

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: Initiation of General Plan Amendments to the Safety Element, Open Space Element, and Either the Addition of an Environmental Justice Element or the Addition of Related Goals, Policies, and Objectives Integrated in Other Elements, as Needed, to Satisfy State Planning Law (Case No. 24-0003-GPA)

Project Applicant: City of Goleta

Project Location (Address and APN): Citywide

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The project includes the initiation of amendments to the Safety Element and Open Space Elements and either the addition of an Environmental Justice Element, or the addition of related goals, policies, and objectives integrated in other elements of the General Plan, to address State planning law consistency. The topics for future General Plan Amendments will include:

- Updating the Safety Element to include updated flood information; goals, policies, and objectives to protect the community from flood risks; identification of residential developments in any hazard area identified in the safety element that do not have at least two emergency evacuation routes; identification of evacuation routes and their capacity, safety, and viability and evacuation locations under a range of emergency scenarios; and goals, policies, and objectives addressing climate adaptation and resiliency strategies applicable to the City; pursuant to California Government Code (Government Code) Sections 65302(g)(2), (4), (5), and 65302.15.
- Adding an Environmental Justice Element or related goals, policies, and objectives integrated in other elements that identify objectives to reduce the unique or compounded health risks in disadvantaged communities, promote civic engagement in the public decision-making process, and prioritize improvements and programs that address the needs of disadvantaged communities; pursuant to Government Code Section 65302(h)(1).
- Updating the Open Space Element to include policies that provide access to open space for all residents in a manner that considers social, economic, and racial equity, climate resilience and other co-benefits of open space, and rewilding opportunities; pursuant to Government Code Section 65565.5.

Name of Public Agency Approving the Project: City of Goleta

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

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Exempt Status: *(check one)*

- Ministerial (§15268)
- Declared Emergency (§15269 (a))
- Emergency Project (§15269 (b) (c))
- Categorical Exemption: (Insert Type(s) and Section Number(s))
- Statutory Exemption: CEQA Guidelines, §15060(c)(3); §15378(a); §15378(b)(5); §15061(b)(3)

Reason(s) why the project is exempt:

The initiation is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (California Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.) pursuant to Section 15060(c)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines (Title 14, Chapter 3 of the California Code of Regulations) because the activity is not a project as defined in Section 15378(a) but it is an organizational or administrative activity by government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment pursuant to Section 15378(b)(5).

The initiation is also exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines because the activity is covered by the general rule which exempts activities that can be seen with certainty to have no possibility for causing a significant effect on the environment.

Thus, no further environmental review is required.

City of Goleta Contact Person: Cam Audras, Assistant Planner, caudras@cityofgoleta.org


Peter Imhof

Director, Planning & Environmental Review


Date