

Notice of Exemption

To:

Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113 Sacramento,
CA 95812-3044

County Clerk
County of San Diego
1600 Pacific Highway, Suite 260 San
Diego, CA 92101

From:

San Diego Association of Governments
1011 Union Street, Suite 400
San Diego, CA 92101

Project Applicant: San Diego Association of Governments
1011 Union Street, Suite 400
San Diego, CA 92101

Project Title: Amendments to Comprehensive Fare Ordinance

Project Location: Service area of the Metropolitan Transit Service (MTS) and the North County Transit District (NCTD) within San Diego County

Description of Specific Location, Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The proposed Amendments to Comprehensive Fare Ordinance would increase transit fares over two phases of implementation.

Phase I fares would take effect starting October 1, 2026, and phase II fares would take effect starting October 1, 2027. In phase I, most fares would increase 15-30%. In phase II, most fares would increase such that cumulative changes would be 20-40% over current levels. Starting with phase I, COASTER zones would be eliminated as a means of determining fares, and riders would pay a single fare regardless of distance.

The Comprehensive Fare Ordinance is also proposed to update terminology; policies related to juror, post-secondary institution, and group passes; eligibility for reduced fares; policies related to microtransit; policies related to temporary, promotional, and experimental fares; and allow for the creation of free and reduced fare programs.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: San Diego Association of Governments

Name of Public Agency Carrying out Project: San Diego Association of Governments

Exempt Status:

☒ Statutory Exemption. State code number: 15273 Rates, Tolls, Fares, and Charges

Reasons why project is exempt:

CEQA does not apply to the establishment, modification, structuring, or approval of fares which are for the purpose of meeting operating expenses such as the proposed project.

Responsible Agency Contact Person: Keith Greer **Area Code/Telephone:** 619-699-7390

Signature: 
Keith Greer (Jul 21, 2026 08:37:55 PDT) **Date:** July 21, 2026 **Title:** Deputy Director,
per Transportation Committee Resolution No. 2027-01 Environmental Planning

☒ Signed by Lead Agency