



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

**Project Information**

**Project Name (if applicable):** SR-39 Safety Lighting and Traffic

**DIST-CO-RTE:** 12-ORA-39

**PM/PM:** 20.9/20.9

**EA:** 0U890 / 1224000047

**Federal-Aid Project Number:** N/A

**Project Description**

This Minor B project proposes to upgrade existing lighting and traffic systems at the intersection of State Route 39 (SR-39) and Hacienda Road in La Habra. The project is needed to improve safety and efficiency at the intersection. The purpose of the project is to add safety lighting with a traffic signal, upgrade existing signal heads with reflective backplates, and install a new traffic census station. The project is funded using State funds only. No additional Right of Way is required, all work will occur within Caltrans Right of Way.

**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 1d.** (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**

Smita Deshpande	<i>Smita Deshpande</i>	June 20, 2024
Print Name	Signature	Date

**Project Manager**

Saied Mehranfard	<i>Siamak Eftekharian</i> for Saeid	June 21, 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)(Enter activity number)
[ ] 23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)(Enter activity number)
[ ] Activity Enter activity number 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

N/A

Print Name

Signature

Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

N/A

Print Name

Signature

Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): Enter date
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: Enter date

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:

There are no significant environmental consequences anticipated with the proposed project. In addition to the measures given in the Caltrans Standard Specifications, measures related to cultural resources, greenhouse gas emissions (GHG), hazardous waste, water quality, and biological resources and any subsequent requirements will be implemented as project features to the proposed project.

### **Water Quality**

WQ-1: The Disturbed Soil Area (DSA) for the proposed project is anticipated to be less than 1.0 acre therefore a Water Pollution Control Program (WPCP) will be prepared and implemented to address temporary impacts to water quality. Potential temporary impacts to water quality will be addressed during construction with the application of specific temporary Best Management Practices (BMPs) as outlined in the contractor's WPCP. If the project disturbs more than 1.0 acre, a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) should be prepared and implemented in place of a WPCP.

WQ-2: This project must conform to all applicable water quality regulations and/or permit requirements of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and any applicable local Regional Water Quality Control Board(s), including, but not limited to, the Caltrans Statewide NPDES Permit (Order No. 2022-0033-DWQ, NPDES No. CAS000003), the Statewide NPDES General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated With Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Order No. 2022-0057-DWQ, NPDES No. CAS000002), and the Caltrans Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP), and any subsequent revisions and/or additional requirements at the time of construction.

WQ-3: A Storm Water Data Report (SWDR) will be approved by the NPDES Unit to determine that this project conforms to Federal and State Clean Water Acts, and any other water quality regulations.

### **Cultural Resources**

The cultural resources review was performed by Victoria Stosel, PQS Principal Investigator, Prehistoric Archaeology, and included a review of the Environmental Study Request, location maps, CCRD and aerial photography. Based on this review, the undertaking, as currently proposed, has no potential to affect historical resources.

As a result, this undertaking is exempt from further review, no additional archaeological or built environment studies are required at this time and the CEQA cultural resources component, and PRC 5024 compliance are complete. This memorandum documents compliance with the agreed-upon historic preservation procedures.



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Please note that this assessment could change, and additional studies may be required if the project changes and ensure the following measures found in the Caltrans 2023 Standard Specifications in the Plans, Specifications, and Estimates apply to this project and are to be included in the Environmental Commitment Record:

CR-1: If buried cultural resources are encountered during Project Activities, it is Caltrans policy that work stop within 60 feet of the area until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the find.

CR-2: In the event that human remains are found, the county coroner shall be notified and ALL construction activities within 60 feet of the discovery shall stop. 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) who will then notify the Most Likely Descendent (MLD). The person who discovered the remains will contact the District 12 Division of Environmental Planning; Alben Phung, Senior Environmental Scientist: (949) 279-8715 and Cheryl Sinopoli, DNAC: (949) 483-1018. Further provisions of PRC 5097.98 are to be followed as applicable.

### Climate Change Assessment

The Environmental Division has evaluated this non-capacity increasing project for GHG emissions and other climate change impacts. It has determined that the project would not cause a significant impact on GHG emissions because it does not increase roadway capacity and has the following reduction strategies considered:

GHG-1: Fuel efficient measures for equipment and traffic management should be used where feasible in addition to reducing the frequency of vehicle idle times to the greatest extent possible.

Greenhouse gas emissions were estimated using the 2021 Caltrans Construction Emissions Tool v1.0.2 for a project duration of 129 working days.

GHG	CO	NOx	CO2	CH4	TOG	ROG	HFC
Total Emissions (tons)	0.025	0.033	10	0	0.005	0.005	0

### Hazardous Waste

The ADL Site Investigation was conducted by Stantec Consulting Services Inc. and a data report, dated May 30, 2024, was prepared. According to the test results and the statistical analysis, the soil at the above referenced site is unregulated and free of significant hazardous waste. SSP 7-1.02K(6)(j)(iii)A10-21-22 should be included in the Design package to address the handling of soil disturbance:



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HAZ-1: Unregulated earth material containing lead to the depth of four feet should be stockpiled at an authorized location before disposal. Material should be handled under all applicable laws, rules, and regulations, including those of Cal/OSHA, CA RWQCB Region 8, Santa Ana, and the South Coast Air Quality Management District. If unregulated material is disposed of, the form titled "Agreement Between a Contractor Working on State Facilities and a Real Property Owner for Disposing Construction-related Material Suitable for Use on Residential Zoned Property" should be submitted at least 15 days prior to disposal. Contractor is responsible for any additional sampling and analysis required by the receiving property owner.

HAZ-2: If contractor chooses to dispose of unregulated material at a commercial landfill, it should be transported to a Class III or Class II landfill appropriately permitted to receive it. Contractor is responsible for identifying the appropriately permitted landfill to receive the material and for all associated trucking and disposal costs, including any additional sampling and analysis required by the receiving landfill.

### **Air Quality**

According to the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 40 Section 93.126, table 2, this project is exempt from particulate matter (PM) conformity analysis.

AQ-1: The construction contractor will comply with the Caltrans Standard Specification in Section 14-9 (2018) of the standard specification for reducing air quality impacts from construction activities that would further contribute to the reduction of air pollutants.

### **Noise**

The proposed project does not involve addition of lane; thus, according to FHWA 23CFR772, this project does not qualify as a Type I project. Therefore, traffic noise study is not needed.

NOI-1: Project must comply with Caltrans Standard Specification 14-8.02 to control noise during construction.

### **Technical Studies Completed**

Cultural Resources SU Memo (CT, DEA, Stosel, 4/18/2024)  
Hazardous Waste Memo (CT, DEA, Caraig, 6/10/2024)  
Natural Environment Study (CT, DEA, Ketsela, 4/23/2024)  
Water Quality Memo (CT, DEA, Salas, 4/25/2024)