

## PROPOSED ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

---

**DETERMINATION DATE:** August 23, 2023  
**PROJECT NUMBER:** PRJ2023-002078-(1-5) Gun Dealer Ordinance/Title 22  
**PERMIT NUMBER(S):** Advance Planning Case No. RPPL2023003021  
**SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT:** 1-5  
**PROJECT LOCATION:** Countywide  
**CASE PLANNER:** Connie Chung, AICP Deputy Director  
cchung@planning.lacounty.gov

---

The County of Los Angeles completed an initial review for the above-mentioned project. Based on examination of the project, the County proposes that this project qualifies for Exemption 15061(b)(3) under the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) and the County’s Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines.

Project Location: Unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County

Project Description: The Gun Dealer Ordinance amends Title 22 (Planning and Zoning) of the Los Angeles County Code to align with updates to licensing requirements in Title 7 (Business Licenses) of the Los Angeles County Code to enhance gun regulations. This includes defining gun dealers and clarifying the allowance of gun dealers (which are currently permitted using comparable uses in the Zoning Code, such as sporting goods stores) in some commercial zones and industrial zones. It also prohibits gun dealers within 1,000 feet of a sensitive use and other gun dealers. Furthermore, the Ordinance requires a Conditional Use Permit for new gun dealers where permitted. In conjunction with Title 7, the Ordinance includes hours of operation and requires licensing. It also prohibits the discharge of a firearm on premises.

On February 7, 2023, the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors directed LA County Planning to prepare zoning regulations with a 1000 ft buffer zone in unincorporated Los Angeles County. The motion follows a series of motions from June 14, 2022 and September 13, 2022, directing changes to the Los Angeles County Code to enhance gun regulation in Los Angeles County.

Reasons Why this Project is Exempt: This project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the County’s Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines pursuant to CEQA Guidelines sections 15061(b)(3). The activity is covered by the common sense exemption that CEQA applies only

to projects that have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. The project is exempt pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that it may have a significant effect on the environment. The project clarifies the allowance of gun dealers (which are currently permitted using comparable uses in the Zoning Code, such as sporting goods stores) in some commercial zones and industrial zones. It also reduces potential sites for gun dealers by prohibiting sites within 1,000 feet of a sensitive use and other gun dealers. In addition, the project requires a discretionary review (CUP) for new gun dealers where permitted. Furthermore, the project works in conjunction with local and state licensing requirements that regulate gun dealers. As a retail use, gun dealers are likely to establish in existing structures or smaller commercial buildings 2,500 sq ft to 10,000 sq ft in urbanized areas.

The project is only an ordinance amendment that expressly authorizes gun dealers that are licensed pursuant to Title 7 of the Los Angeles County Code in some commercial zones and industrial zones to ensure consistency therewith. No construction activities are proposed or authorized by the project. The project does not cause physical changes to the environment, and does not have any potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Additionally, it will not have an individual or cumulative impact. There are 20 existing gun dealers in the 2600 sq miles of unincorporated Los Angeles County. The project will reduce the potential sites for gun dealers. Furthermore, where permitted, gun dealers will be subject to a discretionary review, which is more restrictive and protective of the environment than the existing Zoning Code.

Furthermore, the project will not have impacts on scenic highways, impacts to hazardous waste sites, or historic resources. The project clarifies that gun dealers are only permitted in some commercial and industrial zones, and not within 1000 ft of a sensitive use or another gun dealer. There are no sites along the three adopted scenic highways zoned commercial or industrial. Therefore, the project will not result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources, within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway. As a retail use and due to the limited number of sites where gun dealers are permitted, gun dealers will not be located on hazardous waste sites or cause a substantial change of a historic resource.