

## Notice of Exemption

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**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Imperial County Clerk  
940 Main Street, Suite 202  
El Centro, CA 92243

Ventura County Clerk  
800 S Victoria Ave.  
Ventura, CA 93009

Los Angeles County Clerk  
12400 Imperial Highway  
Norwalk, CA 90650

**From:** Southern California Association of Governments  
900 Wilshire Blvd, Suite #1700  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

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**Project Title:**

Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) 2019 Local Demonstration Initiative

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**Project Location:**

Imperial County in the City of Calexico. Los Angeles County in the Cities Long Beach, El Monte, Glendale, Pasadena. Ventura County in the City of Ojai.

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**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:**

The 2019 Local Demonstration Initiative is a non-infrastructure program focused on demonstrating active transportation infrastructure in six communities across the SCAG region. The demonstrations are planned to include infrastructure elements such as protected bike lanes, pedestrian treatments such as curb extensions, pedestrian plazas, and other roadway safety improvements to promote increased rates of walking and biking and reducing greenhouse gasses and vehicle miles traveled (VMT). The bicycle facilities do not constitute a physical impact, meaning that they will be installed in a preexisting location. The demonstrations are planned to be six to eight-month temporary projects to allow community members to test out planned improvements and provide feedback on different infrastructure concepts. Demonstrations also allow an opportunity to test design concepts for local jurisdictions to make adjustments to the final design prior to investing in implementation.

The 2019 Local Demonstration Initiative will include a Community Advisory Committee in each of the cities to involve local stakeholders, community members, and city staff in the planning process. The projects will also focus on education, outreach, and engagement to promote active transportation in the communities and work to engage residents in a non-traditional manner who may not have time to attend a more traditional public workshop or meeting. The projects will include activities to promote

participation such as guided bike rides, guided walks, pop-up events and programming, and other engagement activities to increase participation. Residents will learn how active transportation can promote healthy lifestyles in communities and improve pollution in communities where air quality can be of concern. Information on the projects and opportunities to get involved will be delivered to local schools, community centers, libraries, and other highly visited destinations within the communities. Project staff will also attend community events to promote the projects and work with local community-based organizations to augment promotional efforts.

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**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:**

Southern California Association of Governments

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

Southern California Association of Governments

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**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: CEQA Guidelines § 15002 (k)(1) – General Concepts; CEQA Guidelines § 15061 – Review for Exemption; CEQA Guidelines § 15301 (c) and 15301 (f) – Existing Facilities; CEQA Guidelines § 15304 (e) and 15304 (e) – Minor Alterations to Land; CEQA Guidelines § 15311 (a) and 15311 (c) – Accessory Structures; CEQA Guidelines § 15322 – Educational or Training Programs Involving No Physical Changes
- Statutory Exemptions

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**Reasons why project is exempt:**

SCAG has reviewed the proposed project pursuant to CEQA Guidelines § 15002 (k)(1) – General Concepts, and CEQA Guidelines § 15061 – Review for Exemption, and has determined that the proposed project is categorically exempt from CEQA because the scope of the project activities are included in the classes of projects which have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment.

Therefore SCAG has determined that the proposed project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to following:

- The Project would involve implementing six active transportation demonstration projects in Imperial, Los Angeles, and Ventura counties, that could foster the minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use of existing highways, streets, sidewalks, gutters, bicycle and pedestrian trails and similar facilities beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination, as set forth in the exemption under CEQA Guidelines §15301(c) - Existing Facilities;
- The Project includes basic data collection, research, experimental management and resource evaluation activities which will not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. The project is strictly for information gathering purposes for possible future action

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which the agency has not yet approved, adopted or funded, as set forth in the exemption under CEQA Guidelines §15306- Information Collection

- The Project may involve developing temporary demonstration projects within the project cities that would exist for a limited duration on existing rights of way, as set forth in the exemption under CEQA Guidelines § 15304 (e) - Minor Alterations to Land;
- Educational or Training Programs Involving No Physical Changes: The Project would consist of temporary demonstration projects in the communities of Ojai, El Monte, Calexico, Long Beach, Pasadena, and Glendale, involving no physical changes in the area affected, which would fall under the exemption set forth in CEQA Guidelines §15322 – Educational or Training Programs Involving No Physical Changes.

**Project Approval Date:** SCAG's Regional Council Approved the project on June 6, 2019.  
The California Transportation Commission approved funding for this project on May 15, 2019.

<b>CEQA Contact Person:</b>	<b>Phone Number:</b>	<b>Fax Number:</b>	<b>Email:</b>
Roland Ok	(213) 236-1819	(213) 236-1963	ok@scag.ca.gov
<b>Project Contact Person:</b>	<b>Phone Number:</b>	<b>Fax Number:</b>	<b>Email:</b>
Hannah Brunelle	(213) 236-1907	(213) 236-1963	Brunelle@scag.ca.gov

Date received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_



Ping Chang, Manager  
Compliance and Performance Monitoring  
Southern California Association of Governments

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

JUN 27 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE