



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

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): Retroflective Backplates

DIST-CO-RTE: 10-SJ-4, 5, 12 **PM/PM:** VAR

EA: 10-1R830 **Federal-Aid Project Number:** n/a

Project Description

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes to improve safety at eight signalized intersections in San Joaquin County on State Route 4, 12 and Interstate 5, at various postmiles (*see continuation sheet*). This project is in response to citizen concerns and traffic safety investigations that identified a high rate of red-light running. To enhance visibility and driver awareness, retroreflective backplates will be installed on existing traffic signal crossing arms at all eight locations. The purpose of this project is to increase the visibility of traffic signals for motorists approaching intersections. The need for this project is to promote safer travel for all road users, including vehicles, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

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

Elizabeth Hummel		05/10/2024
Print Name	Signature	Date

Project Manager

Chiu Liu		05/13/2024
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)()

[] 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): n/a

Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 5/1/24

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:

Location	Highway	Post Mile	Intersection	Coordinates
1	12	15.36	Tienda Drive	38.115428, -121.302828
2	12	16.93	Hutchins Street	38.115376, -121.279007
3	12	17.09	Church Street	38.115503, -121.276039
4	12	17.44	Stockton Street	38.115781, -121.269619
5	12	17.95	Cherokee Lane	38.116274, -121.260276
6	4	15.08	Fresno Avenue	37.932846, -121.312129
7	5	29.88	March Lane	37.984566, -121.344006
8	5	32.85	Hammer Lane	38.021987, -121.359531

General:

- Environmental reevaluation will be required if the scope of the project changes to include additional areas or activities, or if previously unknown cultural or other sensitive resources are discovered. Contact Environmental Office if project changes occur or sensitive resources discovered. Please ensure the Environmental Office is invited to the pre-construction meeting and notified of the start of any construction activities.

Cultural:

- If cultural resources are discovered at the job site, do not disturb the resources and immediately:
 1. Stop all work within a 60-foot radius of the discovery
 2. Protect the discovery area
 3. Notify the Engineer
 4. The Department investigates. Do not move cultural materials or take them from the job site. Retain a qualified archeologist to assess the significance of the find. Do not resume work within the discovery area until authorized.
- If human remains are discovered, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that further disturbances and activities shall cease in any area or nearby area suspected to overlie remains, and the County Coroner should be contacted. Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98, if the remains are thought to be Native American, the coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) which will then notify the Most Likely Descendent (MLD). At that time, the landowner will work with the MLD on the respectful treatment and disposition of the remains. Further provisions of PRC 5097.98 are to be followed as applicable.

No permits are required for this project.