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JUL 23 2026

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CITY OF SANTA CRUZ**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION****EXHIBIT "D"**

TO: ☒ Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse Unit
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
Submitted via CEQA Submit online portal

FROM: City of Watsonville
Community Development Dept.
250 Main Street
Watsonville, CA 95076

☒ Clerk of the Board
Santa Cruz County
701 Ocean Street, Room 500
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

FILE NO.: PP2025-8746**Project Title:** New Life Community Services**Project Location - Specific:** 255 East Lake Avenue**Project Location - City:** Watsonville**Project Location - County:** Santa Cruz

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: Special Use Permit with Environmental Review (#PP2025-8746) to allow a new, non-medical, professional services and residential care facility located at 255 East Lake Avenue.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Watsonville**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Stacey Palau, 707 Fair Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA 95060**Exempt Status (check one):**

- ☐ Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
☒ Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 1
☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt: This project is exempt as a Class 1 Categorical Exemption (CEQA Guidelines § 15301). The project is proposing a change of use in in two existing structures from small offices and retail spaces to new, non-medical, professional services and residential care facility, and the project involves negligible or no expansion of use.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Matt Orbach**Telephone:** 831-768-3074**If filed by applicant:**

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Signature: Matt Orbach **Date:** 6/17/2026 | 12:21 PM PDT **Title:** CDD Director

☒ Signed by Lead Agency ☐ Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Date Received for filing at OPR:
 Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code

THIS NOTICE HAS BEEN POSTED AT THE CLERK
OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OFFICE FOR A

PERIOD COMMENCING 7/24/2026AND ENDING 8/28/2026