Notice of Exemption

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

From: Caltrans, District 2
1657 Riverside Drive
Redding, CA 96001

Project Title: Highway Curve Warning Signs

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation

Project Location - Specific: Various curve locations within the roadway prism on state route 3, 96 and interstate 5.

Project Location - City: Various Project Location - County: Shasta, Trinity, Siskiyou.

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

This project proposes to upgrade highway curve warning signs on State Routes (SR) 3, 96, and Interstate 5 (I-5) within the boundaries of District 2 to California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) 2014 compliant signs. Work includes supplementing existing curve sign packages, placing new curve warning signs, and relocating or removing existing non-compliant curve warning signs where necessary and replacing sign panels on existing posts or structures. Additionally, existing curve warning signs that do not meet current federal reflectivity standards will be replaced, and single-post curve warning signs with wood posts will be upgraded to metal posts.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Transportation

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

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: Sec. 20184 15301 Class 1 (C)
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt: The project is exempt because it is the maintenance of an existing facility, does not include the expansion of the existing use and has been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Carolyn Sullivan Phone number: (530) 218-8940

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: Carolyn Sullivan Date: 11/13/2025 Title: Sr. Environmental Planner

☒ Signed by Lead Agency ☒ Signed by Applicant

Date Received for filing at OPR: 11/13/2025

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

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

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): Highway Curve Warning Signs

DIST-CO-RTE: 02-VAR-VAR **PM/PM:** VAR/VAR

EA: 02-2J770 **Federal-Aid Project Number:** 0221000133

Project Description

This project proposes to upgrade highway curve warning signs on State Routes (SR) 3, 96, and Interstate 5 (I-5) within the boundaries of District 2 to California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) 2014 compliant signs. Work includes supplementing existing curve sign packages, placing new curve warning signs, and relocating or removing existing non-compliant curve warning signs where necessary and replacing sign panels on existing posts or structures. Additionally, existing curve warning signs that do not meet current federal reflectivity standards will be replaced, and single-post curve warning signs with wood posts will be upgraded to metal posts.

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

Carolyn Sullivan	Carolyn Sullivan	10/21/2025
Print Name	Signature	Date

Project Manager

Logan Moore	Logan Moore	10/22/2025
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)(8)**

☐ **23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)(N/A)**

☐ **Activity N/A 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

Carolyn Sullivan	Carolyn Sullivan	10/21/2025
Print Name	Signature	Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Logan Moore	Logan Moore	10/22/2025
Print Name	Signature	Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): 10/20/2025
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 03/06/2025

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:

Where necessary, work will include:

- Replacing existing HCWS with CA MUTCD 2014 compliant signs
- Supplementing existing curve sign packages where necessary
- Placing new curve warning signs where necessary
- Relocating existing compliant HCWS where necessary
- Upgrading existing single-post curve warning signs by replacing the existing wood post with metal posts
- Placing signposts on bridge rails and in one case a bridge column
- Replacing sign panels only in some instances

State Route 96					
SR 96 Curve Location #	**County**	**Begin PM**	**End PM**	**Length (Miles)**	**Number of Proposed Signs**
1	Siskiyou	23.55	24.10	0.55	9
2	Siskiyou	26.25	26.57	0.32	4
3	Siskiyou	28.22	28.55	0.23	5
4	Siskiyou	28.86	29.10	0.24	2
5	Siskiyou	29.65	29.95	0.30	2
6	Siskiyou	32.25	32.68	0.43	4
7	Siskiyou	32.89	33.18	0.29	2
8	Siskiyou	36.58	36.79	0.21	1
9	Siskiyou	37.23	37.56	0.33	2
10	Siskiyou	37.88	38.35	0.47	4
11	Siskiyou	44.99	45.47	0.48	3
12	Siskiyou	45.95	46.20	0.25	3
13	Siskiyou	46.20	46.49	0.29	7
14	Siskiyou	46.49	46.81	0.32	2
15	Siskiyou	47.35	R47.75	0.40	7
16	Siskiyou	R48.00	R48.32	0.32	1
17	Siskiyou	54.94	55.65	0.66	5
18	Siskiyou	55.76	56.05	0.29	3
19	Siskiyou	56.24	56.63	0.39	1
20	Siskiyou	56.88	57.24	0.36	1
21	Siskiyou	59.40	59.62	0.22	3
22	Siskiyou	59.71	59.91	0.20	3

