



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

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): Placerville CAPM

DIST-CO-RTE: 03-ED-50

PM/PM: VAR/VAR

EA: 03-0J400

Federal-Aid Project Number: 0319000280

Project Description

The California Department of Transportation proposes a project to preserve and extend the service life of the pavement and drainage system; upgrade non-standard median concrete barriers, guardrails, and Transportation Management System elements; and construct acceleration lane and maintenance vehicle pullouts on U.S. Highway 50 in El Dorado County from post mile (PM) 18.7 to 21.9, 22.6 to 22.9, and 24.2 to R29.1.

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.** (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

N/A	N/A	
Print Name	Signature	Date

Project Manager

N/A	N/A	
Print Name	Signature	Date



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

Caltrans NEPA Determination (Check one)

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)(26)
23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)(l)
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

Thaleena Bhattal
Print Name
Thaleena Bhattal
Signature
8/14/24
Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Berhane Tesfagabr
Print Name
Berhane Tesfagabr
Signature
8/15/2024
Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): 8/13/24
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 8/13/24

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).



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

Continuation sheet:

Scope of work includes:

Pavement

From PMs 18.7 to 21.9 and 24.2 to R28.6:

- Cold plane 0.2' and overlay 0.2' of Hot Mix Asphalt-Type A (HMA-Type A) on the mainline and interchange ramps, except for bridge deck locations.
- Cold plane 0.15' and overlay 0.15' of HMA-Type A at the ramps and parking lot of the Camino Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Facility.
- Restripe lanes, shoulders, and ramps with new standard 6" thermoplastic traffic stripe pavement marking and place recessed retroreflective pavement markers between PM 18.7 and PM 21.9.
- Restripe lanes, shoulders, and ramps with recessed two-component paint traffic stripe and surface applied/recessed two-component paint pavement marking between PM 24.2 and PM R28.6.
- Place imported material shoulder backing at the outside edge of both shoulders, where appropriate.
- Replace HMA dike on mainline and on/off-ramps as needed.
- Repair locations of severe existing asphalt pavement failure with dig-outs.

Drainage

Rehabilitate 32 poor and 17 fair condition culverts within access area and re-establish connections to existing drainage systems as follows:

- Concrete invert paving for one (1) 6'-diameter culvert.
- Replace eight (8) culverts with overside flumes.
- Replace thirty-seven (37) culverts with reinforced concrete pipes.
- Cementitious line three (3) culverts at PMs 19.61, 24.60, and 24.80.
- Place rock slope protection as needed.
- Replace HMA dikes as needed.

Address flooding and erosion at the following locations:

- US 50 at Schnell School Road Undercrossing (PM 19.10)
 - Repair HMA dike (WB, west of the bridge rail).
 - Install overside down-drains in a gentle slope to minimize velocity of runoff toward WB on-ramp (start 15' away from bridge rail).
- Add drainage inlets at median at PM R26.26.



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

Safety

- Replace existing non-standard median concrete barriers with the current Type 60 standards from PM 18.7 to PM 21.9, except for bridge deck locations.
- Replace existing metal beam guard rail (MBGR) with steel post Midwest Guardrail System (MGS) and bring appropriate end treatments and transition railing to the current standards of the Manual for Assessing Safety Hardware (MASH).
- Place rumble strips, where appropriate, throughout project limits.
- Replace vehicle detection loops that will be damaged by cold plane operations.
- Construct an acceleration lane from PMs 22.6 to 22.9.
 - The acceleration lane will
 - Start at Five Mile Road and go in the westbound direction on US 50.
 - Require a soil-nail retaining wall and a Type 7 standard plan retaining wall.
- Pave (1.15' Class 2 AB and 0.25' colored HMA-Type A) beyond the gore area at 20 locations.
 - Relocate pull boxes, controller cabinets, call boxes, and any other items within the proposed paving beyond the gore area as needed.
- Construct 12 new MVPs.
- Required tree removal within proposed MVPs, acceleration lane, and paving beyond the gore area locations will be necessary during construction.

Complete Streets

- Upgrade 10 non-standard curb ramps at Schnell School Road Undercrossing and Point View Drive Undercrossing to current ADA standards.
- Replace approximately 200 feet of asphalt sidewalks with concrete sidewalks at Schnell School Road Undercrossing.
- Realign the crosswalks to remove the hinge at the eastbound off-ramp at Schnell School Road Undercrossing and at the westbound off-ramps at Jacquier Road (Point View Drive Undercrossing).
 - This will reduce the corner sight distance. These crosswalks are at an all-way stop and it is acceptable for a vehicle to stop then move forward to increase the line of sight.



CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

Signs and Transportation Management System (TMS) Elements

- Upgrade non-standard two-post, ground-mounted signs and replace two poor condition extinguishable message signs (EMS) at PM 21.117 westbound and at PM R27.946 eastbound with new Variable Message Signs (VMS).

Staging

- The staging area is identified in the current project plan.

Disposal/Borrow

- The project does not anticipate the use of disposal and/or borrow site(s).

Right-of-Way

- The project anticipates acquiring:
 - Four (4) permanent Drainage Easements
 - One (1) partial Acquisition

Consultation/Coordination

- No tribal concerns or sensitive cultural resources were identified during, or because of, Native American consultation for this undertaking.

Permits

- Project will require 401, 404 and a 1600 permit.

Utility

- Potential utility conflicts at Schnell Road will require location confirmation from:
 - AT&T
 - City of Placerville Water facilities