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.: SP2025-0008

Location: The potential sites for possible acquisition include: 628 South McClelland Street (APNs: 125-142-002), NE Corner of E Boone St and Miller St (APNs: 125-112-010 through 125-112-012 and 125-112-014), 709 Arctic Avenue (APNs:125-200-036 and 125-200-047), 1401 West Fairway Drive (APN:111-760-028) City of Santa Maria Transit Center at 400 East Boone Street (APN: 125-150-005) and City of Santa Maria Transit Yard at 1301 Fairway Drive (APN: 111-580-013).

Project Title: Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program – Property Acquisition

Project Applicant: City of Santa Maria Transit Division

Project Description: Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) is a statewide program that provides funding to transit agencies for capital improvements that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, expand and improve transit service and integrate the rail and transit networks. As noted at the May 6, 2025, Santa Maria City Council meeting, Santa Maria was awarded a total of $17,544,169 through a combination of formula-based California Senate Bill 125 (SB-125) funds and competitive discretionary TIRCP funds.

The City intends to use TIRCP funds for the acquisition of property in support of the future transit projects described in the awarded TIRCP application.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Santa Maria

Name of Person or Entity Carrying Out Project: Gamaliel Anguiano

Exempt Status:

_____ Ministerial
_____ Statutory Exemption
_____ Categorical Exemption
_____ Emergency Project
_____ Declared Emergency
__X__ Common Sense Exemption

Cite specific CEQA or CEQA Guidelines Section: The Project qualifies for an Exemption pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) (common sense exemption) of the California Environmental Quality Act State Guidelines.

Reasons to support exemption findings:
Section 15061(b)(3) - A project is exempt from CEQA if the activity is covered by the common sense exemption that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be said 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.

The project is for acquisition of property. Future development pursuant to the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) funding shall remain subject to future CEQA analysis.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Cody Graybehl, Senior Planner

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Department/Division Signature: Cody Graybehl

Date: September 18, 2025

Acceptance Date: _____

Date Filed by County Clerk: _____