24	Siskiyou	63.44	63.68	0.24	3
25	Siskiyou	64.46	64.68	0.22	1
28	Siskiyou	68.58	68.87	0.29	3
29	Siskiyou	69.62	69.90	0.28	3
30	Siskiyou	70.30	70.77	0.47	2
31	Siskiyou	71.80	72.26	0.46	8
32	Siskiyou	72.20	72.40	0.20	3
33	Siskiyou	73.08	73.38	0.30	5
34	Siskiyou	73.79	74.03	0.24	3
35	Siskiyou	74.98	75.32	0.34	2
36	Siskiyou	75.32	75.74	0.42	3
37	Siskiyou	76.08	76.50	0.42	2
39	Siskiyou	77.85	78.44	0.69	6
40	Siskiyou	82.02	82.46	0.44	0
41	Siskiyou	84.16	84.34	0.18	0
42	Siskiyou	87.25	87.41	0.16	2
43	Siskiyou	87.60	88.07	0.47	8
44	Siskiyou	88.95	89.22	0.27	2
45	Siskiyou	89.48	89.82	0.34	5
46	Siskiyou	90.02	90.33	0.31	8
47	Siskiyou	91.03	91.28	0.25	2
48	Siskiyou	91.38	91.80	0.42	6
49	Siskiyou	91.90	92.39	0.49	6
50	Siskiyou	92.73	93.10	0.37	9
51	Siskiyou	93.07	93.30	0.23	4
52	Siskiyou	93.32	93.66	0.34	3
53	Siskiyou	95.00	95.21	0.21	3
54	Siskiyou	96.56	97.11	0.55	14
55	Siskiyou	97.05	97.48	0.43	5
56	Siskiyou	98.52	98.78	0.36	3
57	Siskiyou	98.86	99.30	0.44	12
58	Siskiyou	99.87	100.18	0.31	4
59	Siskiyou	100.28	100.62	0.34	4
60	Siskiyou	102.07	102.45	0.38	6
61	Siskiyou	104.90	105.18	0.28	3
Interstate 5					
I5 Curve Location #	**County**	**Begin PM**	**End PM**	**Length (Miles)**	**Number of Proposed Signs**
1	Shasta	R28.02	R28.33	0.31	3
2	Shasta	R28.61	R29.00R	0.39	2

3	Shasta	R29.70	R29.95	0.25	0
4	Shasta	R31.25	R31.68	0.33	2
5	Shasta	R31.90(L)	R32.46(L)	0.56	4
6	Shasta	R36.75	R37.15	0.40	1
7	Shasta	R37.20	R37.60	0.40	2
8	Shasta	R48.90	R49.26	0.36	1
Interstate 5 Ramps					
I5 Ramp Location #	**County**	**PM**	**Directions**		**Number of Proposed Signs**
13	Tehama	R24.828	SB Off to So. Red Bluff		3
14	Tehama	R26.366	SB On - EB 36		3
15	Tehama	R26.712	NB On - WB 36		1
16	Shasta	R15.266	SEP NB Off to 44		2
17	Shasta	R15.706	SB Off - WB 44		3
18	Shasta	R0.085	EB 44 Off to NB 5		1
19	Shasta	L1.738	WB 44 Off to NB 5		3
20	Shasta	R19.464	SB On from WB Oasis Rd		3
21	Shasta	R22.024	NB On from SR 151		2
22	Shasta	R27.621	NB On from Bridge Bay		1
24	Shasta	R49.176	NB Off to La Moine Rd		2
25	Shasta	53.311	NB Off to Gibson Rd		3
28	Siskiyou	2.926	SB Off to Cen. Dunsmuir		1
29	Siskiyou	2.915	Siskiyou Ave OC		12
30	Siskiyou	R8.278	NB Off to Azlea Rd		4
31	Siskiyou	R8.288	Azlea Rd OC		2
32	Siskiyou	R8.6	SB On from Azlea Rd		6
33	Siskiyou	R10.485	Lake St OC		2
State Route 3					
SR 3 Curve Location #	**County**	**Begin PM**	**End PM**	**Length (Miles)**	**Number of Proposed Signs**
1	Trinity	L0.20	L0.50	0.30	8
2	Trinity	L3.33	L3.69	0.36	7
3	Trinity	L3.78	L4.10	0.32	4
4	Trinity	0.100	0.37	0.37	8
5	Trinity	0.55	0.86	0.31	8
6	Trinity	1.32	1.92	0.60	11
7	Trinity	2.41	2.56	0.15	4
8	Trinity	2.80	2.96	0.16	4

