

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

FROM: City of Fresno Capital Projects Department
747 R Street 2nd Floor
Fresno, California 93721

TO: X Fresno County Clerk
2220 Tulare Street – First Floor Lobby
Fresno, California 93721

_____ Office of Planning & Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212
Sacramento, California 95812-3044

Project Title: Environmental Assessment No. P21-06567/PW00929

Project Location: North Blackstone Avenue between West Minarets Avenue and West Nees Avenue.

Project Location – city: City of Fresno **Project Location- county:** County of Fresno

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: The City of Fresno proposed to rehabilitate existing pavements with a 0.24" to 0.40" grind, overlay and fully reconstruct portions of the roadway, reconstruct curb ramps, replace existing asphalt pathways with concrete sidewalks, install Class II bike lanes with striped buffers, and replace traffic signal loops.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Fresno

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: City of Fresno Capital Projects Department

Exempt Status: (check one)

- Ministerial - PRC § 21080(b)(1); CEQA Guidelines §15268
- Declared Emergency - PRC § 21080(b)(3); CEQA Guidelines §15269(a)
- Emergency Project - PRC § 21080(b)(4); CEQA Guidelines §15269(b) and (c)
- Categorical Exemption – CEQA Guidelines §15301/Class 1 (Existing Facilities), §15303/Class 3 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures), and §15304/Class 4 (Minor Alterations to Land)**
- Statutory Exemption – PRC § _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

This project is exempt under Sections 15301/Class 1, 15303/Class 3, and 15304/Class 4 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines as follows:

Section 15301/Class 1, the project is exempt from CEQA requirements when the project consists of the operations, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographic features, involving

negligible or no expansion of use. This includes alterations such as the addition of bicycle facilities, including but not limited to bicycle lanes and other similar alterations that do not create additional automobile lanes.

Section 15303/Class 3, the project is exempt from CEQA requirements when the project consist of construction and location of limited number of new, small facilities or structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and the conversion of existing small structures from one use to another where only minor modifications are made in the exterior of the structure. This includes street improvements of reasonable length to serve such construction.

Section 15304/Class 4, the proposed project is exempt from CEQA requirements the project consist of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes. This includes the creation of bicycles lanes on existing right-of-way.

None of the exceptions to Categorical Exemptions set forth in the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2 apply to the project. Furthermore, the proposed project is not expected to have a significant effect on the environment. Accordingly, a categorical exemption, as noted above, has been prepared for the project and the area is not environmentally sensitive.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Gustavo Rangel

Full telephone no.: (559) 621-8634

If filed/signed by applicant:

Attach certified document of exemption finding (check if attached)

Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: Gustavo Rangel **Date:** April 5, 2024

Printed Name and Title: Gustavo Rangel, Engineer I

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by applicant

**CITY OF FRESNO
CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT APPLICATION NO. P21-06567**

THE PROJECT DESCRIBED HEREIN IS DETERMINED TO BE CATEGORICALLY
EXEMPT FROM THE PREPARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS
PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 19 OF THE STATE CEQA GUIDELINES.

APPLICANT: Brandon Chacon
Department of Public Works
City of Fresno
2600 Fresno Street
Fresno, CA 93721

PROJECT LOCATION: North Blackstone Avenue between West Minarets Avenue and West Nees Avenue as outlined in Exhibit A.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Environmental Assessment Application No. P21-06567 was filed by Brandon Chacon, on behalf of the City of Fresno Public Works Department. The applicant proposes the rehabilitation of existing pavements with a 0.24' to 0.40' grind, overlay and fully reconstruct portions of the roadway, reconstruct curb ramps, replace existing asphalt pathways with concrete sidewalk, install Class II bike lanes with striped buffers, and replace traffic signal loops.

This project is exempt under Section 15301/Class 1, Section 15303/Class 3, and Section 15304/Class 4 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines as follows:

Under Section 15301/Class 1, the proposed project is exempt from CEQA requirements when the project consists of 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 existing or former use. The key consideration is whether the project involves negligible or no expansion of use. This includes alterations such as the addition of bicycle facilities, including but not limited to bicycle lanes and other similar alterations that do not create additional automobile lanes.

Under Section 15303/Class 3, the proposed project is exempt from CEQA requirements when the project consists of construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and the conversion of existing small structures from one use to another where only minor modifications are made in the exterior of the structure. This includes street improvements of reasonable length to serve such construction.

Under Section 15304/Class 4, the proposed project is exempt from CEQA requirements when the project consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or

vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes. This includes the creation of bicycle lanes on existing rights-of-way.

The proposed project is consistent with the Class 1, Class 3, and Class 4 exemptions because the project is requesting to make improvements to existing public facilities to reconstruct pavement, install curb ramps to meet ADA regulations, and add signage and striping to include Class II bike lanes. The proposed street improvements are minor, do not constitute an expansion of use, and will improve the public right-of-way without increasing road capacity. The proposed project involves negligible expansion of the existing use and will have substantially the same purpose.

