



**CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
DETERMINATION FORM (rev. 11/2020)**

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): Donner Park to Trout Creek Road Rehab

DIST-CO-RTE: 03-NEV-80

PM/PM: PM 13.0/16.5 **

EA: 1H180

Federal-Aid Project Number: 230-0000-0069

Project Description

This is a pavement rehabilitation project located in Nevada County on Interstate 80 (I-80) between PM 13.0/16.5 **. This project proposes to perform rut repairs, replace damaged Jointed Plain Concrete (JPCP) slabs, add a shoulder section along Donner Pass Road westbound off-ramp, rehabilitate Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) ramps, rehabilitate drainage culverts, and upgrade non-standard Metal Beam Guardrail (MBGR) to Manual for Assessing Safety Hardware (MASH) standards and curb ramps to American Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.

** A PCR has been submitted to extend the end of project limits from PM 15.5 to PM 16.5 and increase the capital outlay construction costs from \$15.6 M to \$20.43 M.

Purpose and Need

The purpose of this project is to preserve and extend the useful life of existing PCC pavement, improve ride quality and freight mobility, reduce collision & congestion.

This segment of highway is subjected to severe wear from snow impacted traffic, snow removal equipment, and erosion. The pavement along the wheel path is rutted due to chain wear from heavy truck traffic and snow removal equipment. Roadway elements are deteriorated from severe weather exposure and in need rehabilitation and upgrading to comply with current standards.

Project Funding

The project is funded under the State Highway Operation and Protection Program and is eligible for federal funding.

Statement to Support the Finding

There are no environmental impacts under the scope of work. Operation deficiencies will be corrected on the existing highway and will not increase VMT, capacity, or change the facility alignment. All work is programmed within the Caltrans Right of Way.

See the attached Environmental Commitments Record (ECR) for project conditions.



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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 1(c). (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 SER Chapter 34 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

Kelly McNally
Print Name
Signature
Date
2/16/2021

Project Manager

Daniel Cuellar
Print Name
Signature
Date
2-17-2021



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Caltrans NEPA Determination (Check one)

Not Applicable

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 SER Chapter 30 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)(22)
23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)(Enter activity number)
Activity Enter activity number 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

Kelly McNally
Print Name
Signature
Date
2/16/2021

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Daniel Cuellar
Print Name
Signature
Date
2-17-2021

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion: 02/01/2021
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 02/01/2021



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Continuation sheet:

Attachment: Environmental Commitments Record