



COUNTY/CEQANet FILINGS FOR CEQA NOTICES

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) sets forth requirements for the identification and analysis of a project's physical changes in the environment. CEQA review occurs concurrently with the planning process. Once a project is approved, CEQA establishes limits on the time during which a legal challenge to the City's CEQA determination may be filed.

For those projects determined to be exempt from CEQA review, the filing of a lawsuit must be made within 180 days of project approval. This period can be substantially reduced by filing a Notice of Exemption (NOE) with the Sacramento County Clerk. The filing of the NOE reduces the legal challenge period from 180 days to 35 days from the filing of the NOE. The current charge by the County Clerk for filing is \$50.00.

For those projects approved with CEQA documents (e.g., MND, EIR) the filing of a Notice of Determination (NOD) is required within five days of approval, and reduces the period for filing a legal challenge from 180 days to 30 days. The NOD must also be filed online with CEQANet. The filing with the County Clerk must be accompanied by the filing fee (currently \$50.00) and payment of the statutory Fish and Game fees required by Fish and Game Code section 711.4. Environmental Planning Services staff will manage the filing of any Notice of Determination.

The County Clerk has announced that it will close its office at 600 8th Street and relocate to 3636 American River Drive. This will occur in early December 2023. Applicants should be encouraged to check with the County Clerk regarding office hours.

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By: Tom Buford, Manager, Environmental Planning Services