

Notice of Exemption

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

From: California Department of Transportation – District 11
4050 Taylor St.
San Diego, CA 92110

Project Title: SR-76 Shoulder Widening

Project Applicant: Caltrans Department of Transportation – District 11

Project Location - Specific: SR-76 PM R49.9 to R50.5; 0.3 miles east of Rincon Ranch Road

Project Location - City: Pauma Valley Project Location - County: San Diego

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

This project would widen the shoulder of SR-76 on the westbound direction at the above postmiles. The project is needed to reduce the number and severity of run-off-road collisions and thereby reduce the frequency of errant vehicles on this stretch of the road. The widened shoulder pavement will be laid down with 0.5 feet of hot mix asphalt. Beyond the asphalt on the new unpaved shoulder, 0.7 feet of Class 2 gravel will be laid down for unpaved surfaces. The concrete drainage channel on the road shoulder will be removed and excavation will be conducted to install a concrete drainage system of 30" corrugated steel pipe. Additional project work includes constructing a retaining wall with traffic barrier and removing existing boulders on the shoulder. The project would also include removing the existing boulders and concrete drainage channel that is located within the clear recovery zone, widening of the outside shoulder, constructing a retaining wall, and installing a drainage system.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Transportation – District 11

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Transportation – District 11

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, Article 19, Section 15301 (c)

Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project would require work on the shoulder of the travel-way, to install and accommodate a shoulder widening, all within the highway. The scope of work would not increase the footprint of the freeway.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Ashley Thota

Phone number: 8582891281

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: Ashley Thota Date: 4/8/2025 Title: Caltrans Environmental Scientist

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.