

THIS NOTICE WAS POSTED

ON December 02 2025UNTIL January 01 2026

REGISTRAR – RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
200 NORTH SPRING STREET, ROOM 360
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION
(California Environmental Quality Act Section 15062)

2025 268625
FILED
Dec 02 2025

Dean C. Logan, Registrar – Recorder/County Clerk

Electronically signed by MARY JOANNE PUAINA

Filing of this form is optional. If filed, the form shall be filed with the County Clerk, 12400 E. Imperial Highway, Norwalk, CA 90650, pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21152 (b). Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21167 (d), the filing of this notice starts a 35-day statute of limitations on court challenges to the approval of the project. Failure to file this notice with the County Clerk results in the statute of limitations being extended to 180 days.

LEAD CITY AGENCY

City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation

COUNCIL

DISTRICT: 4

PROJECT TITLE

Encino Hills Neighborhood Traffic Management Project

COUNCIL FILE NO:

N/A

PROJECT LOCATION

The project location is bounded by Ventura Blvd to the north, White Oak Ave to the west, Woodley Ave to the east, and Mulholland Dr to the south.

DESCRIPTION OF NATURE, PURPOSE, AND BENEFICIARIES OF PROJECT:

The proposed project consists of installing turn restriction signs at intersections in the project area. This project intends to address commuter cut-through traffic in the Encino Hills area.

NAME OF PERSON OR AGENCY CARRYING OUT PROJECT, IF OTHER THAN LEAD CITY AGENCY: N/A

CONTACT PERSON

Silva Abramian

AREA CODE

818-774-4306

TELEPHONE NUMBER

EXT.

EXEMPT STATUS: (Check One)

STATE CEQA GUIDELINES

CITY CEQA GUIDELINES

☐

MINISTERIAL

Sec. 15268

Art. II, Sec. 2b

☐

DECLARED EMERGENCY

Sec. 15269

Art. II, Sec. 2a (1)

☐

EMERGENCY PROJECT

Sec. 15269 (b) & (c)

Art. II, Sec. 2a (2) & (3)

☐

GENERAL EXEMPTION

Sec. 15060.

n/a

☒

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION

Sec. 15300 *et seq.*

Art. III, Sec. 1

Class 1 Category 1(3), 1(15) (City CEQA Guidelines)

OTHER

[as applicable. Most often a Statutory Exemption]

JUSTIFICATION FOR PROJECT EXEMPTION:

The project is exempt under *City CEQA Guidelines* and State CEQA Guidelines. *City CEQA Guidelines* Class 1(3) states a project is exempt if it involves the operation, repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing highways and streets, sidewalks, and gutters involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that previously existing; and does not involve the removal of a scenic resource. Further, *City CEQA Guidelines* Class 1(15) exempts the installation of traffic signs, signals, and pavement markings, including traffic channelization using paint and raised pavement markers. None of the limitations outlined in State CEQA Guidelines 153000.2 applies. See attached narrative (**Attachment A**) for further discussion.

IF FILED BY APPLICANT, ATTACH CERTIFIED DOCUMENT OF EXEMPTION FINDING

SIGNATURE

TITLE

Transportation Engineer

DATE

11/20/2025

FEE: N/A

RECEIPT NO.

REC'D. BY

DATE

DISTRIBUTION: (1) County Clerk, (2) City Clerk, (3) Agency Record

Attachment A

Encino Hills Neighborhood Traffic Management Project

I. Project Description

The proposed project consists of installing turn restriction signs at intersections within the Encino Hills project area. Ventura Boulevard bounds the project area on the north, White Oak Avenue on the west, Woodley Avenue to the east, and Mulholland Drive to the south. This project is in Council District 4. This project aims to address Neighborhood Traffic Management (NTM) concerns brought forward by the community.

