

City of Rancho Santa Margarita
22112 El Paseo
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688
(949) 635-1800

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: X County of Orange
Clerk-Recorder
601 N. Ross Street
Santa Ana, CA 92701

X Office of Planning and Research
Submitted via online at <https://cegasubmit.lci.ca.gov/>

Project Title and File Number: Resolution No. 26-08-12-01 of the City Council of the City of Rancho Santa Margarita, California, establishing and adopting updated development processing fees and other city rates, charges, and user fees for various governmental services, and approving the fee study report, dated June 30, 2026, prepared by Matrix Consulting Group.

Project Applicant: City of Rancho Santa Margarita
22112 El Paseo
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688

Telephone Number: (949) 635-1800

Project Location: Citywide (Rancho Santa Margarita, Orange County, California)

Project Description: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Rancho Santa Margarita, California, establishing and adopting updated development processing fees and other city rates, charges, and user fees for various governmental services, and approving the fee study report, dated June 30, 2026, prepared by Matrix Consulting Group.

Public Agency Approving Project: City of Rancho Santa Margarita

Exempt Status: (check one)

☒ Statutory Exemption (14 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 15260 et seq.) **Section 15273 - Rates, Tolls, Fares, and Charges**

☒ Rates, Tolls, Fares, and Charges. (Section 21080 (b)(8) of California Public Resources Code)

☐ Ministerial (14 Cal Code of Regs. Sec. 15268)

☐ Declared Emergency (14 Cal Code of Regs. Sec. 15269(a))

☐ Emergency Project (14 Cal Code of Regs Sec. 15269(b),(c), (d) and (e))

☐ Categorical Exemption (14 Cal Code of Regs. Sections 15300 et seq.)

Reasons why project is exempt: Pursuant to Section 15273 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines and Section 21080(b)(8) of the California Public Resources Code, the establishment, modification, structuring, restructuring, or approval of rates, tolls, fares, and other charges by public agencies are statutorily exempt. The project establishes and adopts updated development processing fees and other city rates, charges, and user fees for various governmental services. Therefore, the project is exempt from further review under CEQA.

Lead Agency: City of Rancho Santa Margarita

Contact Person: Derek Bingham, Senior Planner

Telephone: (949) 635-1800 Ext. 6705

If filed by Applicant: N/A

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: 

Name and Title: Derek Bingham, Senior Planner

Date: August 12, 2026