**Notice of Exemption** ***Supplementary Document Q***

**To:** **[x]**  Office of Planning and Research **From:** City of South Lake Tahoe

State Clearinghouse 1052 Tata Lane

 P.O. Box 3044 South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

 [ ]  County Clerk

 County of El Dorado

**Project Title:** Pioneer Trail Pedestrian Improvement Project Phase II

**Project Location - Specific:** Pioneer Trail Right-of-Way between Larch Avenue and Ski Run Boulevard

**Project Location - City:** South Lake Tahoe

**Project Location - County:** El Dorado

**Description of Project:** The proposed project is approximately 0.5 miles long and runs from Larch Avenue to Ski Run Boulevard and incorporates the following features:

* A five-foot sidewalk on the north side of Pioneer Trail that continuously runs from Larch Avenue and connects to an existing sidewalk at Ski Run Boulevard.
* A five-foot sidewalk on the south side of the Pioneer Trail that continuously runs from Larch Avenue to Ski Run Boulevard.
* At all street intersections (Spruce Avenue, Tamarack Avenue, Wildwood Avenue, Markofer Way, Keller Road, and Larch Avenue), new ADA accessible pedestrian ramps will be installed.
* Striping on both sides of Pioneer Trail for a four-foot to six-foot wide Class II bike lane.
* Closing the intersection of Willow Avenue and Sonora Avenue to eliminate automobile access to and from Pioneer Trail to improve safety by reducing traffic conflicts and high-speed turn movements from Pioneer onto Willow Avenue and Sonora Avenue. The reclaimed right-of-way would provide additional room to incorporate a new bus pull-out.
* Installing bus shelters at four existing bus stops on Pioneer Trail.
* Modifying the intersections of Spruce Avenue, Wildwood Avenue, Markoffer Way, and Larch Avenue to provide a perpendicular approach to Pioneer Trail. This will improve safety, increase sight distances, reduce traffic conflicts, and slow vehicle turning movements from Pioneer Trail.
* Converting the Markofer Way intersection to a right turn only access onto Pioneer Trail in order to address distance issues and to reduce traffic conflicts. Turns onto Markofer Way from Pioneer Trail will be eliminated.
* Landscaping at the intersections of Spruce Avenue, Wildwood Avenue, Larch Avenue and at the Willow Avenue and Sonora Avenue separation from Pioneer Trail.
* City standard pedestrian light standards throughout the project area.

Construction staging is proposed to be located on either side of Ski Run Boulevard between David Lane and Needle Peak Road. The construction staging area will not require the closure of Ski Run Boulevard.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** City of South Lake Tahoe

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

**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));

 [x]  Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures, Section 15301, Class 1, Subparagraph c.

 [ ]  Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

**Reasons why project is exempt:** The proposed project is categorically exempt pursuant to CEQA Section 15301 Subparagraph c. The pedestrian improvements are consistent with all City of South Lake Tahoe General Plan policies, Tourist Core Area Plan policies and the applicable Plan Area Statement. The project location is within the City limits and is entirely contained within the City-owned right-of-way.

The Pioneer Trail Pedestrian Improvement Project will have minimal or no impact to the environment for the following reasons:

1. The project is being implemented within a highly urbanized area of the City.
2. The project will have a small disturbance footprint and an overall reduction of impervious surfaces.
3. Excavation quantities will be limited and all disturbed areas will be treated with site specific soil conditioning and revegetation.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** John Hitchcock, Planning Manager

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**Email:** jhitchcock@cityofslt.us

**Signature:** **Title**: Planning Manager

**Date:**

 [x] Signed by Lead Agency Date received for filing at OPR:

 [ ]  Signed by Applicant