

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

**TO:** Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Daisey Miranda, Community Development Department

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 Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA.

**APN:** 117-550-049 and 117-451-001

**Project No.:** SP2024-0010

**Location:** North Dejoy Street between 1751 and 1761 North Dejoy Street. The site encompasses two vacant lots approximately 0.23-acres in size combined.

**Project Title:** City of Santa Maria North Dejoy Park

**Project Applicant:** Thomas Korman, City of Santa Maria Public Works Department

**Project Description:** Review of a Special Project (SP2024-0010) for the City of Santa Maria Public Works Department to create a passive park in a residential area, consisting of place pavers, walkways, playground equipment and an irrigation system.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** City of Santa Maria

**Name of Person or Entity Carrying Out Project:** Thomas Korman, City of Santa Maria Public Works Department

**Exempt Status:**

- Ministerial
- Statutory Exemption
- Categorical Exemption
- Emergency Project
- Declared Emergency

**Cite specific CEQA or CEQA Guidelines Section:** This is a Class 32 (In-Fill Development Project) categorical exemption based on Section 15332 of the CEQA Guidelines.

**Reasons to support exemption findings:** The project is for the construction of a new park on approximately 0.23-acres in the northwest side of the City. The project site is adjacent to a single-family residential subdivision and is currently a vacant lot. The proposed project would consist of a passive park with walkways, playground equipment and landscaping.

The proposed project is consistent with the general plan and zoning requirements; is located on less than 5 acres; does not contain any habitat with value for special status plant and animal species; would not generate any significant impacts with respect to any resource areas; and can be served by all utilities and public services.

The exceptions to the categorical exemptions 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 all instances, except where the project may impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.**

The project is utilizing a Class 32 exemption. Therefore, this exception does not apply to the project.

- (b) Cumulative Impact. All exemptions for these classes are inapplicable when the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time is significant.**

This is a single proposal with no associated future phases. No cumulative impacts would be generated.

- (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.**

No unusual circumstances are present and no significant environmental effects are anticipated.

- (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.**

No scenic resources or official designated scenic highways exist on or near the site, therefore no such resources would be impacted by the project.

- (e) Hazardous Waste Sites. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.**

The project site is not included on any Gov. Code Section 65962.5 listing.

- (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.**

No historical resources are located at the project site.

Class 32 consists of projects characterized as in-fill development as described below:

- a) The project is consistent with the applicable general plan designation and all applicable general plan policies as well as with applicable zoning designation and regulations.**

The project is consistent with the City's General Plan and applicable zoning designation and regulations. The creation of a neighborhood park meets Goal L.U.6 of the General Plan as the creation of this park accommodates new development, balancing social and environmental considerations for existing residential areas.

- b) The proposed development occurs within city limits on a project site of no more than five acres substantially surrounded by urban uses.**

The project site is 0.23-acre in size and is surrounded by residential uses to the north, east and south. The west side of the project site abuts the City limit and backs to Blosser Road Right-of Way, with agricultural fields in Santa Barbara County beyond.

- c) The project site has no value as habitat for endangered, rare or threatened species.**

The project site is located within a developed urban area of the City. The site consists of two vacant lots with one existing mature tree which will remain, and is surrounded by a single-family residential subdivision. The project site and surrounding terrestrial area lacks significant native vegetation, natural habitats, sensitive natural communities, or significant connectivity to such wildlife habitats.

- d) Approval of the project would not result in any significant effects relating to traffic, noise, air quality, or water quality.**

The project site does not include parking as the park is intended to be used by neighboring residents within walking distance. The project site does not include lighting as the park is intended to be used only during daylight hours to minimize noise to the neighboring owners/tenants. Site construction shall comply with all applicable Air Pollution Control District standard dust control measures. The landscape irrigation system shall conform to State Water Efficient Landscape requirements, and all applicable construction and post construction stormwater requirements. Therefore, the approval of the project would not result in any significant effects relating to traffic, noise, air quality, or water quality.

**e) The site can be adequately served by all required utilities and public services.**

The project site is located within an urban area of the City that can be served by all necessary municipal utilities (waste, wastewater, stormwater, solid waste) and public services (i.e. fire, police, schools). Utilities for the project will connect to existing utility infrastructure.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Daisey Miranda, Assistant Planner

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**Department/Division Representative:** Community Development/Planning Division

**Date:** July 23, 2024

**Acceptance Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date Filed by County Clerk:** \_\_\_\_\_