



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

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): Lassen County ITS

DIST-CO-RTE: 02-LAS-36/70/139/395 **PM/PM:** VAR/VAR

EA: 02-2J830 **Federal-Aid Project Number:** 0221000139

Project Description

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), using state funding, is planning to upgrade or replace Transportation Management System (TMS) elements on State Route (SR) 36, 70, 139, & 395 in Lassen County for various post miles.

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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 1f.** (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

Julie McFall

Julie McFall

11/14/2025

Print Name

Signature

Date

Project Manager

Mohammad Rahmani

Mohammad Rahmani

11/18/2025

Print Name

Signature

Date



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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)()**

☐ **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

N/A

Print Name

N/A

Signature

N/A

Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

N/A

Print Name

N/A

Signature

N/A

Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): N/A

Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 10/31/2025

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).



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Continuation sheet:

The project includes the following:

This project proposes to upgrade 17 Traffic Management Systems (TMS) on Routes 36, 70, 139 and 395 in Lassen County.

These system upgrades consist of:

- 5 closed circuit television systems (CCTV)
- 1 changeable message sign (CMS)
- 7 extinguishable message signs (EMS)
- 2 highway advisory radios (HAR)
- 2 roadside weather information systems (RWIS)

It also includes approximately 3,025 linear feet of new fiber optic communication line. Along with these electrical systems, their foundations and support structures, this project will also include construction of four maintenance vehicle pullouts (MVPs) and approximately 675 linear feet of midwest guardrail system (MGS) and 1 new Type 30 Light Standard at a CCTV location.

Co-Rte-PM Location	Type	Proposed Scope
LAS-36-23.79 CDF* (West Susanville)	EMS	Upgrade HAR Flashing Beacon (EMS), replace walkway, replace sign and sign posts, requires trenching (20 LF)
LAS-36-24.04 Townhill	CCTV	Replace walkway, Upgrade CCTV, Install Street Light, requires trenching (110 LF)
LAS-36-26.49 East Riverside	CCTV	Upgrade CCTV, replace walkway
LAS-139-1.27 Skyline Drive	Walkway/MVP	Replace walkway, requires trenching (100 LF), construct MVP Upgrade HAR Flashing Beacon (EMS)
LAS-395-1.59 North of Bug Station** NB	EMS	Upgrade HAR Flashing Beacon, replace walkway, upgrade MGS, replace sign and sign posts, and modify existing MVP
LAS-395-1.59 North of Bug Station** SB	EMS	Upgrade HAR Flashing Beacon, replace sign and sign posts with concrete pad, connect to CMS across highway using existing conduit, construct MVP
LAS-395-1.59 Bug Station** (US 395 at Nevada Border)	HAR	Replace HAR antenna and walkway, requires trenching (530 LF)
LAS-395-21.88 Doyle	CCTV	Upgrade CCTV, no foundation or earthwork
	RWIS	Upgrade RWIS, no foundation or earthwork, fencing



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LAS-395-51.7 Buntingville Road	EMS	Upgrade HAR Flashing Beacon (EMS), replace sign, signposts, and walkway, requires trenching (30 LF), upgrade MGS, construct MVP
LAS-395-53.1 Janesville	CCTV	Upgrade CCTV, no foundation or earthwork
	RWIS	Upgrade RWIS, existing foundation and adding security fencing
LAS-395-60.03 Diane Drive	EMS	Upgrade HAR Flashing Beacon (EMS), replace sign and posts, trench to walkway (345 LF), Replace Walkway
LAS-395-60.06 Susanville	HAR	Replace HAR Antenna and walkway, Install HAR Controller and walkway, requires trenching (175 LF), construct MVP
LAS-395-61.09 SR36-US395	CCTV	Upgrade CCTV, replace walkway, upgrade MGS, modify MVP, communication link to CMC, requires trenching (725 LF)
LAS-70-3.52 Hallelujah Sandhouse	EMS	Upgrade HAR Flashing Beacon (EMS), replace walkway, replace sign and sign posts, communication link to CCTV at US 395, requires trenching (2500 LF)
LAS-70-3.52 Hallelujah Sandhouse WB	CMS	Replace CMS and sign structure with standard plan foundation, replace walkway, upgrade MGS, modify MVP, directional drilling across SR 70 (100 LF)

Purpose: Within the project limits, some TMS elements have reached the end of their service life, have obsolete technology, have lower than desired reliability or do not meet current District 2 TMS standards. In the 2027 delivery year, the TMS elements will be at or beyond their service life, resulting in poor performance.

Need: The purpose of this project is to upgrade or replace TMS elements to improve traffic operations and reliability of the TMC, as well as facilitate accurate, timely, and reliable traveler information. The project will restore the TMS elements to good condition.

Right-of-Way

A Temporary construction easement is required for this project for constructability of the side slopes for the proposed MVP along SR 139 at post mile 1.27.

Staging/Stockpiling

There are multiple pullout locations within Caltrans right of way that can be utilized as staging areas within the project limits. Only existing pullouts will be utilized for staging and stockpiling.

Disposal/Borrow Sites

The project does not propose any disposal or borrow sites. Any excess material or waste will become property of the contractor.

Consultation/Coordination

Caltrans has performed an environmental evaluation consisting of a review of resource



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records and databases, consultation, and coordination with applicable agencies and individuals. Susanville Indian Rancheria shall be present to monitor.

Utilities

All utilities in proximity to the locations of work would be protected in place. If any relocations will be needed, they will be coordinated within Caltrans Right of Way.

Permits

No permits are anticipated for this project.

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Final Audit Report

2025-11-18

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