

ATTACHMENT D

COUNTY RECORDER
Filing Requested by:

Yolo County Dept. of Community
Services
Name

292 West Beamer Street
Address
Woodland, CA 95695
City, State, Zip

Attention: JD Trebec

Notice of Exemption

Project Title: General Plan Amendment to address Environmental Justice and Climate Adaptation policies

Applicant: Yolo County

Project Location: The amendment to the 2030 Countywide General Plan applies to all properties in unincorporated Yolo County

Project Description: The Project is an amendment to the Yolo County General Plan. State Law (Government Code Section 65302) mandates that local governments must add climate adaptation and resiliency strategies as well as environmental justice policies following revisions to the General Plan such as the recent adoption of the 6th Cycle Housing Element update. The purpose of the Project is to comply with the State-mandated requirements for the General Plan.

Upon its adoption, the amendment will become part of the Yolo County General Plan. The Project proposes a climate adaptation update to include a set of goals, policies, and objectives as provided by Government Code Section 65302(g)(4). This requires Yolo County's Health and Safety Element to address climate adaptation and resiliency strategies and include a vulnerability assessment that identifies climate change-related risks, a set of adaptation resilience goals, policies, and objectives, and a set of implementation measures to avoid or minimize climate change impacts, locate essential public facilities outside of at-risk areas, designate adequate and feasible infrastructure in an at-risk area, guidelines for working cooperatively with relevant agencies, and identification of natural infrastructure that may be used in adaptation projects. Furthermore, Government Code Section 65302(g)(1) requires the Safety Element to address evacuation routes, including addressing residential developments in any hazard area identified in the safety element that does not have at least two emergency evacuation routes.

The Project also proposes an environmental justice update to include a set of goals, policies, and objectives as provided by Government Code Section 65302(h)(1), which reduce compounded health risks in disadvantaged communities, promote civic engagement in the public decision-making process, and prioritize improvements and programs that address the needs of disadvantaged communities.

Exempt Status: Exemption based on Section 15061 (b)(3) of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines (CEQA), known as the "common sense exemption" because "it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment."

Reasons why project is exempt: Section 15061(b)(3) consists of activities covered by the "common sense exemption" that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. The proposed General Plan Amendment would not result in any direct or indirect physical changes to the environment. The Climate Adaptation and Environmental Justice amendment to the General

Plan is strictly a policy update and does not provide entitlements to any specific land use projects or indirectly promote development. The General Plan amendment does not make any changes to the General Plan land use map and would not modify any land use designations, allowed densities, or land use intensities established by the General Plan. The Project contains goals, policies, and programs aimed at addressing Yolo County's preparedness for hazards presented by climate change and addressing environmental justice concerns.

The proposed amendment was reviewed and it was determined that it would not have the potential to result in a significant adverse effect associated with any environmental issue area, including aesthetics, agricultural/forestry resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, geology/soils, greenhouse gases emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology/water quality, land use/planning, mineral resources, noise, population/housing, public services, recreation, transportation, tribal cultural resources, utilities/service systems, wildfire, cumulative impacts, or substantial adverse effects to human beings. Therefore, the Climate Adaptation and Environmental Justice General Plan amendment is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as set forth in Section 15061(b)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines.

Lead Agency Contact Person: JD Trebec, Senior Planner

Telephone Number: (530) 666-8036

Signature (Public Agency): _____

Date: September 28, 2022

Date received for filing:

FILE: _____
FILE NAME: _____
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE _____

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