

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 8
464 W. 4th Street
San Bernardino, CA 92401

Project Title: SBd 215, 210, 10 & RIV 10 Roadside Rehabilitation

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation- District 8

Project Location - Specific: 08-Sbd-215, 210, 10 PM: Various and 08-Riv-10 PM: Various. In San Bernardino and Riverside County.

Project Location - City: San Bernardino, Redlands, and Beaumont Project Location - County: San Bernardino/ Riverside

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

This project proposes to restore and rehabilitate existing roadside elements damaged by weather deterioration with modernized irrigation systems and improve water conservation through the incorporation of drought tolerant and low water use plants. Infill within gaps along the mainline will maintain the project area's Classified Landscape Freeway (CLF) status. Hydro seeding with native plant seeds will be implemented to restore plant coverage and will satisfy National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit requirements. Modernizing irrigation facilities and technology, restoring roadside landscaping with native plants, and stabilizing slopes aligns with the Department's Strategic Plan goal of 'Stewardship and Efficiency'. Furthermore, the goal of 'Leading Climate Action' will be achieved by restoring roadside soil health, as microbial soil activity serves as a benefit to soil enrichment. This will also promote plant growth, sequester carbon, and strengthen resilience.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Transportation – District 8

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Transportation – District 8

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: PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15301 Class 1(h).
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

This project consists of upgrade irrigation systems, highway planting and roadside rehabilitation, erosion control, paving beyond the gore, repair/replace fences and gates, and construct new maintenance vehicle pullouts which falls under Categorical Exemption- Class 1. Class 1 consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Malisa Lieng

Phone number: (909) 261-3955

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: Malisa Lieng Date: 8/4/2025 Title: Senior 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.