



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

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): Chowchilla West ADA Improvements

DIST-CO-RTE: 06-MAD-233

PM/PM: 3.6

EA: 06-1E360

Federal-Aid Project Number: 0622000042

Project Description

The Chowchilla West ADA Railroad Improvements Minor-A project is located in Madera County in Chowchilla on State Route (SR) 233 at PM 3.6. This project proposes to upgrade existing curb ramps to meet current American with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards and improve the existing at grade pedestrian crossing at the Union Pacific Railroad crossing.

Major work for this project will include the following:

- Replace existing non-standard ADA curb ramp at the Southeast corner of S Front St and Route 233
- Replace sidewalk and track crossing for pedestrians within Union Pacific Railroad crossing
- Upgrade traffic signals components at Railroad Crossing
- Install textured concrete within the existing median islands near the Union Pacific Railroad.
- Replace existing pavement striping and markers to bring to current standard.

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(c). (PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15301)

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

Trais Norris

10/2/2024

Print Name

Signature

Date

Project Manager

Michael Day

10/2/2024

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: 8/8/2024

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:

Biology:

If construction occurs during the avian nesting season (February 1 – September 30), pre-construction surveys for migratory birds and raptors will be required. If work occurs during the nesting season and an active nest is found within the BSA, the project may require a biological monitor or the use of an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) buffer depending on the extent of the work and species affected. Surveys for migratory birds and raptors will be completed prior to the start of construction by a qualified biologist.

Air Quality:

The provisions of Caltrans Standard Specifications, Section 14-9.02 "Air Pollution Control" and Section 10-5 "Dust Control" require the contractor to comply with the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District's rules, ordinances, and regulations and statutes that apply to work performed under the contract, including those provided in Government Code § 11017.

Water Quality:

If the project disturbs less than one acre of soil, a Water Pollution Control Plan (WPCP) is required to be prepared by the contractor per the Caltrans 2018 Standard Specification Section 13-1 – Water Pollution.

Paleontology:

If unanticipated fossil discovery occurs during construction, Specification 14-7.03 of the 2018 Standard Specifications identifies the procedures required to protect the resource.

Hazardous Waste:

A lead compliance plan (LCP) developed by a Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH) is required. The estimated cost of the LCP is \$3,500. Include Standard Special Provision (SSP) 7-1.02K(6)(j)(iii) Earth Material Containing Lead in the bid package.