15304)
- Emergency Project
- Declared Emergency

CEQA Guideline Sections 15269, 15303 and 15304 and Government Code Section 8698.4(a)

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

Cal. Gov. Code 8698.4(a). 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.

15303. Construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures. CEQA Guidelines Section 15303 consists of construction of and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures and installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures. Examples include but are not limited to: ... (c) a store, motel, office, restaurant or similar structure not involving the use of significant amounts of hazardous substances, and not exceeding 2500 square feet in floor area and (d) water main, sewage, electrical, gas and other utility extensions to serve such construction.

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
- (b) Minor temporary use of land having negligible or no permanent effects on the environment.
- (c) Minor trenching and backfilling where the surface is restored.

Reasons to support exemption findings:

Expansion of the existing licensed area to Good Samaritan Shelter and sitework thereon 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. Moreover, COVID 19 public emergency response measures, such as social distancing requirements, reduced capacity of existing emergency shelter beds at the Emergency Shelter from 90 to 40 beds. The proposed additional overnight shelter resources will add capacity at a time when

most needed for homeless persons and public health considerations. The subsequent placement and installation of 20 approximately 64 square foot pallet structures does not exceed 2500 square feet in floor area, as detailed in CEQA Guidelines Section 15303(c) above. The project does not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees. Grading on project site will be done on land 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. The Santa Ynez River is approximately 1000 feet south of the project site and there is a critical habitat designation associated therewith that comes to approximately 575 feet of the project site. The proposed project will not expand the existing facility into either of these environmental resources.. 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 listed compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code. Therefore, it 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. 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: 4/29/2021

Date Filed by County Clerk: