



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

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): BAKERSFIELD SR 204 ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

DIST-CO-RTE: 06-KER-204

PM/PM: 2.1/4.6

EA: 06-1E770

Federal-Aid Project Number: 0622000080

Project Description

The project is along the SR 204 corridor in the City of Bakersfield. The work includes a road diet through striping by eliminating the number three lane and adding a new bike lane with buffer and parking from Brundage Lane to 21st St, and by adding a bike lane on the shoulder from 21st St to M St. In general, the number two lane width will be reduced from 12 feet to 11 feet between Brundage Lane and 21st St. Additional work includes grinding 0.25' of AC on the shoulder at various locations and replacing with 0.25' of HMA between 21st St and M St., sidewalk gap closure on southbound Q street between 24th St and James St, installation of signs, landscape work to enhance the SR 204 corridor by installing art wall paintings, utility box artwork wrapping, replacing textured paving in the median, remove/replace vegetation, and other related work.

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. c) 3.** (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

G William "Trais" Norris, III

G William "Trais" Norris, III

3/13/2023

Print Name

Signature

Date

Project Manager

Shavonne Conley

Shavonne Conley

3/14/2023

Print Name

Signature

Date



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

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

Print Name Signature Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Print Name Signature Date

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

Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 1/11/23

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).



**CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
DETERMINATION FORM**

Continuation sheet:

Hazardous Waste:

- A lead compliance plan (LCP) developed by a Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH) is required for ground disturbing activities (soil preparation for planting), as stated in Caltrans' Standard Special Provision (SSP) 7-1.02K(6)(j)(iii) Earth Material Containing Lead.
- Use Standard Special Provision 36-4 for performing work involving residue from grinding and cold planing that contains lead from paint and thermoplastic.
- Use Standard Special Provision 14-11.14 for the handling, storing, transporting, and disposing of treated wood waste.

Paleontology:

- If unanticipated fossil discovery occurs during construction, Specification 14-7.03 of the Caltrans 2018 Standard Specifications identifies the procedures required to protect the resource.

Biology:

- If construction occurs into the avian nesting season (Feb 1 – Sep 31) a pre-construction survey will be required for migratory birds. Surveys for migratory birds must be completed prior to construction by a qualified biologist no more than 30 days prior to construction.
- If work runs into the nesting season and nesting birds are identified within the project area, the project may require a biological monitor or the use of an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) buffer depending on the scope of the project and degree of disturbance on species. Buffers are as follows: Nesting Raptors (including Swainson's Hawk) 500 feet; all other protected nesting birds 100 feet.
- Biological SSP 14 – 6.03B Species Protection for migratory and non-game birds, including Swainson's hawk, will be required. Biological SSP 14 – 1.02 Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) may be required.
- Use SSP 14-6.04B for buffer sizes (below) for migratory birds and raptors.

Species	Time of Year	Buffer Size (ft)
Raptors (e.g., Swainson's hawk and BUOW)	February 1 st – September 30 th	500
All other nesting birds	February 1 st – September 30 th	100

Air Quality:

- Caltrans Standard Specifications, Section 14-9.02 "Air Pollution Control" and Section 10-5 "Dust Control" are required.
- If the project disturbs over 5 acres or removes 2500 cubic yards of soil for at least three days of the project, a Dust Control Plan (DCP) approved by the San Joaquin Air Pollution Control District will be required.

Noise:

- Caltrans Standard Specifications Section 14-8 "Noise Control" is required to regulate Construction noise.

Water:

- If the project disturbs less than one acre of soil, a Water Pollution Control Program needs to be prepared by the contractor in accordance with Caltrans Standard Specification Section 13.1-Water Pollution.
- If the project disturbs one acre or more of soil, the following requirements would be required:
 1. A Notification of Intent (NOI) is to be submitted to the appropriate Regional Water Quality Control Board at least 30 days before the start of construction.
 2. A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) is to be prepared and implemented during construction to the satisfaction of the Resident Engineer.



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

3. A Notice of Termination (NOT) shall be submitted to the Regional Board upon completion of construction and site stabilization. A project will be considered complete when the criteria for final stabilization in the Construction General Permit are met.

Cultural:

- Work consistent with the SOIS (Secretary of the Interior's Standards) will be represented in the plans, specifications, and estimates prepared to guide construction.
- The Caltrans PAH (Principal Architectural Historian/Caltrans Archaeologist) will be notified at least two weeks in advance prior to the beginning of construction activities to ensure that the PAH and/or ECL (Environmental Construction Liaison) is aware the project is going to construction and can be available at any preconstruction field meeting if so requested.
- This SOIS Action Plan will be part of the RE Pending File.
- The Caltrans PAH, Archaeologist and/or ECL, as overseen by the PAH, will be notified when construction begins. They will inspect the area to ensure construction is consistent with the SOIS.
- The Caltrans PAH will be informed when construction is finished.