



# NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

**Sonoma County Permit and Resource Management Department**  
2550 Ventura Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95403  
(707) 565-1900 Fax (707) 565-1103

Pursuant to Section 23A-11 of the Sonoma County Code, it has been determined that the adoption of ordinances updating Chapters 7, 7A, and 13 of the Sonoma County Code does not meet the definition of a project pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21065 and is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The proposed local amendments to the State Building Standards Code and Sonoma County Fire Safe Standards are simply amendments to existing state regulations which are already substantially in extant and in practice and required by state law and intended to continue local regulations, improve clarity, update existing standards to reflect modern fire prevention policy and equipment requirements and ensure consistency. Even if this were considered a project, it has been determined that the adoption of these ordinances are exempt from the requirements of CEQA as follows:

**Project Title:** Adoption of Model Codes with Local Amendments including Technical and Administrative Revisions  
**Lead Agency / County Agency of Filing:** Sonoma County  
**Project Proponent (Applicant):** Permit and Resource Management Department  
**Applicant Address:** 2550 Ventura Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95403  
**Project Location:** County-wide  
**Date of Approval:** December 6, 2022  
**Exemption Filed With:** Sonoma County Clerk

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Parts 1-12 are commonly referred to as the "model codes". The model codes were amended and adopted in January of this year. The State of California, as required, subsequently published the model codes on July 1, 2022. The model codes will become effective on January 1, 2023. Local jurisdictions may adopt local amendments pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 17958.7 if reasonably necessary due to local conditions including: climatic, geographical, and topographical. Local amendments must be provided to the California Building Standards Commission along with findings upon adoption of the ordinance. Local amendments become effective 30 days after adoption. The ordinances represent adoption of the model codes with local amendments, as well as other technical and administrative revisions to Chapters 7, 7A, and 13 of the Sonoma County Code (SCC).

## REASON WHY THIS PROJECT IS EXEMPT:

The ordinances are exempt under section 15061 (b)(3) of the state CEQA guidelines because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that these ordinances may have a significant effect on the environment, because the local amendments are simply amendments to existing state regulations which are already substantially in extant and in practice and required by state law and are intended to continue local regulations, improve clarity, update existing standards to reflect modern fire prevention policy and equipment requirements and ensure consistency. The ordinances are further exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines 15307 and 15308 in that the standards set forth in the ordinances are authorized by state law to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement or protection of natural resources and the environment.

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

## Lead Agency Contact Person:

Rich Stabler  
Senior Environmental Specialist  
Permit and Resource Management Department  
Project Review Division  
(707) 565-8353

## Project Proponent:

Nathan Quarles  
Deputy Director of Engineering and Construction  
Permit and Resource Management Department  
(707) 565-1146