

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk
County of Humboldt
825 5th Street
Eureka, CA 95501

From: (Public Agency)
City Clerk
City of Ferndale
P.O. Box 1095
Ferndale, CA 95536
707-786-4224 or 707-825-8260
cityclerk@ci.ferndale.ca.us
or michellen@planwestpartners.com

Project Title: Road and intersection repairs and sidewalk improvements of the portion of Berding Street, and where Berding Street intersects with Brown and Washington streets.

Project Applicant: City of Ferndale

Project Location: Berding Street at the intersections of Brown and Washington streets, being located in the NW¼ of the NE¼ of Sec. 11 Township, 2 N, Range 2 West, HBM, City of Ferndale in Humboldt county.

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: The project consist of repairs to existing roadway and street intersections. The City will repair the existing intersections of Berding Street with Brown Street and Washington Street. To complete the repairs, the City will remove the existing asphalt, concrete, gutter, and concrete sidewalk, and then replace these materials with the same or similar materials in the same location. As part of the repair, the City will improve the sidewalk to install curb drops and where the sidewalks meet the roadway, and detectable warning surfaces that comply with ADA will be installed. The project also involves repaving of:

1. Both lanes of Berding Street between Brown and Washington street, an area that is approximately 11,680 square feet in size, and
2. The two street approaches at both intersections, with each area being approximately 650 square feet in size (for a total area of about 1,300 sq. ft.).

The project does not involve a change to the number of existing lanes. Project plans incorporate erosion control best management practices. Materials that are not reused will be disposed offsite at an approved facility/location.

Name of Public Agency Approving the Project: City of Ferndale
Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: City of Ferndale
Lead Agency Contact: Michelle Nielsen Telephone: 707-825-8260

Exempt Status: Exempt under CEQA Sections 15301(c) and 15302(c).

Reason Why the Project is Exempt: CEQA Guidelines Section 15301(c) Existing Facilities, Class 1. The project meets Section 15301(c) Class 1 repair and maintenance categorical exemption because the project is for the repair and maintenance of an existing public roadway, two existing intersections, and improvement of the sidewalk to meet current ADA

requirements. The proposed repair and maintenance project would not expand the existing use of the road, which would remain a two-lane road. The project would replace and connect existing features, including sidewalks and curbs.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15302(c) Replacement or Reconstruction, Class 2. This project meets Section 15302 replacement or reconstruction Class 2(c) categorical exemption because the replacement of existing City facilities to meet current safety and ADA standards and will have the same purpose and capacity with no expansion of use. To complete the repairs, the City will remove the existing asphalt, concrete, gutter, and concrete sidewalk, and then replace these materials with the same or similar materials in the same location. The sidewalk will be improved to meet ADA accessibility requirements. The project will not result in an increase in the number of vehicle lanes or otherwise increase roadway capacity.

Exceptions to Categorical Exemption Applicability

The applicability of Categorical Exemption (CEs) is qualified by the exceptions listed in Section 15300.2(a) through (f) of the CEQA Guidelines. In the discussion below, each exception (in italics) is followed by an explanation of why the exception does not apply to the proposed project.

15300.2(a) Location. Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, and 11 are qualified by consideration of where the project is to be located – a project that is ordinarily insignificant in its impact on the environment may in a particularly sensitive environment be significant. Therefore, these classes are considered to apply all instances, except where the project may impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.

The proposed project does not include a Class 3, 4, 5, 6, or 11 CE. Therefore, this exception to a CE does not apply to the project.

15300.2(b) Cumulative Impact. As discussed below, the proposed project would not result in significant environmental impacts. Therefore, the project would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to potential impacts.

15300.2(c) Significant Impact. The project site consists of an approximately 510-foot-long portion of Berding Street roadway, where Berding Street intersections with Brown Street and Washington Street, and associated sidewalks. All roadway and intersection repairs and sidewalk improvements will occur within the existing public right of way. The project site is generally flat and has been developed with a paved road, gutters, curbs, and sidewalks. The project site is located in a developed urbanized residential area and has no value as a habitat area for endangered, rare, or threatened species due to the small size and urban context. Additionally, based on aerial imagery and site visits, there are no wetlands, streams, aquatic or riparian habitat, scenic vistas, or other environmentally sensitive resources on the project site. Therefore, the project site is not located in an environmentally sensitive area. No known circumstances at the project site or related to project operations create a reasonable

possibility of significant effects to the environment, and not contain characteristics which would qualify as an unusual circumstance.

15300.2(d) Scenic Highways. There are no designated Scenic Highways in Ferndale city limits or nearby in the unincorporated area of Humboldt county; nor are there any scenic highways pending designation.

15300.2(e) Hazardous Materials. All work for the project is in the public right-of-way and is not associated with any parcels that are included on the Cortese List. There are no known hazardous materials within the ROW where work is proposed. Therefore, the effect of hazardous materials is considered less than significant.

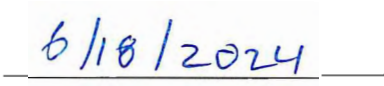
15300.2(f) Historic Resources. Ferndale’s Main Street was designated as a Historic District in 1994 by the National Park Service and placed on the National Register of Historic Places, and is located one block northwest of the project site. The project site does not include or encroach into the Main Street Historic District.

There are other historically significant structures scattered throughout the City limits which are outside of the historic district. The project site does not include these historically significant structures nor is the project adjacent to these resources, however. The closest resources are located at 455 and 563 Ocean Avenue.

Finally, in 1975 the City of Ferndale was designated as a State Historical Landmark. Although the project improvements will be occurring in the City, the project involves repair and maintenance of the existing public roadway and intersections, and the improvement of the existing sidewalk to meet current ADA requirements. All improvements will occur within the existing public right of way, and will not increase roadway capacity. Therefore, the nature and extent of the repair and improvement will not affect the City’s State Historical Landmark status.



Contract City Planner Signature



Date: June 18, 2024