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

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): Calaveras, Amador, and Merced Bike and Pedestrian Sign Improvements

DIST-CO-RTE: 10-VAR-VAR **PM/PM:** VAR

EA: 10-1T450 **Federal-Aid Project Number:** N/A

Project Description

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes a Highway Maintenance project to improve bike and pedestrian signs. The work will be performed at 16 different locations spread across Calaveras (CAL), Amador (AMA), and Merced (MER) Counties, along State Routes (SR) 4, 88, and 140. (See continuation sheet for location details and scope of work.) All work is expected to occur within existing Caltrans Right of Way. The purpose of this project is to address the lack of combined Bike and Pedestrian signs. The project is needed to provide Bicyclist and Pedestrian Safety.

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. (PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15300 et seq.)

☒ 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

Elizabeth Hummel	Elizabeth Hummel	09/09/2025
Print Name	Signature	Date

Project Manager

Edujie I. Imoisili	Edujie Imonitie Imoisili	9/11/2025
Print Name	Signature	Date

Caltrans NEPA Determination (Check one)

☒ **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)(Enter activity number)**
- ☐ **23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)(Enter activity number)**
- ☐ **Activity Enter activity number 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: 09/09/2025

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).

Continuation sheet:

Location No.	CO	RTE	Beg PM	Location	Scope of Work
1	Cal	4	37.380	Northbound outside shoulder	Install the Combine Bicycle/Pedestrian (W11-15) sign FEBT PM 50 ft (approx.) from the existing Flashing Beacon and the speed limit 25 MPH (R2-1) sign near Moran Rd.
2	Cal	4	37.460	Southbound outside shoulder	Install the Share the Road (W16-1P) plaque and A Bicycle crossing (W11-1) sign FWBT 70 ft from the existing streetlight near Avery Sheep Ranch Rd.
3	Ama	88	31.540	Eastbound outside shoulder	Install Bicycle Warning (W11-1) sign with a SHARE THE ROAD (W16-1)
4	Ama	88	R31.810	Westbound outside shoulder	Install Bicycle Warning (W11-1) sign with a SHARE THE ROAD (W16-1)
5	Ama	88	R31.860	Eastbound outside shoulder	Install Bicycle Warning (W11-1) sign with a SHARE THE ROAD (W16-1)
6	Ama	88	R32.040	Westbound outside shoulder	Install Bicycle Warning (W11-1) sign with a SHARE THE ROAD (W16-1)
7	Ama	88	R32.080	Eastbound outside shoulder	Install Bicycle Warning (W11-1) sign with a SHARE THE ROAD (W16-1)
8	Ama	88	33.225	Westbound outside shoulder	Install Bicycle Warning (W11-1) sign with a SHARE THE ROAD (W16-1)
9	Mer	140	35.530	South sidewalk	Install a 30x30 Right Turning Vehicles yield to pedestrians (R10-15) sign.
10	Mer	140	35.545	East sidewalk on X St	Install a 30x30 Right Turning Vehicles yield to pedestrians (R10-15) sign.
11	Mer	140	35.548	West sidewalk on X St	Install a 30x30 Right Turning Vehicles yield to pedestrians (R10-15) sign.
12	Mer	140	35.570	North sidewalk	Install a 30x30 Right Turning Vehicles yield to pedestrians (R10-15) sign.
13	Mer	140	35.800	South sidewalk	Install a 30x30 Combine Bicycle/Pedestrian (W11-15) sign FEBT and FWBT.
14	Mer	140	35.920	North sidewalk	Install a 30x30 Combine Bicycle/Pedestrian (W11-15) sign FEBT and FWBT.
15	Mer	140	36.530	South sidewalk	Install a 30x30 Combined Bicycle/Pedestrian (W11-15) sign FEBT.
16	Mer	140	36.620	North sidewalk	Replace existing Pedestrian (W11-2) sign with a 30x30 Combined Bicycle/Pedestrian (W11-15) sign FWBT.

General:

• Environmental reevaluation will be required if the scope of the project changes to include additional areas or activities, or if previously unknown cultural or other sensitive resources are discovered. Contact the Environmental Office if project changes occur or sensitive resources discovered.

• Contact the Environmental Office to attend the pre-construction meeting.

Cultural:

• If cultural materials are discovered at the job site, do not disturb the resources and immediately:

1)Stop all work within a 60-foot radius of discovery
2)Protect the discovery area
3)Notify the Engineer.
4) The Department Investigates. Do not move cultural materials or take them from the job site. Retain a qualified archaeologist to assess the significance of the find. Do not resume work within the discovery area until authorized.

• If human remains are discovered, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that further disturbances and activities shall cease in any area or nearby area suspected to overlie remains, and the County coroner contacted. Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. If the remains are thought to be Native American, the coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) who will then notify the Most Likely Descendent (MLD). At the same time the landowner will work with the MLD on the respectful treatment and disposition of the remains. Further provisions of PRC 5097.98 are to be followed as applicable.

• Caltrans SSP 14-2.03B (Archaeological Monitoring Area) is required during construction at Location 3 (AMA/88/31.5). A tribal monitor will be present during construction at Location 3.

Hazardous Waste:

• The Caltrans Standard Special Provision (SSP) 14-11.14 pertaining to the handling, storing, transporting, and disposing of treated wood waste shall be included in the construction contract.

• The Caltrans Standard Special Provision 7-1.02K(6)(j)(iii), which pertains to Earth Material Containing Lead shall be added to the construction contract. A Lead Compliance Plan prepared by a Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH) is required and all soil must remain on-site.

No permits are required.