City of Rancho Santa Margarita 22112 El Paseo Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688 (949) 635-1800

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: X County of Orange

Clerk-Recorder 601 N. Ross Street Santa Ana, CA 92701 X Office of Planning and Research Submitted via online at <a href="https://ceqasubmit.opr.ca.gov">https://ceqasubmit.opr.ca.gov</a>

**Telephone Number:** 909-748-1300

Project Title and File Number: Sukyo Mahikari Solar Carport (Planning Application RSM 24-003)

Project Applicant: Vision CE

12273 11<sup>th</sup> Street Yucaipa, CA 92399

**Project Location:** 23151 Camino Altozano

Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688

**Project Description:** A Site Development Permit to allow a solar carport within the parking lot of an existing church building site. The project includes the installation of one freestanding carport with attached solar panels mounted atop the carport roof in addition to landscaping and underside carport lighting. Modifications to the existing parking stall count or parking lot configuration are not proposed.

Public Agency Approving Project: City of Rancho Santa Margarita

Exempt Status: (check one)

[ ] Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268));

[ ] Declared Emergency (Sec.21080(b)(3);15269(a));

[ ] Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4);15269(b)(c));

[X] Categorical Exemption (state type, section and class number)

Section 15303 Class 3: New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures

Section 15311 Class 11: Accessory Structures

Reasons why project is exempt: Pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Sections 15303 and 15311, the proposed project is exempt from CEQA under the Class 3 and Class 11 categorical exemptions since the project involves the installation of a new accessory structure, a solar carport, within an existing parking lot on a developed church building site. The project includes no expansion of the existing building footprint or project site area. Furthermore, all necessary public services and facilities are already available to the project site, and approval of the project will not result in significant adverse effects relating to traffic, noise, air quality, or water quality.

**Lead Agency:** City of Rancho Santa Margarita

**Contact Person:** Derek Bingham, Senior Planner **Telephone:** (949) 635-1800 Ext. 6705

If filed by Applicant: N/A

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.

2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project?

**[X] Yes** [ ] No

Signature:

Name and Title: Derek Bingham, Senior Planner

**Date:** April 16, 2024