9	Trinity	3.25	3.58	0.33	3
10	Trinity	5.57	6.00	0.57	3
11	Trinity	11.25	11.45	0.20	2
12	Trinity	14.968	15.28	0.312	7
13	Trinity	16.32	16.65	0.33	4
14	Trinity	16.71	17.19	0.48	8
15	Trinity	18.07	18.42	0.37	4
16	Trinity	18.60	18.92	0.32	4
17	Trinity	20.22	20.49	0.27	10
18	Trinity	21.93	22.15	0.28	2
19	Trinity	22.21	22.66	0.45	8
20	Trinity	22.66	22.88	0.22	8
21	Trinity	23.30	23.65	0.35	4
22	Trinity	24.42	24.65	0.33	4
23	Trinity	24.67	25.07	0.40	4
24	Trinity	26.55	27.05	0.50	5
25	Trinity	27.72	27.93	0.21	5
26	Trinity	28.86	29.10	0.32	6
27	Trinity	30.25	30.56	0.31	4
28	Trinity	32.27	32.55	0.28	0
29	Trinity	32.90	33.11	0.21	6
30	Trinity	33.11	33.58	0.47	33
31	Trinity	34.46	34.80	0.34	4
32	Trinity	37.42	37.67	0.25	4
33	Trinity	37.67	37.85	0.18	4
34	Trinity	37.85	38.00	0.15	4
35	Trinity	38.00	38.27	0.27	4
36	Trinity	38.52	38.90	0.48	5
37	Trinity	39.25	39.32	0.07	4
38	Trinity	39.32	39.60	0.28	2
39	Trinity	39.64	39.78	0.14	4
40	Trinity	40.20	40.38	0.18	3
41	Trinity	40.42	40.64	0.22	2
42	Trinity	40.64	40.87	0.23	1
43	Trinity	40.93	41.18	0.25	3
44	Trinity	42.78	43.07	0.29	5
45	Trinity	43.15	43.25	0.10	2
46	Trinity	43.71	44.23	0.52	8
47	Trinity	44.30	44.51	0.21	3
48	Trinity	45.58	46.03	0.45	6
49	Trinity	46.42	46.62	0.20	3

50	Trinity	46.75	47.08	0.33	5
51	Trinity	47.36	47.54	0.18	4
52	Trinity	47.88	48.15	0.27	2
53	Trinity	48.18	48.39	0.21	3
54	Trinity	48.39	48.69	0.30	2
55	Trinity	48.76	49.00	0.24	3
56	Trinity	49.65	50.07	0.43	4
57	Trinity	50.28	50.60	0.32	6
58	Trinity	51.50	51.88	0.38	4
59	Trinity	59.55	60.35	0.80	3
60	Trinity	61.51	61.70	0.19	3
61	Trinity	61.87	62.69	0.82	12
62	Trinity	64.26	64.45	0.19	4
63	Trinity	65.01	65.21	0.20	2
64	Trinity	65.28	65.43	0.15	2
65	Trinity	79.31	R79.66	0.35	2
66	Trinity	84.84	85.09	0.25	3
67	Siskiyou	5.15	5.50	0.35	10
68	Siskiyou	9.35	9.78	0.43	3
69	Siskiyou	34.05	34.45	0.40	0
70	Siskiyou	40.69	41.02	0.33	2
71	Siskiyou	41.95	42.42	0.47	3
72	Siskiyou	42.75	42.97	0.23	2
73	Siskiyou	43.48	43.95	0.47	1
74	Siskiyou	44.02	44.33	0.31	1
75	Siskiyou	51.61	51.85	0.34	1

Minor clearing and grubbing would be required; however, no tree removal is anticipated. Shoulder closure and one-way traffic control will be implemented; one-way traffic control segments will be no more than 0.5 miles long. Construction would have a duration of approximately 133 working days.

Right-of-Way

Caltrans has easements from multiple agencies that may be utilized by this project. Right of Way will send a general letter to the appropriate agencies informing them Caltrans will be replacing signs.

Staging/Stockpiling

All staging would occur in Caltrans Right of Way. One-way traffic control, and shoulder closures will ensure space for staging areas.

Disposal/Borrow Sites

No borrow sites or disposal sites will be needed. If any material needs disposing of, existing disposal sites may be utilized.

Consultation/Coordination

Due to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) being in place notifying the tribes of any work that will be done in the area, consultation with local tribes will occur. Caltrans will consult with the U.S. Forest Service as appropriate.

Utilities

All utilities in proximity to the locations of work would be protected in place; no utility conflicts are anticipated. The Utility Engineering Workgroup and Project Manager confirmed the Install warning signs projects will fall under an exception in the utility cert process as the project qualifies as “exempt work” according to the PDPM - Chapter 17. In addition, slight adjustments in sign locations can be made to avoid utility conflicts in the field.

Railroad

This project features work within and near the Union Pacific Railroad right of way (UPRR R/W). The proposed work within the UPRR R/W includes at the Shasta I-5, curve location 1- PM R28.02/R28.33, curve location 2 - PM R28.61/R29.00R and curve location 13- PM R24.828. At this location five signs will be replaced within UPRR right of way to meet CA MUTCD standards; therefore, a railroad agreement will be required. The Railroad agreement process has been initiated by Design with a plan view exhibit of the existing and proposed signs within the Railroad right of way provided to Right of Way Railroad. A Maintenance Consent Letter will be provided at the PS&E phase.

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