

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency): CA. Dept. of Transportation
1750 E. Fourth Street, Ste. 100
Santa Ana, Ca. 92705

County Clerk
County of:

(Address)

Project Title: Safety project

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation

Project Location - Specific:
Interstate 5 between the interchange of I-5/State Route 55 (PM 30.3) and 0.4 mile south of Grand Avenue (PM 31.4)

Project Location - City: Santa Ana, Tustin Project Location - County: Orange

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:
Reduce wet pavement related accidents by improving traction in the area via resurfacing the travel lanes, shoulders and the connector. Additionally, the pavement delineation will be refreshed, loop detectors replaced and existing MBGR and/or concrete barriers upgraded.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: CA. Dept. of Transportation

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: CA. Dept. of Transportation

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: Class 1 (c), Section 15301
Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:
No significant environmental impacts.

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Smita Deshpande Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 657-328-6151

If filed by applicant:

- 1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: [Signature] Date: 3/25/19 Title: Senior Env. Planner

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR:

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

MAR 20 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Revised 2011

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION/CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

12-ORA-5 30.3-31.4 0Q820/1217000112
 Dist.-Co.-Rte. (or Local Agency) P.M./P.M. E.A/Project No. Federal-Aid Project No. (Local Project)/Project No.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: (Briefly describe project including need, purpose, location, limits, right-of-way requirements, and activities involved in this box. Use Continuation Sheet, if necessary.)

A Safety project to address collisions in both directions on Interstate 5 (I-5) between the interchange of I-5/State Route 55 (SR 55) and 0.4 mile south of Grand Avenue in the cities of Santa Ana and Tustin in the county of Orange. The collisions are attributed to areas of standing water, speeding vehicles and the downward grade geometry of the NB I-5 to SB SR-55 loop connector. The purpose of the project is to reduce wet pavement related accidents by improving traction in the area via resurfacing the travel lanes, shoulders and the connector. Additionally, the pavement delineation will be refreshed, loop detectors replaced and existing MBGR and/or concrete barriers upgraded. The total Disturbed Soil Area (DSA) is anticipated to be less than 1.0 acre. This project has State and Federal funding. All work activities will occur within Caltrans Right of way.

CALTRANS CEQA DETERMINATION (Check one)

Not Applicable – Caltrans is not the CEQA Lead Agency Not Applicable – Caltrans has prepared an Initial Study or Environmental Impact Report under CEQA

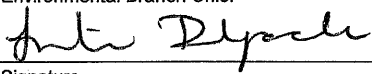
Based on an examination of this proposal, supporting information, and the above statements, the project is:


Exempt by Statute. (PRC 21080[b]; 14 CCR 15260 et seq.)
 Categorically Exempt. Class 1 ©. (PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15300 et seq.)

Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the following statements are true and exceptions do not apply:

- If this project falls within exempt class 3, 4, 5, 6 or 11, it does not impact an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law.
- There will not be a significant cumulative effect by this project and successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time.
- There is not a reasonable possibility that the project will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.
- This project does not damage a scenic resource within an officially designated state scenic highway.
- This project is not located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Govt. Code § 65962.5 ("Cortese List").
- This project does not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

Common Sense Exemption. [This project does not fall within an exempt class, but it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity may have a significant effect on the environment (14 CCR 15061[b][3].)]

Smita Deshpande
 Print Name: Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

 Signature Date 3/25/19

Mike Varipapa
 Print Name: Project Manager

 Signature Date 3/25/19

NEPA COMPLIANCE

In accordance with 23 CFR 771.117, and based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the State has determined that this project:

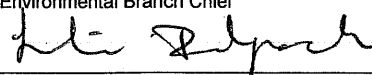
- does not individually or cumulatively have a significant impact on the environment as defined by NEPA, and is excluded from the requirements to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and
- has considered unusual circumstances pursuant to 23 CFR 771.117(b).

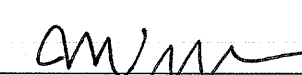
CALTRANS NEPA DETERMINATION (Check one)

23 USC 326: The State has determined that this project has no significant impacts on the environment as defined by NEPA, and that there are no unusual circumstances as described in 23 CFR 771.117(b). As such, the project is categorically excluded from the requirements to prepare an EA or EIS under the National Environmental Policy Act. The State has been assigned, and hereby certifies that it has carried out the responsibility to make this determination pursuant to Chapter 3 of Title 23, United States Code, Section 326 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated May 31, 2016, executed between the FHWA and the State. The State has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under:

- 23 CFR 771.117(c): activity (c)(27)
- 23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)(___)
- Activity ___ listed in Appendix A of the MOU between FHWA and the State

23 USC 327: Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the State has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under 23 USC 327. The environmental review, consultation, and any other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by Caltrans pursuant to 23 USC 327 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated December 23, 2016 and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.

Smita Deshpande
 Print Name: Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

 Signature Date 3/25/19

Mike Varipapa
 Print Name: Project Manager/DLA Engineer

 Signature Date 3/25/19

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion: 3/7/19 Date of ECR or equivalent: 3/7/19

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION/CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

Continuation Sheet

12-ORA-5	30.3-31.4	0Q820/1217000112	
Dist.-Co.-Rte. (or Local Agency)	P.M./P.M.	E.A/Project No.	Federal-Aid Project No. (Local Project)/Project No.

Continued from page 1:

Each project alternative includes, as applicable, the following standardized features that are included as part of the project description (<http://www.dot.ca.gov/des/oe/construction-contract-standards.html>) Standardized features (such as Best Management Practices [BMPs]) are those features that are generally applied to most or all Department projects. These standardized or pre-existing features allow little discretion regarding their implementation and are not specific to the circumstances of a particular project.

No significant environmental consequences are anticipated with the proposed project, however, measures that must be implemented throughout the life of the project are on the Environmental Commitment Record (ECR).