



**County of Santa Cruz**  
**Department of Community Development and Infrastructure**  
701 Ocean Street, Fourth Floor, Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
Planning (831) 454-2580      Public Works (831) 454-2160  
sccoplanning.com      dpw.co.santa-cruz.ca.us

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

**To:** Clerk of the Board  
Attn: Juliette Rezzato  
701 Ocean Street, Room 500  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

**Project Name:** Mills Act Property Program

**Project Location:** Countywide

**Assessor Parcel No.:** N/A

**Project Applicant:** County of Santa Cruz

**Project Description:** The Mills Act Program allows the County to enter into contracts with owners of properties designated NR-1, NR-2, NR-3, and NR-4 that would allow property owner tax relief in exchange for maintaining their historic character per the standards of the Secretary of the Interior.

**Agency Approving Project:** County of Santa Cruz

**County Contact:** Mark Connolly

Telephone No. (831) 454-2682

**Date Completed:** 4/24/25

This is to advise that the County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors has approved the above described project on \_\_\_\_\_ (date) and found the project to be exempt from CEQA under the following criteria:

Exempt status: (*check one*)

- ☐ The proposed activity is not a project under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378.
- ☐ The proposed activity is not subject to CEQA as specified under CEQA Guidelines Section 15060 (c).
- ☒ The proposed activity is exempt from CEQA as specified under CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3).
- ☐ **Ministerial Project** involving only the use of fixed standards or objective measurements without personal judgment.
- ☐ **Statutory Exemption** other than a Ministerial Project (CEQA Guidelines Section 15260 to 15285).

Specify type:

- ☐ **Categorical Exemption**
  - CEQA Guidelines Section 15308, *Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of the Environment – Class 8.*
  - CEQA Guidelines Section 15331, *Historical Resources Restoration / Rehabilitation – Class 31.*

**Reasons why the project is exempt:**

Class 8 consists of actions taken by regulatory agencies, as authorized by state or local ordinance, to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of the environment where the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment. Implementing the Mills Act will allow the County to preserve historic buildings.

Class 31 consists of projects limited to maintenance, repair, stabilization, rehabilitation, restoration, preservation, conservation or reconstruction of historical resources in a manner consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's

Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings. Implementing the Mills Act will encourage property owners of historic buildings to conduct activities defined by Class 31.

In addition, the common sense exemption applies as passage of this ordinance would not have reasonably foreseeable impacts on the environment.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: Environmental Coordinator