



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

From: Community Development – Planning Division
505 Forest Avenue Laguna Beach, California 92651

(above for use by County Clerk-Recorder's Office only)

1. **APPLICANT:** Erin Fabian, City of Laguna Beach
2. **LEAD AGENCY:** City of Laguna Beach, 505 Forest Ave. Laguna Beach, CA, 92651
3. **PROJECT PLANNER:** Erin Fabian, Administrative Analyst, (949) 715-1331
4. **PROJECT TITLE:** Climate Action and Adaptation Plan
5. **PROJECT LOCATION:** City of Laguna Beach
6. **DESCRIPTION OF NATURE, PURPOSE AND BENEFICIARIES OF PROJECT:**

The Laguna Beach Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) is a plan to help protect the environment and make Laguna Beach safer from climate-related problems. It focuses on cutting down harmful greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and preparing the city to handle challenges like wildfires, floods, and other natural hazards. The City will integrate the CAAP into local policies including the General Plan, municipal code, area and specific plans, Capital Improvement Program, and City budget, to prioritize action and maximize both GHG reductions and community resilience.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:

In accordance with the State CEQA guidelines, the CAAP is categorically exempt pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15307 – Class 7, Actions by Regulatory Agencies for protection of Natural Resources and State CEQA Guidelines Section 15308 – Class 8, Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of the Environment.

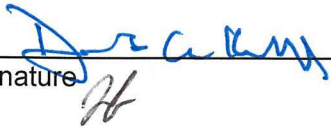
The CAAP is exempt under a Class 7 exemption because the CAAP is a regulatory action designed to ensure the protection and enhancement of natural resources by reducing GHG emissions. Furthermore, the CAAP does not involve physical construction and the measures outlined in the CAAP are regulatory and policy-based. Therefore, this Project fits within a Class 7 exemption. The CAAP is also exempt under a Class 8 exemption because the CAAP qualifies under this exemption as it is an environmental protection plan aimed at reducing GHG emissions and enhancing climate resilience. The CAAP does not involve construction activities or the relaxation of environmental standards. Therefore, this Project also fits within a Class 8 exemption.

Further, none of the exceptions outlined in State CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 apply. There will be no cumulative impact resulting from successive projects of the same type in the same place over time because there will only be one CAAP that the City will rely on. Furthermore, Project implementation will provide environmental benefits and enhance climate resilience. There are no unusual circumstances that would result in a significant impact on the environment. The Project will not cause damage to scenic resources, including trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or other features, as the Project is a regulatory action that does not involve the construction of physical development. The Project is a plan to reduce GHG emissions City-wide and is not located on a hazardous waste site or any other site listed under Government Code Section 65962.5. For the same reasons, the Project will not result in significant adverse impacts to historical resources.

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

- The project is not subject to CEQA because it “*does not involve the exercise of discretionary power,*” or “*will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment,*” or, “*is not a project as defined in Section 15378 of the CEQA guidelines.*” (Sections 15060(c)(1), (2) & (3)); or,
- “*The activity is covered by the commonsense exemption that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA*” (Section 15061(b)(3)); or,
- The project is statutorily exempt, Section _____, <name> (Sections 15260-15277); or,

- The project is categorically exempt per State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15307 (Class 7 - Actions by Regulatory Agencies for protection of Natural Resources) and State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15308 (Class 8 - , Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of the Environment).
- 7. If filed by applicant: Attach Certificate of Determination (Form "A") before filing.
- 8. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving this project?
- 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: February 25, 2025.



Signature

Date: 02/26/2025

Dave Kiff

Name

Title: City Manager

- 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.