

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: ☐ Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: City of Torrance
CD Department
3031 Torrance Boulevard
Torrance, CA 90503

☒ County Clerk
County of Los Angeles
12400 E. Imperial Highway
Norwalk, CA 90650



Project Title: Amendment of Torrance Municipal Code (TMC) Section 415.1.040(B) "Operating Standards" and Adding Section 415.1.050 "Violations – Penalties" of Division 4 "Public Health And Welfare", Chapter 15 "Cottage Food" of the Torrance Municipal Code (Ordinance No. 3970).

Project Applicant: City of Torrance

Project Location - Specific: 3031 Torrance Boulevard, Torrance, California 90503

Project Location – City: City of Torrance Project Location - County: Los Angeles County

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: Subject to compliance with all applicable State, County, and local regulations, Ordinance No. 3970 amends the Torrance Municipal Code (TMC) to: (1) expand the definition of "cottage food operation" to include the collection of donations, (2) allow cottage food activities to be conducted outside the primary residence from December 1 through December 31, (3) allow more than one (1) customer to be on the premises at any given time from December 1 through December 31, (4) waive the requirement for off-street parking from December 1 through December 31, between the hours of 5:01 pm and 8:00 pm, (5) require cottage food operators to provide a trash receptacle for customers on the approved premises and to collect, remove, and dispose of all trash and refuse generated by the operation or its customers that is located on the premises or within fifteen (15) feet of the parcel boundaries at the conclusion of each day's operations, and (6) add a violations and penalties section to the Cottage Food Ordinance.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Torrance City Council

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: City of Torrance, Finance Department

Exempt Status: (Check one)
☐ Ministerial (Sec. 21080 (b)(1); 15268):
☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(c))
☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269 (b)(c))
☒ Categorical Exemption: State type and section number: CEQA Guidelines Section 15378
☐ Statutory Exemptions: State code number:
☒ Other: CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) – Common Sense Exemption

Reason why project is exempt: Ordinance No. 3970 was reviewed pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code §§ 21000, et seq., "CEQA") and the regulations promulgated thereunder (14 Cal. Code of Regulations §§15000, et seq., the "CEQA Guidelines"). Ordinance No. 3970 is exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines 15378, because the activity undertaken involves general text amendments that would not cause either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment and does not meet the definition of a "Project" under CEQA. Additionally, Ordinance No. 3970 is exempt from CEQA Guidelines under Section 15061(b)(3) because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the Ordinance may have a significant effect on the environment. Ordinance No. 3970 consists only of bolstering public nuisance regulations. Adoption of this ordinance will not have the effect of deleting or substantially changing any regulatory standards or required findings.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Michelle G. Ramirez

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (310) 618-5990

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: Michelle G. Ramirez
Title: Director of Community Development

Date: October 21, 2026

☒ Signed by Lead Agency
☐ Signed by Applicant
Date received for filing at OPR:

THIS NOTICE WAS POSTED
ON October 21 2026
UNTIL November 20 2026
REGISTRAR – RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK