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09-MNO-06, 395-PM Various 09-36660 0916000008

Project to widen and lengthen existing vehicle chain-up areas, install lighting, add flashing beacons, add/replace signage, and create two new chain-up areas.

In Mono County on U.S. 395 at various locations from 2 miles north of Mono county line to State Route 270 (Bodie Road), and on U.S. 06 at 2.4 miles north of Chalfant Road

## **INITIAL STUDY with Mitigated Negative Declaration**

Submitted Pursuant to: (State) Division 13, California Public Resources Code

THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA Department of Transportation

10/25/19

Ryan A. Dermody Deputy District Director

Planning and Environmental Analysis California Department of Transportation

**CEQA Lead Agency** 

The following person may be contacted for more information about this document:

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## MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Pursuant to: Division 13, Public Resources Code

## **Project Description**

The California Department of Transportation (the Department) will make improvements to existing chain control turnouts (chain-up areas) by widening and/or lengthening the pavement areas, installing lighting, replacing the existing signages and adding flashing beacons to the new signs. Two new chain-up areas will be built within Caltrans' current right-of-way.

## Determination

This proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) is included to give notice to interested agencies and the public that it is the Department's intent to adopt an MND for this project. This does not mean that the Department's decision regarding the project is final. This MND is subject to change based on comments received by interested agencies and the public.

The Department has prepared an Initial Study for this project, and following public review, has determined from this study that the proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment for the following reasons:

The proposed project would have no effect on Agriculture and Forest Resources, Air Quality, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Mineral Resources, Population and Housing, Noise, Public Services, Recreation, Transportation/Traffic, Tribal Cultural Resources, Utilities or Wildfires.

With the following mitigation measure incorporated, the proposed project would have less than significant effects to Aesthetic/Visual resources, Biological resources, and Cumulative Impacts

VIS – 1 All new solar and conventionally-powered lights at chain up areas will only be activated (illuminated) during events when the chain up area could be in use, and deactivated after the event ends.

25/19

Ryan A. Dermody

Deputy District Director Planning and Environmental

District 9

California Department of Transportation