



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

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): HM3 Deck Preservation

DIST-CO-RTE: 03-PLA-28

PM/PM: 0.085.9.34

EA: 03-3J640

Federal-Aid Project Number: 0322000296

Project Description

The project proposed to construct broadband facilities from PM 0.085 to PM 9.3 where Route 267 intersects Route 28. Facilities will include splice boxes, pull boxes, and longitudinal conduit placed via open trench or jack and bore methods. Potholing will be required during the design process.

Purpose: The purpose of this project is to build out a segment of the statewide Middle Mile Broadband Network along SR 28 in Placer County from 0.1 mile east of SR 89 to SR 267. This network aims to provide equitable access to high-speed broadband service and prioritize inclusion of unserved and underserved populations, anchor institutions (hospitals, universities, government entities, and community non-profits), tribal entities, and agricultural regions.

Need: The build out of a critical statewide broadband network is needed to enhance access to, and increase affordability of, high speed internet for all Californians. (See page 3).

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

Erin D Damm

09/11/2023

Print Name

Signature

Date

Project Manager

Christopher S Ladeas

09/11/2023

Print Name

Signature

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

Print Name Signature Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Print Name Signature Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): Enter date
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 9/11/23

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).



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Continuation sheet:

Staging

If required, all staging would occur within the Caltrans right-of-way on existing pullouts.

Disposal/Borrow

No borrow is required. There will be earthwork from ditch excavation that will be disposed of appropriately by the contractor.

Right-of Way

This project would be completed within the operational right-of-way.

Consultation/Agency Coordination

Based on the proposed scope of work and due to the nature of the project, consultation and agency coordination are not required for this project.

Permits

Based on the proposed scope of work, no regulatory permits are required.

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Final Audit Report

2023-09-11

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