

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

County Clerk
County of: Kern
1115 Truxton
Bakersfield CA 93301

From: (Public Agency): Panama-Buena Vista Union School District
4200 Ashe Road
Bakersfield, CA 93313

(Address)

Project Title: Mountain View Elementary (TK-8) School Offsite Improvement Project

Project Applicant: Panama-Buena Vista Union School District

Project Location - Specific:
10001 Stine Road, Bakersfield, CA

Project Location - City: Bakersfield Project Location - County: Kern

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

See attached

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Panama-Buena Vista Union School District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Paul Johnson

Exempt Status: (check one):

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Class 1:15301(c), Class 3: 15303(d), and Class 4: 15304(b)
Statutory Exemptions. State code number: 15282(k)

Reasons why project is exempt:

See attached

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Paul Johnson Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 661-831-8331 ext. 6280

If filed by applicant:

- 1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: [Signature] Date: 10 Oct 2024 Title: Director of Facilities

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Date Received for filing at OPR:
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

PROJECT Location

The school site is located south of Taft Highway (State Route [SR] 119) and west of Stine Road.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION – Mountain View Elementary (TK-8) School Offsite Improvement Project

The project involves three components related to offsite improvements associated with the new Mountain View Elementary School site being built. These components include 1) the installation of 12-inch water main pipeline, associated water service connection and equipment between the approved school site and the existing City of Bakersfield (City) water service; 2) improvement of Stine Road along the school site frontage including ingress/egress points, a traffic signal, curb/gutter and sidewalks, roadway widening and striping; and 3) undergrounding of an existing irrigation ditch. These improvements are anticipated to be located within an existing right-of-way associated with Stine Road and runs north up to Taft Highway.

Project Components:

Water Service

The project proposes the installation of approximately 1,770 linear feet of 12-inch water main pipeline along the Stine Road right-of-way that will run north and connect with existing City water service on the north side of Taft Highway. Pipeline installation will include trenching at a depth between 4 to 5 feet with a minimum of 3 feet of cover. To connect to City water service, approximately 154 linear feet of pipeline will be installed using the jack and bore method underneath Taft Highway at an approximate depth ranging between 9 to 13 feet. The water pipeline and associated equipment will be designed and installed per City requirements.

Road Improvements

The project proposes improvements to Stine Road including the installation of three driveway approaches for access to the school site, sidewalks, curb and gutter, ADA compliant curb ramps, street lighting, street signs, and appropriate roadway pavement and striping necessary. These features will improve accessibility and increase vehicular and pedestrian safety.

This will include the addition of a dedicated turn lane and turn pockets along Stine Road. These lanes do not increase the roadway capacity of Stine Road. Dedicated turn lanes and turn pockets are added to increase safety during high volume traffic periods of the day. It will also allow traffic to flow more smoothly and will minimize delays and vehicular idling. A traffic signal is also anticipated to be installed at the middle access point, again to increase public vehicular and pedestrian safety. Additionally, landscaping along the approved school site road frontage will be planted. All road improvements are anticipated to be designed and installed per City of Bakersfield standards.

Irrigation Ditch Improvements

The project proposes to underground an existing irrigation ditch maintained by the Kern Delta Water District. The existing irrigation ditch is located within an easement between the school site and Stine Road. The project anticipates the undergrounding of the ditch with approximately 1,326 linear feet of pipeline that will continue the existing flow pattern. The pipeline will connect to the existing irrigation water pipeline north of Taft Highway. Trenching is anticipated to be at a maximum depth of 10 to 11 feet. Ground

cover would be between 2 to 4 feet. Additional equipment infrastructure would be installed as necessary including junction boxes, concrete pipe collars, and a concrete bowl discharge.

EXEMPTIONS:

- Statutory Exemption 15282(k): The installation of new pipeline or maintenance, repair, restoration, removal, or demolition of an existing pipeline as set forth in Section 21090.21 of the Public Resources Code, as long as the project does not exceed one mile in length.
- Class 1 15301(c) *Existing Facilities*: Existing highways and streets, sidewalks, gutters, bicycle and pedestrian trails, and similar facilities (this includes road grading for the purpose of public safety), and other alterations such as the addition of bicycle facilities, including but not limited to bicycle parking, bicycle-share facilities and bicycle lanes, transit improvements such as bus lanes, pedestrian crossings, street trees, and other similar alterations that do not create additional automobile lanes).
- Class 3 15303(d) *New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures*: Water main, sewage, electrical, gas, and other utility extensions, including street improvements, of reasonable length to serve such construction.
- Class 4 15304 (b) *Minor Alterations to Land*: New gardening or landscaping, including the replacement of existing conventional landscaping with water efficient or fire-resistant landscaping.

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT

Statutory Exemption 15282(k): The proposed water and irrigation water pipelines do not exceed one mile in length. These improvements will be located within the existing road right-of-way along Stine Road and Taft Highway. Design and installation of the pipeline will comply with City, County and Caltrans development standards.

Class 1 15301(c), Class 3 15303(d) and Class 4 15304 (b). The street improvements anticipated along the frontage of Stine Road will include pedestrian and roadway enhancements. The addition of traffic control devices, ADA compliant pedestrian and bike improvements roadway striping, landscaping along school site frontage and dedicated turn lane does not increase the roadway capacity or result in the addition of through lanes. These improvements will enhance accessibility, as well as public safety for pedestrians and vehicles. All anticipated improvements along Stine Road will be designed and installed pursuant to City development standards.

The installation of the water irrigation pipeline will result in the undergrounding of the existing irrigation ditch and will continue the existing flow pattern. The pipeline will run along the existing irrigation ditch easement and run approximately 1,326 feet north where it will connect with an existing underground irrigation pipeline connection north of Taft Highway. This connection will connect the new pipeline with existing underground pipeline that runs north through the City.

The project will also install approximately 1,770 linear feet of 12-inch water main pipeline along the Stine Road right-of-way that will run north and connect with existing City water service on the north side of Taft Highway. Neither new pipeline exceeds one mile in length and is located within previously disturbed land.

Landscaping will improve the visual character of the street frontage, using drought tolerant, native plant species to the extent feasible. Landscape irrigation would use drip irrigation devices and other water-conserving equipment and will meet MWELo and City/County requirements.