

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



TO:

FROM:

[X] County Clerk
County of Los Angeles
12400 E. Imperial Hwy., Rm. 2001
Norwalk, CA 90650

City of Santa Clarita
Community Development
23920 Valencia Boulevard, Suite #302
Santa Clarita, CA 91355

[X] Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

DATE: October 28, 2025

PROJECT NAME: Utilization of State Grant Funding for the Preservation of 500 +/- Acres

PROJECT APPLICANT: City of Santa Clarita, Neighborhood Services Department
(Contact: Susan Nelson; 661.290.2234)

PROJECT LOCATION: Assessor's Parcel Numbers 2865-004-007, 2865-004-018, 2865-004-022, 3244-023-011, 2813-019-011, 2813-019-012, 2813-019-013, 2813-020-014, 2813-016-010, 2813-017-001, 2813-017-004, 2827-032-001, 2827-032-002,

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: In 2022, the California Department of Parks and Recreation awarded the City of Santa Clarita (City) \$7,000,000 through the 2022-23 Open Space Acquisition Grant Program to support the purchase of open space lands for preservation and recreation purposes. These state grant funds were established to assist local agencies in protecting natural landscapes, expanding recreational access, and maintaining the long-term environmental quality of California's open space resources. The City of Santa Clarita is purchasing approximately 500 acres of property, known as the LaBelle, Vartanian, Chaleff and English, and Forum Engineering properties. Collectively, these purchases advance the City's ongoing efforts to expand and preserve open space, maintain greenbelt buffers around the City, and provide access to existing trail systems and conservation areas.

This is to advise that the [] Director of Public Works [] Planning Commission [X] City Council of the City of Santa Clarita has approved the above project on October 28, 2025. Review of the project by the Department of Community Development found that the project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act.

EXEMPT STATUS: The project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act under Article 19, Section 15313 (Class 13); Section 15316 (Class 16); Section 15317 (Class 17); and Section 15325 (Class 25). A Class 13 exemption consists of the acquisition of lands for fish and wildlife conservation purposes, including preserving access to public lands and waters where the purpose of the acquisition is to preserve the land in its natural condition. A Class 16 exemption consists of the acquisition, sale, or other transfer of land in order to establish a park where the land is in a natural condition or contains historical or archaeological resources. A Class 17 exemption consists of the acceptance of easements or fee interests in order to maintain the open space character of the area. A Class 25 exemption consists of the transfers of ownership of interests in land in order to preserve open space, habitat, or historical resources.

Person or agency carrying out the project: City of Santa Clarita, Neighborhood Services Department.

This is to certify that the Notice of Exemption with comments/responses and record of project approval is available for public review at:

City of Santa Clarita
Community Development Department
23920 Valencia Boulevard, Suite 302
Santa Clarita, California 91355
(661) 255-4330

Contact Person/Title: Andy Olson, Associate Planner

Signature: 