

**CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
DETERMINATION FORM (rev. 04/2021)**

Project Information

Project Name: Clean CA Project – Relinquishment of Non-Motorized Transportation Pathway along Boston Avenue in San Diego, CA

DIST-CO-RTE: 11-SD-5

PM/PM: 12.88/13.24

EA: 11-4C004/PID 1122000099

Federal-Aid Project Number: _____

Project Description – Caltrans proposes to build a non-motorized transportation pathway, implement Clean California Beautification Program, and relinquish the area between Boston Avenue and Interstate 5 (I-5) from 29th Street to 32nd Street where the top two-feet of soil is replaced. The project also consists of excavating up to two-feet of soil to remove any existing hazardous material and replacing it with acceptable material, removing trees to provide an open space, relocating irrigation lines/utilities to Caltrans right-of-way, constructing a privacy fence, removing existing fence, constructing a 10-foot wide decomposed granite pedestrian and bike path, and hydroseeding. The environmental commitments pertaining to Biological Resources, Paleontological Resources, Visual Resources, Community Impacts, NPDES/Stormwater Compliance, and Hazardous Waste/Materials are identified on pages 3 and 4, below.

Caltrans CEQA Determination (Check one)

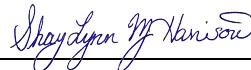
- Not Applicable** – Caltrans is not the CEQA Lead Agency
 Not Applicable – Caltrans has prepared an IS or EIR under CEQA

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

Shay Lynn M. Harrison



3/3/2022

Print Name

Signature

Date

Project Manager

Wishing Lima



3/3/2022

Print Name

Signature

Date



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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) (7)

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

Shay Lynn M. Harrison

Print Name

Signature

3/3/2022

Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Wishing Lima

Print Name

Signature

3/3/2022

Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion:

Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: Pages 3 and 4, below.

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

Biological Resources:

- If vegetation or tree removal is to occur within the bird breeding season (February 15th to September 1st), pre-construction surveys must be completed by the district biologist to ensure the trees are free of any bird nesting. If nesting is detected, work is not to occur until the young have fledged and no nesting activity is detected.
- Where possible, native species should be used in replanting and hydroseeding.

Paleontological Resources – Paleontological monitoring will be needed during construction and any ground disturbing activities.

Visual Resources:

- Protect vegetation outside of the work area limits by prohibiting material storage, parking, and construction access in vegetated areas.
- Repair impacts to existing irrigation facilities between the new Caltrans right-of-way fence and the freeway.
- Hydroseed or plant disturbed sloped areas at the freeway slope as determined by the Project Landscape Architect.

Community Impacts – Public Outreach should be conducted to gauge any community concerns. Some proactive measures to preclude homeless encampments could include using hardscape and/or desert-scape rather than grass, excluding street furniture such as benches, and installing fencing and/gates for night use if found necessary.

NPDES/Stormwater Compliance – This project will be designed in conformance with the NPDES Permit Order 2012-0011-DWQ and Appendix E of the Caltrans Project Planning and Design Guide (PPDG). The Project Engineer needs to determine whether a Short Form Storm Water Data Report (SWDR) or a Long Form SWDR shall be prepared for the project. The Disturbed Soil Area (DSA) under or over one acre would determine whether a Water Pollution Control Program (WPCP) or a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) is required prior to the start of construction.

Hazardous Waste/Materials

Aerially deposited lead (ADL)

The project scope of work includes bike/pedestrian path. This implies that soil will be disturbed. An ADL survey was performed, in which the level of ADL contamination was shown to be regulated. Due to the project schedule, laboratory samples of the existing soil will be taken in the construction phase of the project prior to any work being done to verify the ADL survey. SSP 14-11.08 Regulated Material Containing Aerially Deposited Lead shall be used. The SSP requires a Lead Compliance Plan (LCP).

Lead Compliance Plan

A Lead Compliance Plan (LCP), prepared by a certified industrial hygienist (CIH), is required and must be provided by the Contractor and implemented for all workers handling hazardous or non-hazardous soil as well as removal/application of any hazardous or non-hazardous lead-based paint, thermoplastic, painted traffic stripe, and/or pavement marking (Bid Item 070030). Regulations containing specific Cal/OSHA requirements when working with lead



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include 8 CA Code of Regs § 1532.1. The plan must:

1. Document the compliance program to prevent or minimize worker exposure to lead.
2. Include items listed in 8 CA Code of Regs § 1532.1(e)(2)(B).
3. Be sealed and signed by a CIH with knowledge of and experience complying with 8 CA Code of Regs.

Allow 7 days for review. Obtain authorization for the plan before starting any activity that presents the potential for lead exposure.

The Contractor is responsible for identifying the appropriate permitted landfill to receive excavated material and for all associated trucking and disposal costs, including any additional sampling and analysis required by the receiving landfill.