

# Notice of Exemption

## Appendix E

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk

County of: Riverside

**From:** (Public Agency): WRCOG  
3390 University Ave, Suite #200  
Riverside, CA 92501

(Address)

Project Title: Western Riverside County Municipal Green Zones Pilot Project

Project Applicant: N/A

Project Location - Specific:

**multiple (see attached)**

Project Location - City: multiple (see attached) Project Location - County: Riverside

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The proposed projects furthers state and local energy conservation and air quality goals, benefiting the environment and conditions of the area by supporting the use of electric vehicle (EV) usage and further reducing reliance on fossil fuels and reducing GHG emissions.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: CEC, CARB, WRCOG

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: County of Riverside, City of Moreno Valley, City of Banning

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 and section number: 15303(c), 15061(b)(3)
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons why project is exempt:

**Common Sense exemption (Section 15061) and New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures exemption (Section 15303). (See attached for details)**

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Suzanne Peterson Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 951.405.6719

**If filed by applicant:**

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: Suzanne Peterson Date: 8/21/2024 Title: Senior Analyst

Signed by Lead Agency      Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.  
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_



## Western Riverside Council of Governments

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Western Municipal Water District • Riverside County Superintendent of Schools

August 21, 2024

### ATTACHMENT TO NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

#### Project name:

Western Riverside County Municipal Green Zones Pilot Project

#### Project description:

The Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG) Clean Cities Program was awarded the Advanced Technology Demonstration Pilot Program grant by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and the California Energy Commission (CEC), in a joint application with three of our member agencies including the City of Banning, the City of Moreno Valley and the County of Riverside. The funding will be used to provide the needed infrastructure to support Electric Vehicle (EV) charging for the subject agencies' fleet operations and facilities. WRCOG, at the request of the CEC, is preparing a single Notice of Exemption for these minor EV infrastructure projects.

The Project will advance zero-emission commercial vehicle fleet deployment in Riverside County jurisdictions supported by electrical vehicle (EV) charging, workforce development, and community and stakeholder engagement. WRCOG will provide its Project Partners with the technical knowledge, EV experience, and funding to acquire and deploy technologies by the State mandated deadlines. Project delivery will include ZEVs being deployed from five manufacturers for a wide variety of uses:

- A transit van for public transportation;
- A street sweeper and dump truck to clean priority population and city streets;
- A pickup truck and SUV with off-roading capabilities employed in remote County areas;
- Highly efficient sedans and truck for use within urban areas; and
- Solar-powered chargers and Level 2 chargers to power the proposed multi-use ZEVs.

#### Project locations:

- 4293 Orange Street, Riverside, CA (APN: 215-291-009, 215-291-006)
- 25241 Cottonwood Avenue, Riverside, CA (APN: 479-200-036)
- 3525 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Riverside, CA (APN: 215-302-006)
- 176 E. Lincoln Street, Banning, CA (APN: 541-260-038)
- 25180 Santiago Drive, Moreno Valley, CA (APN: 486-170-020, -026, -019, -033)

#### Reasons why project is exempt:

Section 15061 – As covered by the “Common Sense” Exemption, a project is only subject to CEQA if the project has potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. The subject project is a grant awarded to the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), administered jointly by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and the California Energy Commission (CEC), to fund the installation of new Electric Vehicle (EV) infrastructure to existing sites. WRCOG is preparing a Notice of Exemption at the request of the CEC. Installation will consist of affixing the chargers to walls and



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connecting them to a power source and power cables to them. Each of the project locations which this EV infrastructure will be installed is located on existing development and sites that had previously been disturbed and reviewed for environmental impacts of the site as part of the review conducted for the particular property prior to its development. Therefore, the proposed improvements will not result in any direct or indirect environmental impact, and the project would in no way have the potential to cause an environmental impact and is thereby exempt from further CEQA analysis.

Additionally,

Section 15303 – New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures: Class 3 consists of construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and the conversion of existing small structures from one use to another where only minor modifications are made in the exterior of the structure. Each of the locations will support new Electric Vehicle (EV) infrastructure not involving the use of significant amounts of hazardous substances and not exceeding 2,500 square feet of space. Additionally, the locations of all the proposed sites are located on existing developed sites and simply add EV charging and infrastructure supporting the existing on-site use.

Questions regarding this project may be directed to Taylor York, WRCOG Clean Cities Program Manager at [tyork@wrcog.us](mailto:tyork@wrcog.us) or (951) 675-0446.

Questions regarding this NOE may be directed to Suzanne Peterson, WRCOG Senior Analyst at [speterson@wrcog.us](mailto:speterson@wrcog.us) or (951) 405-6719.