

This notice was posted on 12/12/2025
and will remain posted for a period of thirty days
through 01/12/2026

Deva Marie Proto, County Clerk
BY: *Carrie Anderson*
Carrie Anderson, Deputy Clerk

Doc No.49-12122025-488

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

County of Sonoma



2550 Ventura Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95403
(707) 565-1900 Fax (707) 565-1103

Sonoma County proposes to carry out the following project. Pursuant to Section 23A of the Sonoma County Code, it has been determined that this project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA):

Project Title: Periodic Special Events Zoning Code Update, File No. ORD25-0003	To:	County Clerk- Recorder Office	Office of Planning and Research
Public Agency: County of Sonoma		County of Sonoma	
Project Applicant: County of Sonoma		585 Fiscal Drive, Room 103	P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Applicant Address: 2550 Ventura Ave, Santa Rosa, CA 95403		Santa Rosa, CA 95403	Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
Project Location: Countywide			
Date of Approval: 12/09/2025			

DESCRIPTION OF NATURE, PURPOSE AND BENEFICIARIES OF THE PROJECT: The ordinance includes amendments to Chapter 26 (Zoning Code) of the Sonoma County Code to establish a 2500-person cap on the number of attendees allowed at periodic special events permitted with a Zoning Permit, and to clarify periodic special event permitting processes, public noticing procedures, and term definitions. Special events that require both a Zoning Permit and Special Event Encroachment Permit would be exempt from the 2500-person attendee cap. The proposed amendments will benefit the public and staff through improved clarity and consistency throughout the Zoning Code and reduce potential for impacts.

EXEMPT STATUS:

CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3)

REASON WHY THIS PROJECT IS EXEMPT:

The proposed amendments to the Zoning Code are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), the commonsense exemption, because CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. The project involves minor updates to Zoning Code to clarify definitions and codify current procedure and practice, and to establish for the first time attendance caps on events, unless certain criteria are met. The amendments do not change the number or frequency of events allowed under current Permit Sonoma policy. The current Zoning Code text does not limit the number of attendees at periodic special events, and this ordinance would establish a cap on the number of allowed attendees at a permitted event, unless the proposed periodic special event entails activity within the public right of way that requires an encroachment, in which case the current policy of no cap on attendees under a zoning permit would continue unchanged. As the permitting scheme makes minor administrative and definitional changes and creates attendee limits where none currently exist, it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility the proposed Zoning Code amendments will result in a direct or indirect physical change in the environment.

This Notice of Exemption is filed pursuant to the provisions of Section 15062 of the State CEQA Guidelines.

Lead Agency Contact Person:

Katerina Mahdavi

Katerina Mahdavi, Project Planner

Permit Sonoma
Project Review Division
(707) 565-1392



State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife
2025 ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEE
CASH RECEIPT
 DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/25) Previously DFG 753.5a

RECEIPT NUMBER: 49-12122025-488
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (if applicable)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY COUNTY OF SONOMA	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE 12/12/2025
COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING SONOMA	DOCUMENT NUMBER 25-1212-04	

PROJECT TITLE
 PERIODIC SPECIAL EVENTS ZONING CODE UPDATE, FILE NO. ORD25-0003

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME COUNTY OF SONOMA	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER (707) 565-1392
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS 2550 VENTURA AVE	CITY SANTA ROSA	STATE CA
		ZIP CODE 95403

PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)

Local Public Agency School District Other Special District State Agency Private Entity

CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	\$4,123.50	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)	\$2,968.75	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW	\$1,401.75	\$ _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exempt from fee		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of Exemption (attach)		
<input type="checkbox"/> CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)		

<input type="checkbox"/> Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only)	\$850.00	\$ _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County documentary handling fee		\$ _____ \$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Other		\$ _____

PAYMENT METHOD:

Cash Credit Check Other

TOTAL RECEIVED \$ _____ \$50.00

SIGNATURE 	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE Carrie Anderson, Deputy County Clerk-Recorder
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