This notice was posted on 12/12/2025
and will remain posted for a period of thirty days
through 01/12/2026

Doc No.49-12122025-488

Deva Marie Proto, County Clerk
BY: Carrie Anderson
Carrie Anderson, Deputy Clerk

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

County of Sonoma

2550 Ventura Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95403
(707) 565-1900 Fax (707) 565-1103

Sonoma County proposes to carry out the following project. Pursuant to Section 23A of the Sonoma County Code, it has been determined that this project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA):

Project Title: Periodic Special Events Zoning Code Update, File No. ORD25-0003
Public Agency: County of Sonoma
Project Applicant: County of Sonoma
Applicant Address: 2550 Ventura Ave, Santa Rosa, CA 95403
Project Location: Countywide
Date of Approval: 12/09/2025

To:
County Clerk- Recorder Office
County of Sonoma
585 Fiscal Drive, Room 103
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

DESCRIPTION OF NATURE, PURPOSE AND BENEFICIARIES OF THE PROJECT: The ordinance includes amendments to Chapter 26 (Zoning Code) of the Sonoma County Code to establish a 2500-person cap on the number of attendees allowed at periodic special events permitted with a Zoning Permit, and to clarify periodic special event permitting processes, public noticing procedures, and term definitions. Special events that require both a Zoning Permit and Special Event Encroachment Permit would be exempt from the 2500-person attendee cap. The proposed amendments will benefit the public and staff through improved clarity and consistency throughout the Zoning Code and reduce potential for impacts.

EXEMPT STATUS:
CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3)

REASON WHY THIS PROJECT IS EXEMPT:
The proposed amendments to the Zoning Code are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), the commonsense exemption, because CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. The project involves minor updates to Zoning Code to clarify definitions and codify current procedure and practice, and to establish for the first time attendance caps on events, unless certain criteria are met. The amendments do not change the number or frequency of events allowed under current Permit Sonoma policy. The current Zoning Code text does not limit the number of attendees at periodic special events, and this ordinance would establish a cap on the number of allowed attendees at a permitted event, unless the proposed periodic special event entails activity within the public right of way that requires an encroachment, in which case the current policy of no cap on attendees under a zoning permit would continue unchanged. As the permitting scheme makes minor administrative and definitional changes and creates attendee limits where none currently exist, it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility the proposed Zoning Code amendments will result in a direct or indirect physical change in the environment.

This Notice of Exemption is filed pursuant to the provisions of Section 15062 of the State CEQA Guidelines.

Lead Agency Contact Person:

Katerina Mahdavi

Katerina Mahdavi, Project Planner

Permit Sonoma
Project Review Division
(707) 565-1392

State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife

2025 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT

DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/25) Previously DFG 753.5a

RECEIPT NUMBER: 49-12122025-488

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER *(If applicable)*

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE
COUNTY OF SONOMA		12/12/2025

COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING	DOCUMENT NUMBER
SONOMA	25-1212-04

PROJECT TITLE

PERIODIC SPECIAL EVENTS ZONING CODE UPDATE, FILE NO. ORD25-0003

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER
COUNTY OF SONOMA		(707) 565-1392

PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
2550 VENTURA AVE	SANTA ROSA	CA	95403

PROJECT APPLICANT *(Check appropriate box)*

☒ Local Public Agency ☐ School District ☐ Other Special District ☐ State Agency ☐ Private Entity

CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

☐ Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	$4,123.50	$
☐ Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)	$2,968.75	$
☐ Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW	$1,401.75	$

☒ Exempt from fee

- ☒ Notice of Exemption (attach)
- ☐ CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)

☐ Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)

☐ Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only)	$850.00	$
☒ County documentary handling fee		$ $50.00
☐ Other		$

PAYMENT METHOD:

☐ Cash ☐ Credit ☐ Check ☒ Other **TOTAL RECEIVED** $ $50.00

SIGNATURE	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE
x Carrie Anderson	Carrie Anderson, Deputy County Clerk-Recorder