

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION (NOE)

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, 1400 Tenth St. Rm. 212
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: City of Goleta
130 Cremona Drive, Suite B
Goleta, CA 93117

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street, Room 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101



Subject: Filing of Notice of Exemption

Project Title: Creek and Watershed Management Plan (Case No. 18-154-PLAN)

Project Applicant: City of Goleta

Project Location (Address and APN): Citywide

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

On November 17, 2020, City Council adopted the City’s Creek and Watershed Management Plan (CWMP). The CWMP is a general planning document that assesses existing conditions of City creeks and watersheds, identifies impairments, and provides a set of programs, goals, strategies, and future implementation actions to address existing impairments. The CWMP also supports objectives in the City’s General Plan. The CWMP identifies a range of strategies to address creek and watershed impairments including regional collaboration, funding, outreach, and capital projects. The Implementation Actions in the CWMP that identify future projects are conceptual in nature and do not constitute engineering level analyses of any project, but instead presents these concepts for future implementation.

As a local-level feasibility and planning study, the CWMP outlines a broad range of community strategies and improvements that will be developed and constructed when Council directs project funding and prioritization. When required and depending on the location and scope of each project, project-specific California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) analyses will be performed for the future projects and activities.

Name of Public Agency Approving the Project: City of Goleta

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out the Project: City of Goleta

Exempt Status: *(check one)*

- Ministerial (Sec. 15268)
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 15269 (a))
- Emergency Project (Sec. 15269 (b) (c))
- Categorical Exemption: (Insert Type(s) and Section Number(s))
- Statutory Exemption: (Insert Type(s) and Section Number(s))
- Other: CEQA Guidelines, Sec. 15378(b)(4-5); Sec. 15262

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Reason(s) why the project is exempt:

The CWMP is exempt from environmental review under CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4-5), because the development of the CWMP does not constitute a "Project" under CEQA, since adoption of the plan is a simple organizational or governmental activity and does not commit the City to any specific development or construction activity that may result in a potentially significant impact on the environment. Future projects and activities outlined in the CWMP would require specific analysis under CEQA at the time of future implementation. In addition, the CWMP is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15262, which exempts Planning and Feasibility Studies for future actions which the agency has not approved, adopted, or funded and does not have a legally binding effect on future actions.

DocuSigned by:

Peter Imhof

11/18/2020

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Peter Imhof

Director, Planning & Environmental Review

Date