



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

**Project Information**

**Project Name (if applicable):** Road 29 Improvements

**DIST-CO-RTE:** 06-MAD-99

**PM/PM:** R7.5

**EA:** 06-1E230

**Federal-Aid Project Number:** 0622000002

**Project Description**

This project is in Madera County on Road 29 at about 0.1 miles northeast of Avenue 12 interchange on State Route 99. The work includes operational improvements on this local road for eventual relinquishment. The purpose of this project is to provide operational improvements along the turn at Road 29 near Avenue 12 just west of the Cottonwood Creek bridge at post mile, 7.5. A small roundabout is proposed at the location for safety.

**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**

Trais Norris

*J William "Trais" Norris, AIA*

11/13/2023

Print Name

Signature

Date

**Project Manager**

Ernesto Garcia Padron

*Ernesto Garcia P.*

11/13/2023

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)()
[ ] 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 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): 11/9/2023
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 11/9/2023

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:

#### Biology:

If construction is to occur within the migratory nesting bird season (February 1 – September 30), pre-construction surveys for migratory birds will be required. If nesting birds are observed in the BSA, biological monitors will be required on-site during the time of construction to ensure the nesting birds are not adversely impacted.

#### Noise:

- Do not exceed 86 dBA Lmax at 50 feet from the job site activities from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m.
- Equip an internal combustion engine with the manufacturer-recommended muffler. Do not operate an internal combustion engine on the job site without the appropriate muffler.

#### Air Quality:

##### Non-Standard Special Provisions

If the project disturbs over 5 acres or removes 2,500 cubic yards of soil for at least three days of the project, a Dust Control Plan (DCP) approved by the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District will be required for this project.

#### Paleontology:

If unanticipated fossil discovery were to occur during construction, Specification 14-7.03 of the 2022 Standard Specifications identifies the procedures required to protect the resource.