

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

**TO:** Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and Office of Planning and Research

**FROM:** Cody Graybehl, 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.

**Project Address:** East Taylor Street and North Miller Street

**Project No.:** SP2024-0006

**Location:** The site is approximately 0.21-acres and contains existing public right of way.

**Project Title:** Taylor Street Pocket Park

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

**Project Description:** Review of a Special Project Permit (SP2024-0006) for the City of Santa Maria Public Works Department to construct a pocket park within existing right of way at the intersection of East Taylor Street and North Miller Street. The project scope includes grading, landscaping, electrical improvements, hardscape and playground equipment installation.

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

**Name of Person or Entity Carrying Out Project:** Thomas Korman

**Exempt Status:**

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

**Cite specific CEQA or CEQA Guidelines Section:** This is a Class 32 (Infill Development) categorical exemption based on Section 15332 of the CEQA Guidelines

**Reasons to support exemption findings:** This is a Class 32 (Infill Development Projects) categorical exemption based on Section 15332 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines. The project is consistent with all applicable General Plan policies and general zoning requirements. The project site is within the City's incorporated area on existing right of way development that is less than five acres substantially surrounded by urban uses. The project is within a developed residential area of the city and, based on a visual site assessment and a pattern of residential development surrounding the site, does not contain habitat for endangered, rare, or threatened species. Approval of the

project would not result in any significant effects relating to traffic, noise, air quality, or water quality. The project is adequately served by all required utilities. None of the exceptions to the exemption as outlined by Section 15300.2 of the CEQA Guidelines apply. No further environmental review is required.

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 a Class 32 exemption. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

- (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.**

No cumulative impacts would be generated as this site can be adequately served by existing utilities.

- (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.

- (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 highways 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.**

No hazardous waste sites are located at the project site.

- (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.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Cody Graybehl, Senior Planner

**Signature:** *Cody Graybehl*

**Phone #:** (805) 925-0951 x 2552

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

**Date:** September 16, 2024

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

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