

Notice of Exemption

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

From: Caltrans District 8, Environmental Planning
464 West 4th Street, MS 823
San Bernardino, California 92401

Project Title: I-15 CAPM

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), District 8

Project Location - Specific: Rte-15/PM3.00-8.10

Project Location - City: Temecula and Murrieta

Project Location - County: Riverside

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

Caltrans is proposing to rehabilitate a section of Interstate 15 (I-15) in the Cities of Temecula and Murrieta, from 0.4 miles south of I-15/State Route 79 (SR-79) Separation to 1.5 miles north of Winchester Road Interchange, Postmile (PM) 3.0 to PM 8.1, in southwestern Riverside County. The project scope includes the following:

- Cold plane and overlay
- Perform localized dig outs
- Upgrade Metal Beam Guard Rail (MBGR) to Midwest Guardrail Systems (MGS), including end treatments and vegetation control to meet current standards
- Upgrade Transportation Management System (TMS) elements
- Replace one crash cushion to meet current standards

The purpose of this project is to preserve and extend the service life of the existing pavement and to improve ride quality. This project will also upgrade existing traffic safety systems to current standards within the project limits. This segment of I-15 has several deficiencies within the project limits. These deficiencies include distressed pavement, nonstandard guardrail and end treatments, lack of vegetation control, a nonstandard crash cushion, and inadequate TMS elements. This project is needed to address those deficiencies.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Caltrans, District 8

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Caltrans, 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: Class 1(d)
(PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15300 et seq.)
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public structures, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. The work would occur on an existing highway.

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: 9/29/2025 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.