

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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

Project Title and File Number: Santa Margarita Catholic High School Solar Carports (Planning Application RSM 24-005)

Project Applicant: Ecoforce Solutions **Telephone Number:** 626-425-7668
2913 Tech Center Drive
Santa Ana, CA 92705

Project Location: 22062 Antonio Parkway
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688

Project Description: A Site Development Permit to allow for solar carports within the parking lot of an existing private high school. The project includes the installation of seven freestanding carports 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));
- 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 new accessory structures, solar carports, within an existing parking lot on a developed high school 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?

Yes No

Signature:  _____

Name and Title: Derek Bingham, Senior Planner

Date: April 19, 2024