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NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

From: Development Services Department
32400 Paseo Adelanto
San Juan Capistrano, California 92675

1. **APPLICANT:** City of San Juan Capistrano
2. **ADDRESS:** 32400 Paseo Adelanto, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675
3. **LEAD AGENCY:** City of San Juan Capistrano, 32400 Paseo Adelanto, SJC, CA, 92675
4. **PROJECT MANAGER.:** Thomas Toman, Public Works and Community Services Director
5. **PHONE NUMBER:** (949) 234-4580
6. **PROJECT TITLE:** Downtown Parking Management Strategies
7. **PROJECT LOCATION:** Downtown San Juan Capistrano
8. **DESCRIPTION OF NATURE, PURPOSE, AND BENEFICIARIES OF PROJECT:**

The City Council: approved and authorized a License Agreement with Camino Capistrano OZ LLC for use of property located at Forster Street and Camino Capistrano (Forster Property) for managed employee and public parking; authorized the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Capistrano Unified School District for weekend use of the San Juan Elementary School Spring Street parking lot for employee and public parking; approved Amendment No. 1 with HowElite Parking Solutions for parking management services; adopted a Resolution modifying allowed employee parking hours in the Ramos Street parking lot; authorized the City Manager to modify the Downtown Employee Parking Permit Program; and appropriated Parking Maintenance and Air Quality Management District Funds.

REASONS WHY THE PROJECT IS EXEMPT:

On December 17, 2024, the City Council determined that the project qualifies for a categorical exemption under State CEQA Guidelines Section 15302, which applies to the replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities. The proposed measures—such as implementing a managed parking operation at the Forster Property on weekends, enhancing outreach and installing directional signs to promote its use, continuing the deployment of Parking Ambassadors in the Downtown area, adopting a resolution to reduce parking limits in the Ramos Street lot from five to four hours for better parking management, installing bike racks in the downtown area, adjusting the 2025 Downtown Employee Parking Permit to include additional parking facilities, and appropriating funds to support these initiatives—involve modifications to existing structures and operations, and these changes will occur on the same sites with the same primary purpose and capacity as the existing structures.

The Project is further exempt from CEQA under Section 15061(b)(3), which states that CEQA applies only to activities with the potential for a significant environmental impact. Given the certainty that the proposed activities will not have a significant effect on the environment, they are not subject to CEQA review. The project is expected to enhance parking management without any significant environmental impact, making it exempt from CEQA requirements.


Lastly, none of the conditions set forth under State CEQA Guidelines section 15300.2 apply. There are no cumulative impacts because there will be no successive projects of the same type on this same site over time. There are no unusual circumstances that apply to the project that

would result in a reasonable possibility for a significant effect on the environment. There are no scenic resources within an officially designated scenic highway on or near the project site that would result in damage to those scenic resources as a result of the project. The project site is not included on any list compiled pursuant to Government Code section 65962.5. There are no historical resources on or near the project site such that there would be a substantial adverse change in the significance of such historical resource. The project is therefore categorically exempt from CEQA.

Therefore, the City Council has determined that further environmental evaluation is not required because:

- Ministerial project (Pub. Resources Code Sec. 21080(b)(1); State CEQA Guidelines Sec. 15268)
- Not a project (State CEQA Guidelines Sec. 15050(c)(2)-(3))
- Declared Emergency (Pub. Resources Code Sec. 21080(b)(3); State CEQA Guidelines Sec. 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (Pub. Resources Code Sec. 21080(b)(4); State CEQA Guidelines Sec. 15269(b), (c))
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Section 15302, Replacement or Reconstruction
- Statutory Exemption. State type and section number _____
- Other. Explanation: The action is exempt from CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15061 (b)(3).

9. Was a public hearing held by the Lead Agency to consider the exemption?
Yes No If yes, the date of the public hearing was: A public hearing was not held, however, a public meeting was held on December 17, 2024.



Joel Rojas, Environmental Administrator

12-18-24

Date