

(above for use by Office of Planning and Research only)



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Land Use & Climate Innovation
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Orange County Clerk-Recorder
County Administration South
Attn: Recorder Operations
601 N. Ross Street
Santa Ana, CA 92701

From: Public Works
32400 Paseo Adelanto
San Juan Capistrano, California 92675
Contact: Taig Higgins, Contract Engineer
Phone: (949) 443-6337
Email: thiggins@sanjuancapistrano.gov

PROJECT TITLE: St. Margaret's Episcopal School Storm Drain Easement Vacation

PROJECT APPLICANT: City of San Juan Capistrano, Taig Higgins, thiggins@sanjuancapistrano.gov, (949) 443-6337

ADDRESS: 31641 La Novia Avenue, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675 (APNs 666-251-05 & 666-261-03)

PROJECT LOCATION – CITY: San Juan Capistrano

PROJECT LOCATION – COUNTY: Orange County

DESCRIPTION OF NATURE, PURPOSE, AND BENEFICIARIES OF PROJECT:

Summarily vacate a portion of a public storm drain easement, removing all maintenance responsibilities from the City of San Juan Capistrano. The storm drain pipe within the easement does not receive public storm drainage water and the easement does not serve public purposes. The City of San Juan Capistrano and St. Margaret's Episcopal School are beneficiaries of the project.

NAME OF PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING PROJECT: City of San Juan Capistrano

NAME OF PERSON OR AGENCY CARRYING OUT PROJECT: Taig Higgins, City of San Juan Capistrano

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: 15301 (Class 1-Existing Facilities) and 15305 Class 5 -Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations)
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:

The summary vacation has been reviewed in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The City's Environmental Administrator has determined that the Project is categorically exempt from further review under the State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15301 Class 1 (Existing Facilities) and Section 15305 (Class 5 – Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations) and there is no substantial evidence demonstrating that an exception to a categorical exemption pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2 applies.

The Class 1 Categorical Exemption allows for the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use.

Class 5 Categorical Exemption allows minor alterations in land use limitations in areas with an average slope of less than 20 percent, which do not result in any changes in land use or density.

LEAD AGENCY

CONTACT PERSON: Taig Higgins

TEL: (949) 443-6337



Laura Stokes, Environmental Administrator

October 22, 2026

Date