NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Cody Graybehl, Community Development Department

The project or activity identified below is determined to be exempt from further environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as defined in the State Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA.

Project No.: SP2026-0011

Location: City of Santa Maria Transit Center at 400 East Boone Street (APN: 125-150-005)

Project Title: Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program Santa Maria Rapid Transit - Transit Center EV Opportunity Charging

Project Applicant: City of Santa Maria Transit Division

Project Description: Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) is a statewide program that provides funding to transit agencies for capital improvements that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, expand and improve transit services and integrate the County-wide rail and transit networks.

In July 2023 the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG), partnered with City of Santa Barbara, City of Lompoc Transit, Clean Air Express, Santa Barbara MTD, and Santa Maria Regional Transit, to submit a Transit and Intercity Rail Program (TIRCP) application to the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) for the Santa Barbara County **Charging Forward Project**.

The California State Transportation Agency awarded SBCAG $51,130,000. The Santa Maria City Council adopted Resolution 2025-57 on May 6, 2025, accepting $17,544,169 TIRCP funds for use toward Santa Maria Rapid Transit improvements as described in the SBCAG Charging Forward Project application.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Santa Maria

Name of Person or Entity Carrying Out Project: Gamaliel Anguiano

Exempt Status:

_____ Ministerial
_____ Statutory Exemption
__X__ Categorical Exemption
_____ Emergency Project
_____ Declared Emergency

Cite specific CEQA or CEQA Guidelines Section: The Project qualifies for an Exemption pursuant to the following Sections:

- Section 15301 - Class 1: Existing facilities (operation, repair, maintenance, leasing, etc.). Covers a wide variety of activities. The key is that the project involves negligible or no expansion of existing use.
- Section 15303 - Class 3: New construction or conversion of small structures. Applies to new, small facilities or structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; conversion of existing small structures from one use to another where only minor modifications are made in the exterior of the structure. See section for examples.

Reasons to support exemption findings:
The Opportunity Charging project involves the purchase, construction and enhancement of a Santa Maria Regional Transit Administration building with electric bus opportunity charging infrastructure. The City of Santa Maria Transit Center at 400 East Boone Street (APN: 125-150-005) is a 3.82 acre developed site, where the project may add additional administrative space and up to eighteen transit chargers. This location and project components are exempt under Class 1 (Existing Facilities) and under Class 3 (Small Structures).

None of the exceptions to the exemption identified in CEQA Section 15300.2 apply and no further environmental review is required.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Cody Graybehl, Senior Planner

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Department/Division Signature: Cody Graybehl

Date: November 11, 2026

Acceptance Date: _____

Date Filed by County Clerk: _____