



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

Project Information

DIST-CO-RTE: 03/PLA/080

PM/PM: 0.40/0.40

EA: 03-1J500

Federal-Aid Project Number: 0320000250

Project Description

Eastbound I-80 at Auburn Blvd/Riverside slip on ramp currently has two metered lanes and a third unmetered high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane and experiences congestion during the AM peak period due to heavy mainline and onramp demand. Caltrans proposes to modify the existing ramp meter by metering the HOV Preferential Lane. Work includes remove/replace the existing ramp meter system, saw cutting pavement for the vehicle detection loops, power and telephone conduits installations by means of a directional drilling or trenching under the EB I-80 at Auburn Blvd/Riverside slip on ramp & EB I-80 loop off ramp to Riverside Avenue. A maintenance vehicle pullout, MVP, will be included. MVP work will include roadway excavation, earthwork and HMA paving.

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.** (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

Rajpreet Bihala	<i>Rajpreet Bihala</i>	4/21/2021
Print Name	Signature	Date

Project Manager

Daniel R Kwong	<i>Daniel Kwong</i>	4/21/2021
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 [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)(27)**
- 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

Rajpreet Bihala	<i>Rajpreet Bihala</i>	4/21/21
Print Name	Signature	Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Daniel R Kwong	<i>Daniel Kwong</i>	4/21/2021
Print Name	Signature	Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion: 3/25/2021
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 3/25/2021

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:

Staging

All staging would occur within the Caltrans right-of-way on existing pullouts.

Disposal/Borrow

No borrow is required. There will be earthwork from ditch excavation that will be disposed of appropriately by the contractor.

Right-of Way

There are locations with ADA and drainage work outside CT ROW – Design will get encroachment permit from State/local agencies. The locations were identified in the ESL Maps.

Consultation/Coordination

No consultation/coordination are needed.

Permits

No permits are required.