

Vendor# 3015
150-315-7309
\$50.00
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NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: ☒ Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 12
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: City of Watsonville
Community Development Dept
250 Main Street
Watsonville, CA 95076

☒ Clerk of the Board
Santa Cruz County
701 Ocean Street, Room 500
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

FILE NO.: PP2025-9606

Project Title: Administrative Use Permit to allow a new Commercial Fitness Facility for Planet Fitness

Project Location - Specific: 1702 Freedom Boulevard

Project Location - City: Watsonville

Project Location - County: Santa Cruz

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The project is proposing a new 20,229-square-foot Commercial Fitness Facility (Planet Fitness) within an existing commercial building located at 1702 Freedom Boulevard.

Name of Public agency Approving Project: City of Watsonville

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Jillian Sanchez, applicant, on behalf of Richard Chavez, property owner, 10147 San Fernando Road, Pacoima, CA 91331

Exempt Status (check one):

- ☐ Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- ☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- ☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- ☒ Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 1, §15301
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt: This project qualifies for a Class 1 Categorical Exemption from the provisions of CEQA, pursuant to Section 15301 of the State CEQA Guidelines. Examples of projects eligible for a Class 1 exemption include interior or exterior alterations involving such things as interior partitions, plumbing, and electrical conveyances. Here the proposed project involves a tenant improvement for the conversion of 20,229 square feet of floor area within a portion of an existing commercial building into a commercial fitness facility.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Matt Orbach

Telephone: 831.768.3075

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Signature: 

Date: 11/24/25

Title: Zoning Administrator

☒ 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.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

AM, November 2025



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CEQA Filing Process

work of the Board receives CEQA filings and remits CDFW fees to the State of California as required. The COB does not file with the state. Please see the relevant Lead Agency for your project for questions about filing with the State Clearinghouse.

document:

filed in person or by mail. The Clerk of the Board must receive a complete packet and full payment at the time of filing to process. Documents will be returned to the sender or filer if appearing in person.

To file in person, please visit the Clerk of the Board during our office's open counter hours:

Clerk of the Board
County Government Center
701 Ocean Street, Room 520
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Our office is currently open to the public:
Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

To file by mail, please send your complete packet to the Clerk of the Board at:

Clerk of the Board
c/o CEQA Clerk
701 Ocean Street, Room 520
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

What to Include in your CEQA Packet:

- Complete CEQA Document
 - Include any attachments you wish to have posted with the Notice. Any attachments brought to the Clerk after initial filing will be subject to an additional Documentary Handling Fee (i.e. an addendum to a NOD filed 2 years ago)
- Clerk's Processing Fee - \$50 Documentary Handling Fee:
 - Charged per CEQA document
 - Due at the time of filing
 - Exact change preferred
 - Accepted Payment Forms - Bills larger than \$50 will not be accepted
 - Cash
 - Check (can be made out to County of Santa Cruz)
 - Money Order (can be made out to County of Santa Cruz)
- California Dep't of Fish & Wildlife Fees:
 - Fees established annually by CDFW: to view current fees, [click here](#)
 - Charged per CEQA document
 - Due at the time of filing
 - If CDFW fee has already been paid for the subject project, filer must provide proof of payment with notice.
 - Payment of CDFW fee elsewhere does not qualify for exemption from the Documentary Handling Fee

What to Know About Filing Your CEQA Document:

- Santa Cruz County's standard posting period is 30 days unless otherwise instructed by the filer at time of filing:
 - Requests for additional posting days must be in accordance with CEQA filing period regulations.
- For more information about the CDFW CEQA process, [click here](#).
- For more information about the Santa Cruz County CEQA process or to confirm our current open counter hours, please visit [our website](#), email us at COBStaff@santacruzcounty.us, or call us at (831) 454-2323 (M-F, 8AM to 5PM).

Current Postings

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- [Notices of Exemption](#)
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