



City of Solvang Notice of Exemption

TO:

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Clerk-Recorder
County of Santa Barbara
1100 Anacapa Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project File |
|--|--|--|

FROM: City of Solvang, 411 Second Street, Solvang, CA 93463

PROJECT TITLE: City of Solvang 2023-2031 Housing Element (6th Cycle) / General Plan Amendment

PROJECT ADDRESS: City wide

ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO.: City wide

PROJECT LOCATION: City of Solvang

COUNTY OF: Santa Barbara

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Draft Housing Element consists of the following major components:

- **Introduction to the Housing Element (HE)** including planning context in the City of Solvang, new General Plan policies and new housing programs.
- The **Housing Needs Assessment (HNA)** analyses the City's population, housing characteristics, and trends including special housing needs. This section also studied potential sites for affordable housing.
- The **Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH)** section details opportunities and constraints to housing affordability in the City of Solvang. This document relies on the 2020 census and other current demographic and housing sources to help guide the City of Solvang in determining their housing needs and potential sites for future development.
- **Evaluation of Previous Housing Element** to determine the effectiveness and progress of goals and policies during the last Housing Element cycles. This report also noted which programs were not fully completed.
- **Public Comments on the Public Review Draft Housing Element** are included in this document for the record.

The Housing Element Update includes Goals, Policies, and Programs to:

- Conserve and rehabilitate affordable units;
- Facilitate and encourage development of a diversity of affordable living units;
- Designate sites with land uses so the city can meet its regional housing needs;
- Remove government constraints to housing production, homeless facilities, and affordability;
- Promote fair and equitable housing opportunities for all residents of Solvang;
- Encourage resident participation in City housing programs;
- Accommodate housing for special needs groups, such as seniors and the homeless;

Assure consistency with state requirements for density bonus, non-traditional housing, and energy conservation by updating ordinances on a routine schedule.



NAME OF PERSON OR AGENCY CARRYING OUT PROJECT: City of Solvang

NAME OF PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING PROJECT: City of Solvang

EXEMPT STATUS: (check one)

- Ministerial Project (Section 2180(b)(1); 15268)
- Categorical Exemption (Section 153XX)
- Declared Emergency (Section 21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (Section 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))
- Statutory Exemption (Code / Section _____)
- The project clearly will not have a significant effect on the environment (15061(b)(3))

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: The Housing Element is a component of the City's General Plan, and General Plan amendments are discretionary legislative actions subject to review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Adoption of the Housing Element is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to the "general rule" exemption (Section 15061(b)(3)) of the CEQA Guidelines). It can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the Housing Element may have a significant effect on the environment because it does not approve any development project or other physical change to the environment. Rather, the Housing Element is a document that sets forth the City's policies to plan for the City's regional housing needs allocation. Approval of any subsequent zoning amendments or housing development projects in accordance with the policies set forth in the Housing Element will comply with CEQA.

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT PERSON: Rafael Castillo, AICP **PHONE:** (805) 688-5575

DEPARTMENT: Planning & Building Department

ADDRESS: 411 Second Street
 Solvang, CA 93463

SIGNATURE: 

Date: 01/17/2024

Title: Planning Manager/director

Signed by Lead Agency

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APPLICANT NAME & PHONE NUMBER	(805) 688-5575	Email	planningdept@cityofsolvang.com
MAILING ADDRESS:	411 Second St	Solvang, CA	93463
PROJECT ADDRESS:	City wide	Solvang, CA 93463	APN: City wide