

Notice of Exemption**Appendix E**

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

County Clerk

County of: _____

From: (Public Agency): Caltrans Rail and Mass Transportation
1120 N Street, Room 3400
Sacramento, California 95814

(Address)

Project Title: San Joaquin Corridor-Modesto Amtrak Station Second Platform

Project Applicant: Caltrans Division of Rail and Mass Transportation

Project Location - Specific:

Modesto Amtrak Station, approximately 75 miles south of Sacramento and 97 miles north of Fresno, California.

Project Location - City: Modesto

Project Location - County: Stanislaus

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The project consists of construction of a second passenger platform at the station, and all required associated track, signal, and grade crossing work, as well as potential construction of a pedestrian underpass.

Benefits include improved on-time performance, reduced freight and passenger delays, and improved freight and passenger operations locally and throughout the entire San Joaquin Corridor. The project would also reduce the locomotive idling time and offer considerable reductions in harmful emissions, which will help improve the air quality in the valley.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Caltrans Division of Rail and Mass Transportation

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Betty Miller

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: _____
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: 15275(a)

Reasons why project is exempt:

Statutory Exemption 15275(a) states: CEQA does not apply to the following mass transit projects: (a) The institution or increase of passenger or commuter service on rail lines or high-occupancy vehicle lanes already in use, including the modernization of existing stations and parking facilities. The proposed new platform on the existing Modesto Station constitutes "the modernization" of an existing train station in Modesto, California.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Thoa Le Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 213-269-0238

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:  Date: 12/06/2021 Title: Senior Environmental 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: _____