

Notice of Exemption

To:

☐ Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

☒ County Clerk
County of: Los Angeles, Business Filings
12400 E. Imperial Hwy., #1201
Norwalk, CA 90650

From:

Public Agency: LA County Regional Planning
320 W. Temple Street, 13th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Project Title: Santa Monica Mountains Coastal Zone Disaster Recovery Ordinance

Project Applicant: Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning

Project Location - Specific:

Santa Monica Mountains Coastal Zone

Project Location - City: Unincorporated Area Project Location - County: Los Angeles

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Ordinance establishing several ancillary provisions address rebuilding after a disaster, while maintaining protections for coastal resources and consistency with the Coastal Act.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: _____

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: _____
☒ Statutory Exemption. State code number: 15265
☐ Exemptions for Agricultural Housing, Affordable Housing, and Residential Infill Projects. State type and section number: _____
Others: _____


Reasons why project is exempt:

CEQA does not apply to projects where CEQA compliance is shifted from the local agency to the California Coastal Commission for local coastal programs; and emergency projects to maintain, repair, restore, demolish or replace property damaged or destroyed as a result of a disaster and specific actions necessary to mitigate an emergency are exempt

Lead Agency Cameron Robertson 213-974-6461
Contact Person: _____ Area Code/Telephone/Extension: _____

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:  Date: 8/5/2025 Title: Senior Planner

☒ Signed by Lead Agency

☐ Signed by Applicant

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

ATTACHMENT TO NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS COASTAL ZONE DISASTER RECOVERY ORDINANCE

Protect Title: Santa Monica Mountains Coastal Zone Disaster Recovery Ordinance

Project Applicant: Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning

Project Location: Unincorporated Los Angeles County

Description: The Santa Monica Mountains Coastal Zone Disaster Recovery Ordinance (“Project”) amends Title 22 (Planning and Zoning) to facilitate disaster recovery in the Santa Monica Mountains Coastal Zone of Unincorporated Los Angeles County. The Project amends the Santa Monica Mountains Local Implementation Program (“LIP”) to include provisions for temporary housing and the reconstruction of homes, utilities, and access for properties that suffer irreparable damage or destruction as a result of disasters such as wildfire.

Exemptions:

CEQA Guidelines Section 15265

CEQA Guidelines Section 15269

Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(3)

Reasons why the project is exempt:

Staff recommends that the project qualifies as Statutorily Exempt under State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15265, 15269, and Public Resources Code Sections 21080(b)(3) because CEQA does not apply to activities and approvals pursuant to the California Coastal Act for any local government necessary for the preparation and adoption of a local coastal program; compliance is shifted from the local agency to the California Coastal Commission for local coastal programs; and emergency projects to maintain, repair, restore, demolish or replace property damaged or destroyed as a result of a disaster and specific actions necessary to mitigate an emergency are exempt.

Additionally, the Project does not alter the intended uses and intensities planned for at any location already contemplated by the General Plan, its component Area or Community Plans, Specific Plans, or Title 22 of the Los Angeles County Code.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15265 – Adoption of Coastal Plans and Programs

CEQA does not apply to activities and approvals pursuant to the California Coastal Act (commencing with Section 30000 of the Public Resources Code) by [any] local government, as defined in Section 30109 of the Public Resources Code, necessary for the preparation and adoption of a local coastal program.

CEQA does not apply to this project, as it is an amendment to the adopted local coastal program. This section also shifts the burden of CEQA compliance from the local government, in this case Los Angeles County, to the California Coastal Commission. The Coastal Commission’s program of certifying local coastal programs and long-range land use development plans has been verified under Section 21080.5, Public Resources Code.

CEQA Guidelines 15269 – Emergency Projects

The following emergency projects are exempt from the requirements of CEQA.

- a) Projects to maintain, repair, restore, demolish, or replace property or facilities damaged or destroyed as a result of a disaster in a disaster stricken area in which a state of emergency has been proclaimed by the Governor pursuant to the California Emergency Services Act, commencing with Section 8550 of the Government Code.*
- c) Specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency.*

This ordinance amends the Santa Monica Mountains Local Implementation Program (LIP) to include provisions for temporary housing and the reconstruction of homes, utilities, and access for properties that suffered irreparable damage or destruction as a result of disasters such as wildfire. These provisions support the current LIP exemptions for rebuilding after a disaster.

Public Resources Code Section 21080 - Division Application to Discretionary Projects; Nonapplication; Negative Declarations; Environmental Impact Report Preparation

(b) This division does not apply to any of the following activities:

- (3) Projects undertaken, carried out, or approved by a public agency to maintain, repair, restore, demolish, or replace property or facilities damaged or destroyed as a result of a disaster in a disaster-stricken area in which a state of emergency has been proclaimed by the Governor pursuant to Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 8550) of Division 1 of Title 2 of the Government Code.*

The project proposes procedures and standards for temporary housing and rebuilding in response to the catastrophic wildfires that affected the Los Angeles County Coastal Zone in 2025. A State of Emergency for Los Angeles County was proclaimed by the Governor of the State of California on January 7, 2025.