

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

To: \_\_\_\_\_ Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

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

X County Clerk  
County of Merced  
2222 M Street  
Merced, CA 95340

**Project Title:** Zoning Ordinance Amendment #14-01/Environmental Review #14-25

**Project Applicant:** City of Merced

**Project Location (Specific):** City of Merced (City wide)

**Project Location - City:** Merced **Project Location - County:** Merced

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** This application involves changes to the Merced Zoning Ordinance (Title 20 of the Merced Municipal Code) which would make massage establishments a conditional use in the C-O (Professional/ Commercial Office), C-N (Neighborhood Commercial), and C-C (Central Commercial) zones and would add required conditions that must be met before a massage establishment can obtain a conditional use permit in the C-T (Thoroughfare Commercial) and C-G (General Commercial) zones. Massage therapy provided by a sole practitioner who has a valid certificate from the State of California as a massage practitioner or massage therapist would still be allowed as principally-permitted uses in the C-O, C-N, and C-C zones.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** City of Merced

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** City of Merced

**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: \_\_\_\_\_
- Statutory Exemptions. State Code Number: \_\_\_\_\_
- General Rule (Sec. 15061 (b)(3))

**Reasons why Project is Exempt:** As defined under the above referenced Section, the proposed project is exempt from CEQA by the general rule that if it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question can have a significant effect on the environment. This project involves a change to the City's zoning regulations as described above. Such regulations by themselves do not have a direct effect on the environment as there is no physical change to the environment proposed at this time.

**Lead Agency:** City of Merced

**Contact Person:** Kim Espinosa **Area Code/Telephone:** (209) 385-6858

**Signature:**  **Date:** October 28, 2015 **Title:** Planning Manager

X Signed by Lead Agency **Date Received for Filing at OPR:** n/a  
(If applicable)