

CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM (rev. 05/2020)

Project Information

DIST-CO-RTE: 08-SBd-County of San Bernardino PM/PM: N/A

EA: N/A Federal-Aid Project Number: HSIPL 5954(160)

Project Description

The County of San Bernardino, within the unincorporated community of Phelan, proposes to widen four intersections on Phelan Road to accommodate left and right turn pockets at Sonora Rd., Tumbleweed Rd., Sunny Vista Rd. and Arrowhead Rd. Construction will consist of mill and overlay of existing pavement and widening with new pavement to accommodate pavement transitions. Work includes the construction of approach aprons, new pavement returns at intersecting streets and minor shoulder grading. The project is needed to improve access to intersecting streets. The project is needed to improve and enhance turning movements, increase safety and traffic circulation. All construction will be within agency R/W.

Caltrans CEQA Determination (Check one)

- Not Applicable Caltrans is not the CEQA Lead Agency
- □ Not Applicable Caltrans has prepared an IS or EIR under CEQA

Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the project is: **Exempt by Statute.** (PRC 21080[b]; 14 CCR 15260 et seq.)

- □ Categorically Exempt. Class __. (PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15300 et seq.)
 - □ No exceptions apply that would bar the use of a categorical exemption (PRC 21084 and 14 CCR 15300.2). See the <u>SER Chapter 34</u> for exceptions.
- □ Covered by the 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].)

Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

N/A	N/A	N/A
Print Name	Signature	Date
Project Manager		
N/A	N/A	N/A
Print Name	Signature	Date



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Caltrans NEPA Determination (Check one)

Caltrans 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). See <u>SER Chapter 30</u> for unusual circumstances. As such, the project is categorically excluded from the requirements to prepare an EA or EIS under NEPA and is included under the following:

☑ **23 USC 326:** Caltrans has been assigned, and hereby certifies that it has carried out the responsibility to make this determination pursuant to 23 USC 326 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated April 18, 2019, executed between FHWA and Caltrans. Caltrans has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under:

23 CFR 771.117(c): activity (c)(4)

□ 23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)(_)

□ Activity _ listed in Appendix A of the MOU between FHWA and Caltrans

□ 23 USC 327: Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, Caltrans 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.

Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

Aaron Burton	Saron Burton	7/3/2020
Print Name	Signature	Date
Acting DLA Engineer		
Albert Vergel de Dios	And?	07/03/2020
Print Name	Signature	Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion: 7/3/2020 **Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent:** 7/3/2020

Briefly list environmental commitments on continuation sheet if needed (i.e., not necessary if included on an attached ECR). Reference additional information, as appropriate (e.g., additional studies and design conditions).



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Continuation sheet:

The following studies, checklists and exemptions were prepared during the environmental phase of the project:

- Preliminary Environmental Studies Form: approved 7/3/2020
- Transportation Air Quality Conformity Findings Checklist: approved 6/24/2020
- Section 7 Biological No Effect Memo: approved 6/24/2020
- Cultural 106 Screened Undertaking: approved 6/23/2020

Avoidance Measures:

<u>Cultural</u>

CR-1: If buried cultural resources are encountered during Project Activities, it is Caltrans policy that work stop in that area until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the find.

CR-2: In the event that human remains are found, the county coroner shall be notified and ALL construction activities within 60 feet of the discovery shall stop. Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98, if the remains are thought to be Native American, the coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) who will then notify the Most Likely Descendent (MLD). The person who discovered the remains will contact the District 8 Division of Environmental Planning; Andrew Walters, DEBC: (909)383-2647. Further provisions of PRC 5097.98 are to be followed as applicable.

Permits

N/A