

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

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 No.: SP2025-0005

Location: Pine Street between West Jones Street and West Boone Street.

Project Title: Pine Street Sewer Upgrade

Project Applicant: City of Santa Maria Public Works Department

Project Description: The project consists of upsizing a ±500 LF section of the main sewer line along Pine Street. The existing 6" diameter vitrified clay sewer pipe will be replaced with a 12" diameter PVC SDR35 pipe in essentially the existing sewer alignment, between W. Jones Street and W. Boone Street. The work involves open trench excavation for most of the sewer replacement, except for a section crossing underneath the Santa Maria Valley Railroad (SMVRR) where work is anticipated to take place within 25 feet of the railroad track and will require the implementation of trenchless replacement technology. Additional work includes the construction of two new manholes, the reconnection of service laterals and the realignment and replacement of an existing 10" diameter asbestos cement potable water main. The water line will be replaced with ductile iron or PVC C900, to afford water/sewer sanitary separation round the new sewer manhole and to facilitate the jack and bore operation at this location. Except for trench pavement repairs, no other surface improvements will be constructed, and no grade changes are anticipated. All work is within the City's right-of-way.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Santa Maria

Name of Person or Entity Carrying Out Project: Christos Stoyos

Exempt Status:

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

Cite specific CEQA or CEQA Guidelines Section: This is a Class 1 (b) (Existing Facilities) categorical exemption based on Section 15301 of the CEQA Guidelines

Reasons to support exemption findings: The project would be located in an existing City street with an existing sewer line. The proposed project does not involve unusual circumstances, including future activities, resulting in or which might reasonably result in significant impacts which threaten the environment. 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 utilizing a Class 1 exemption. 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 is an existing project site being modified.

(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.

Pine Street Sewer Upgrade, SP2025-0005

Lead Agency Contact Person: Cody Graybehl, Senior Planner

Phone #: (805) 925-0951 x 2552

Department/Division Signature: *Cody Graybehl*

Date: April 16, 2025

Acceptance Date: _____

Date Filed by County Clerk: _____