

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: Orange
601 N. Ross Street
Santa Ana, CA 92701

From: (Public Agency): Orange County Transportation Authority
550 S Main Street
Orange, CA 92868

(Address)

Project Title: Coastal Rail Stabilization Priority Project Areas 1 and 2

Project Applicant: Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA)

Project Location - Specific:

LOSSAN Rail Corridor (Mile Post 203.83 and Mile Post 204.40)

Project Location - City: San Clemente Project Location - County: Orange

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The railroad embankment in Areas 1 and 2 has faced dry beach and rock riprap embankment loss due to past storms and continuing erosional processes. Failure to act risks further damage to railroad infrastructure, impacts to rail passenger service, freight service including energy transportation and national security, life and safety, and/or failure and rail service disruptions. The emergency action would include strategic placement of approximately 7,650 tons of quarry rock (approximately 5,100 cubic yards (CY)) to repair and restore the existing riprap and place approximately 240,000 CY of sand between Area 1 and Area 2 to provide added protection for the railroad. Sand placement is subject to change as the design develops. Construction materials would be brought in via truck (from the seaward side) and by rail. Construction work for the riprap repair would occur from both the railroad ROW and shoreline. A project location map is attached.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: OCTA

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: OCTA

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:
Statutory Exemptions. State code number: 15269(b) and (c) Emergency Projects

Reasons why project is exempt:

The specific activities proposed for this project are covered under CEQA Statutory Exemption 15269 (b) and (c). This exemption from CEQA applies to the proposed emergency actions to publicly owned service facilities necessary to maintain essential transportation services to the general public. This exemption allows for emergency repairs that "include those that require a reasonable amount of planning to address and anticipated emergency" and further applies to "specific actions necessary to or mitigate an emergency." The purpose of the emergency action is to reinforce the railroad failing embankment with new rock and make repairs to existing riprap to avoid rail service disruptions and infrastructure damage that would lead to unsafe conditions for rail passengers and freight alike.

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Jim Beil Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 714-560-5646

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: 4/14/2025 Title: Exec. Dir. Cap. Prog.

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR:



Coastal Rail Stabilization Priority Project Areas 1 and 2 Location Map (Milepost 203.83 to 204.40)

ATTACHMENT

