

CEQA NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: County Clerk
County of Humboldt
825 5th Street
Eureka, CA 95501

Office of Planning Research
State Clearinghouse

FROM: City of Eureka, Lead Agency
Development Services - Planning
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PROJECT TITLE: 2023 Multimodal Improvements

PROJECT APPLICANT: City of Eureka Public Works - Engineering

PROJECT LOCATION: H and I Street Corridors between 6th and Harris Streets, and the 6th and 7th Street Corridors between C and P Streets

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The City of Eureka is proposing a safety improvement plan and pavement maintenance project to provide enhancements for bicyclists, pedestrians, and vehicles on two roadway corridor couplets: H and I Streets, and 6th and 7th Streets. Proposed work will occur for approximately 15,535 linear feet (2.9 miles) on both H and I Streets combined between Harris and 6th Streets, and approximately 7,927 linear feet (1.5 miles) on both 6th and 7th Streets combined between C to P Streets. Improvements may vary per location, but will include removing and replacing failed asphalt sections, adding new asphalt (overlay) as well as installing thermoplastic markings, truncated domes, curb, sidewalk, and bulb-outs.

The number of vehicle travel lanes on H and I Streets will be reduced from three to two in order to add a buffered bike lane. Specific improvements on H and I Streets between 6th and Harris Streets will include new sidewalk, curb and bulb-outs at various locations, new signage, including Pedestrian Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs), new striping, and crosswalk and buffered bike lane markings. The driving lanes will be removed (ground out approximately 3 inches deep) and repaved with new asphalt, and existing utilities will be raised to grade on H Street between Harris and Henderson Streets and on I street between 6th and Harris Streets.

Improvements on 6th and 7th Streets between C and P Street include, new sidewalk, curb and bulb-outs at various locations, new signage, new dynamic speed feedback signs, and new

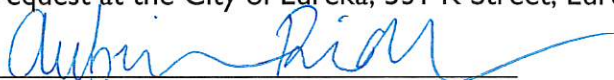
crosswalk markings at 18 non-signalized intersections.

All improvements will require raising all valves, manholes, and survey monuments to grade (where paving or overlaying takes place), and replacing traffic detector loops and pedestrian activated RRFBs. Excavation for new curb and sidewalk will be 1-foot deep or less in previously disturbed areas, and asphalt grinding will only remove existing pavement in previously disturbed areas. Grinding and paving and overlaying roadways will require asphalt grinders, dump trucks, asphalt pavers, rollers, sweepers, tack trucks, tractor loaders, water trucks, and miscellaneous hand tools. Removal and installation of curb, sidewalk, bulb-outs and curb ramps will typically require excavation utilizing a compressor with jackhammer and backhoe. Installation of thermoplastic markings will require manual, push cart or truck mounted thermoplastic and painting equipment. All project spoils will be transported to an approved permitted location to be identified by the contractor and approved by the City prior to use.

The duration of the project is anticipated to be approximately three months. During this time traffic control will be employed to provide access through and/or around the construction area when necessary, but will vary at each location depending on typical roadway traffic and the work to be accomplished. On all four roadway sections, adequate roadway width exists to allow for a minimum of one lane of traffic at all times; a temporary lane shift or short-term detours will occur to facilitate continued traffic flow when work is being conducted in the travelled way. The on-street parking zones will also be closed in some areas to allow for daily work to occur, and all affected residents and businesses will be notified at least 48 hours in advance of any work. Construction activities will occur during daytime hours, Monday through Friday. Public service announcements will advise the public of the planned construction and possible traffic delays along with mailers being sent to households fronting the construction zones.

EXEMPTION FINDINGS: The City of Eureka, as Lead Agency, has determined the proposed project is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with Section 15301, Existing Facilities, Class I, of the CEQA Guidelines. Class I exempts the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use. The proposed project qualifies for this exemption because it involves the repair and maintenance, and minor upgrades, of existing sidewalk, roadways, and pedestrian crossings within the existing roadway prism, and various Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be implemented to protect water quality and reduce the potential for pollution associated with construction activities. Further, the Lead Agency has determined the use of the Class I categorical exemption is not barred by one of the exceptions set forth in Section 15300.2 of the CEQA Guidelines.

The material supporting the above finding is on file with City of Eureka Public Works- Engineering. Copies of the documents related to the evaluation of this project are available for review upon request at the City of Eureka, 531 K Street, Eureka, CA 95501.



Aubrie Richardson
Associate Planner, City of Eureka

February 16, 2023

Date