



**CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION  
DETERMINATION FORM (rev. 06/2022)**

**Project Information**

**Project Name (if applicable):** NEV 80 Metal Beam Guardrail to Concrete Barrier/Midwest Guardrail Replacement

**DIST-CO-RTE:** 03-NEV-80

**PM/PM:** R59.63/R59.90

**EA:** 03-3J190

**Federal-Aid Project Number:** N/A

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes to replace the existing Metal Beam Guard Rail (MBGR) with a concrete barrier and Mid-west Guardrail System (MGS), to reduce the number of strikes on the current MBGR and increase the overall safety of motorists and maintenance personnel in Nevada County, Interstate 80 from Post Miles (PM) 59.63-59.90. A total of 4 collisions were reported at this offramp from 01/01/2019 to 12/31/2021, with no fatalities and 3 collisions that resulted in injuries. This puts maintenance personnel at risk of being struck due to recurring time spent removing and replacing MBGR, and increased exposure to traffic.

**Project Description**

Construction will include the removal of 1,450 feet of MBGR within the project limits. The MBGR will be replaced with a combination of Concrete Barrier (Type 60M) and Mid-west Guardrail System (MGS). The project will replace approximately 550 feet of MBGR with Concrete Barrier (Type 60M), starting at Post Mile (PM) 59.90. A thin layer of aggregate base (AB) and asphalt concrete (AC) will be placed prior to concrete placement. A transition section will be used to attach the new Concrete Barrier Type 60M to the existing Concrete Barrier at a height of 42 inches. The project will attach 900 feet of MGS to the end of the newly installed Concrete Barrier Type 60M until Post Mile (PM) 59.63. Installation of an End Anchor Assembly (Type SFT) will occur at the end of the MGS.

**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 1C.** (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**



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DETERMINATION FORM**

Mundeep Purewal

Print Name

*Mundeep Purewal*

Signature

9/27/22

Date

**Project Manager**

Cameron Haymore

Print Name

*Cameron Haymore*

Signature

9/27/22

Date



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Caltrans NEPA Determination (Check one)

[X] 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, 2022, executed between FHWA and Caltrans. Caltrans has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under:

- [ ] 23 CFR 771.117(c): activity (c)(Enter activity number)
[ ] 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 May 27, 2022, and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.

Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

N/A Print Name, N/A Signature, N/A Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

N/A Print Name, N/A Signature, N/A Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): N/A

Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 9/27/22

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:**

The staging area, if required, is identified in the current project plan, which is within Caltrans Right-of-Way.

**Disposal/Borrow:**

The project would not utilize borrowed material. The contractor will be responsible for disposal of excess material, if required.

**Right-of-Way:**

All work will occur within the Caltrans Right-of-Way.

**Consultation/Coordination:**

No Consultation/Coordination is required based on current scope of work.

**Permits:**

No environmental permits will be required.

**Utility:**

The work will not require any utility relocation.