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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Public Invited to Upcoming Board of Supervisors Hearing on the Comprehensive Updates to the County's Initial Study Assessment Guidelines and CEQA Implementation Manual

VENTURA, CA — The County of Ventura invites the public to attend a Board of Supervisors hearing on Tuesday, September 30, at 1:00 p.m. at 800 S. Victoria Avenue, Ventura, in the County Government Center, Hall of Administration, Board Hearing Room. At the hearing, the Board of Supervisors will consider approval of the County's California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Implementation Manual and the Initial Study Assessment Guidelines (ISAGs), including the supplemental Noise and Vibration Assessment Guidelines. These key documents guide how the County evaluates environmental impacts of proposed projects in the unincorporated areas of the County. The Board will also consider an amendment to the General Plan, which is needed to accompany the updated ISAGs.

The CEQA Implementation Manual includes procedures the County follows to comply with CEQA, such as filing public notices. Key changes include updated CEQA requirements, procedures to amend the Manual in the future, and County agency responsibilities.

The ISAGs inform the public and County staff on environmental impact thresholds and ways to determine whether a project has the potential to cause a significant negative effect on the environment. They address topics such as air quality, transportation, water quality, biological resources, and many others. Key updates include alignment with state guidelines, updating thresholds and methods for analyzing potential project impacts, consolidating sections of similar topics, and removing certain sections to streamline the environmental review process. Text revisions to some General Plan programs and policies are also needed to improve clarity, reduce ambiguity, and revise references. These revisions are proposed as a General Plan Amendment. For more information and to view the revised draft documents, visit rma.venturacounty.gov/isags.

The public is encouraged to attend the hearing, provide comments, or watch the meeting remotely. Spanish interpretation will be available. For participation details, visit venturacounty.gov/bosmeetings.

The County began public outreach on this project in April 2025. Several revisions were made in response to public comments. Updated drafts of the ISAGs and CEQA Implementation Manual are available online and in person at the Planning Counter (Hall of Administration, 3rd Floor).