PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

Notice is hereby given that a draft Negative Declaration has been prepared for the below described project in accordance with the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as set forth in the Public Resources Code, Sections 21000 to 21174, as amended. No significant adverse effects on the environment are anticipated as a result of this project.

1. Applicant: City of Santa Maria
2. Project Description:
3. Project Number: GP2022-0001
4. Project Title: Housing Element Update 2023-2031

B. Assessor’s Parcel Number: City-Wide

C. Location: City-Wide

D. Proposed Project: The project consists of a comprehensive update to the current Housing Element of the City of Santa Maria General Plan as part of the 6th Cycle Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA). For Santa Maria, the 6th Cycle planning period runs from 2023-2031.

The draft 2023-2031 Housing Element document includes:

• Identifying residential sites within the City adequate to accommodate a variety of housing types for all income levels and needs of special population groups.

• Analyzing governmental constraints to housing maintenance, improvement, and development.

• Analyzing conservation and improvement of the condition of existing affordable housing stock; and;

• Establishing objectives, policies, and programs to promote housing opportunities for all persons, and assist the City in achieving state-mandated housing goals.

The project relies on current land use designations and zoning for the identified future housing sites. No General Plan Amendments or Zone changes are proposed with the project. Likewise, the project does not include or approve any individual housing developments. Future land use and zone changes, and future housing development project applications will require separate environmental evaluation.

Sites which contain hazardous materials pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 exist within the City jurisdiction, which is the area covered by the project.

The draft Negative Declaration and all documents referenced in the document may be reviewed at the Community Development Department, 110 S. Pine Street, #101, Santa Maria, CA, 93458, Phone No. (805) 925-0951, ext. 244, FAX No. 928-7565. The draft Negative Declaration is also available for review in the Santa Maria Public Library, located at 421 S. McClelland Street, Santa Maria, CA, or on the City’s webpage:

<https://www.cityofsantamaria.org/city-government/departments/community-development/planning-division/planning-policies-and-regulations/environmental-impact-reports>

Written comments on the draft Negative Declaration will be accepted during the period from **December 15, 2022,** to **January 17, 2023.** Please submit comments on or before 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday **January 17, 2023,** the close of the public comment period.