

Notice of Exemption**Appendix E**

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
County Clerk

From: (Public Agency): City of Merced
678 W. 18th Street
Merced, CA 95340

County of: Merced

(Address)

Project Title: Site Plan Review #25-0004 (aka, SP-25-000X)

Project Applicant: Initiated by Benchmark Engineering on behalf of Stonefield Homes, Inc., property owner.

Project Location - Specific:

Phase 8 of the Crossing at River Oaks subdivision.

Project Location - City: Merced

Project Location - County: Merced

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

This application involves a request to modify the layout of lots and roads in Phase 8 of the Crossing at River Oaks subdivision from the layout of the lots and roads as approved in the Crossing at River Oaks Tentative Subdivision Map #1263. The site has a General Plan Designation of Low Density (LD) Residential and a Zoning designation of R-1-5. Said property being more particularly described as a portion of Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 061-710-026.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Merced

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Stonefield Homes Inc., on behalf of TRS Enterprises, Inc., property owner.

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: Section 15061 (b)(3) Common Sense Exemption
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

This application involves a request to modify the layout of lots and roads in Phase 8 of the Crossing at River Oaks subdivision from the layout of the lots and roads as approved in the Crossing at River Oaks Tentative Subdivision Map #1263.

Staff has determined that the project is covered by the "common sense" exemption that CEQA applies only to projects that have the potential for causing significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is not possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment the activity is not subject to CEQA.

The project does not have the potential to cause significant effect on the environment for the following reasons:

- 1) The project site is previously disturbed land, with no value as habitat for any endangered, rare, or threatened species.
- 2) The project site can be adequately served by all required utilities and public services.
- 3) Approval of the project would not result in any significant effects relating to traffic, noise, air quality, or water quality.
- 4) The project site is not more than five (5) acres and will be surrounded by Low and Medium Density residential uses.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Diana Lowrance

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 209-388-7125

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:  **Date:** 4/24/25 **Title:** Deputy Director

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____