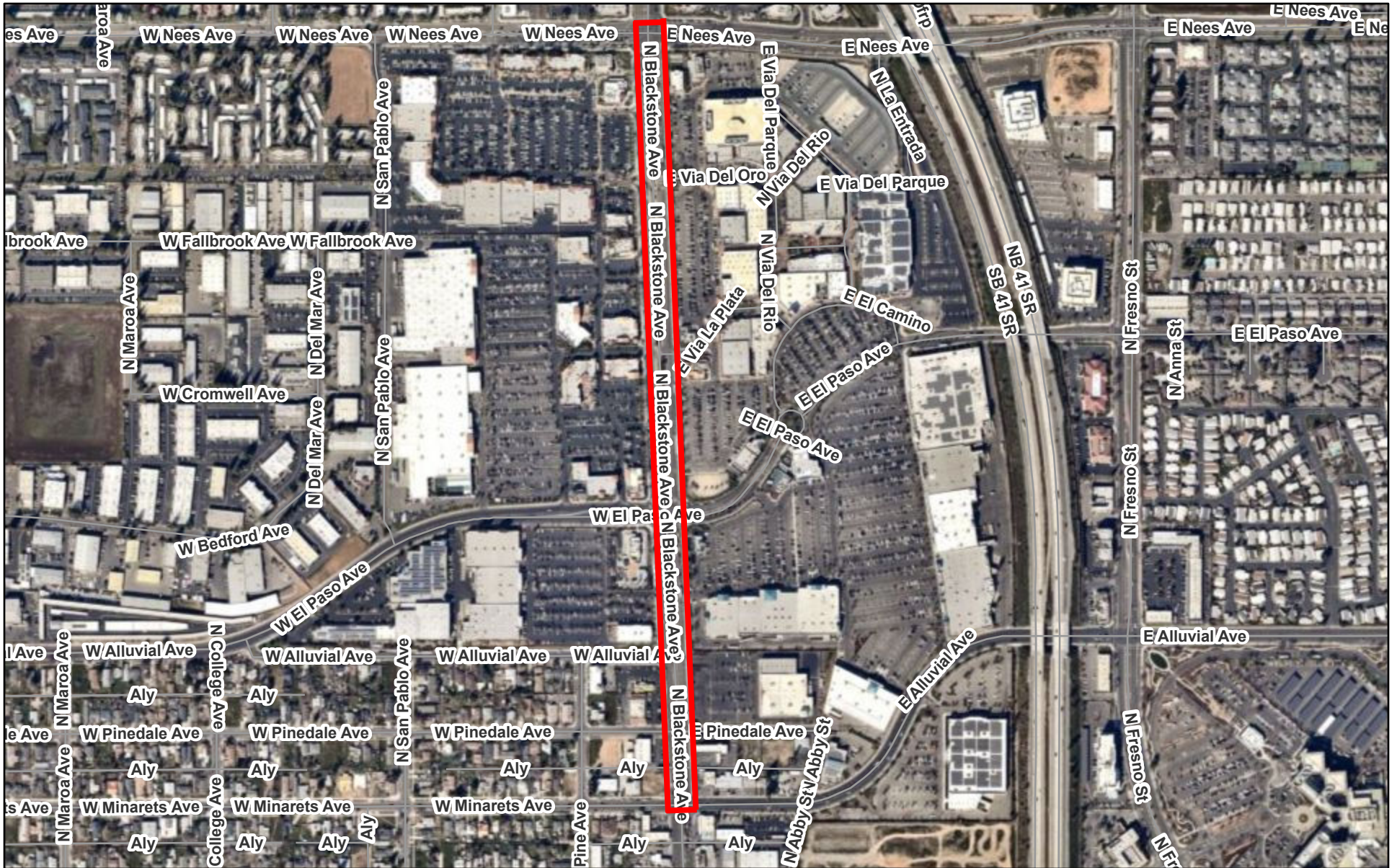
None of the exceptions to Categorical Exemptions set forth in the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2 apply to the project. Furthermore, the proposed project is not expected to have a significant effect on the environment. A categorical exemption, as noted above, has been prepared for the project and the area is not environmentally sensitive.

Date: March 28, 2022

Prepared By: Steven Lieng, Planner II

Submitted by: *McKencie Perez*
McKencie Perez
Supervising Planner
City of Fresno
Planning & Development
Department
(559) 621-8277

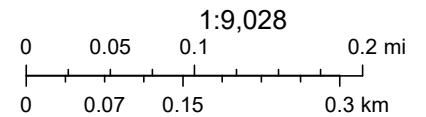
Exhibit A



3/24/2022, 4:02:29 PM

— Street Labels

Environmental Assessment Area



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