II. Project History

At the request of the Los Angeles Council District 4, and the Encino Hills Community, The City performed a traffic assessment of the project area to determine which intersections would benefit from turn restrictions to reduce cut-through traffic. Through a public driven process, Staff compiled candidate locations, applying a rigorous system to analyze crash history, traffic data, roadway geometry, and reviewed constituent and Council requests. The City consequently recommended intersections based on traffic volume data.

III. Environmental Review

Basis for Categorical Exemption

A project qualifies for a Class 1, Category 3 and Class 1(c) exemption if it consists of operation, repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing street, sidewalk and gutter involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that previously existing; and does not involve the removal of a scenic resource. Further, a project qualifies for a Class 1, Category 15 exemption if it consists of the installation of traffic signs, signals and pavement markings, including traffic channelization using paint and raised pavement markers.

Consideration of Potential Exceptions to use of a Categorical Exemption

The State CEQA Guidelines (CCR Sec 15300.2) limit the use of categorical exemptions in the following circumstances:

1. Location. Exemption Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, and 11 are qualified by consideration of where the project is to be located – a project that is ordinarily insignificant in its impact on the environment may be significant in a particular sensitive environment. Therefore, these classes are considered to apply all instances, except where the project may impact an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies. The project is exempt under Class 1 (existing facility), therefore, this exemption has no application here.

2. Cumulative Impact. This exemption applies when, although a particular project may not have a significant impact, the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time, is significant.

While other similar projects are occurring elsewhere in the City, they have been determined to be happening in different neighborhoods, locations, and times. Given the nature of the project, this project is not anticipated to result in a cumulative impact when included with successive projects in the same place and over time.

3. Significant Effect. This exception applies when, although the project may otherwise be exempt, there is a reasonable possibility that the project will have a significant effect due to unusual circumstances.

Aesthetics

This exception applies when a project may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a visual resource. As stated in Section I. *Project Description*, the project only consists of the installation of turn restriction signs in the Encino Hills area in Council District 4. The identified street corridor already has existing signs throughout. As such, this exception does not apply.

Noise

The work shall be performed in accordance with Ordinance No. 144.331, "Noise Regulation" in Chapter XI of the Los Angeles Municipal Code of March 1982. As such, this exception does not apply.

Biological Resources

The proposed project does not involve the loss or alteration to any biological resources. As such, this exception does not apply.

Traffic/Transportation

The work shall be performed in accordance with work area traffic control handbook (WATCH). City construction crews will coordinate with schools and Department of Transportation according to WATCH and provide flaggers when required. When the activity site encroaches upon a sidewalk, walkway or crosswalk area, pedestrians shall be provided advance warning if they are detoured away from the activity site. Advance notification of sidewalk closures shall be provided according to WATCH. At least one lane of traffic in each direction will be maintained at all times. Standard conditions and construction practices are anticipated for this project. No unusual construction noise or traffic effects are anticipated. No reasonable possibility has been identified that the project will have a significant effect due to unusual circumstances. As such, this exception does not apply.

4. Scenic Highways. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources, within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway.

There are no historical and scenic features or a scenic highway at any of the project sites or immediate vicinity of the project, as such this exception does not apply.

5. Hazardous Waste Sites. This exception applies when a project is located on a site listed as a hazardous waste site under Government Code Section 65962.5.

As of November 19, 2025, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) data management system (<http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov>) does not reflect sites of concern in the immediate area in which the project will take place. All project work will be limited to installing signage changes within the existing right-of-way. Therefore, this exception has no application here.

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6. Historical Resources.

This exception applies when a project may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource. The modification of six existing traffic signals throughout the City of Los Angeles will not affect any known local historical resources. The proposed Project would occur on existing streets and with a depth of excavation not exceeding four feet. The depth of demolition and excavation is not anticipated to exceed the depth of previously disturbed soil.

In case of any historical artifacts being encountered, City Engineer Standard Specifications, Section 6-3.2, (Greenbook, 2012) states: "If discovery is made of items of archaeological or paleontological interest, the Contractor shall immediately cease excavation in the area of discovery and shall not continue until ordered by the Engineer." Therefore, during activities in which there will be ground disturbances (i.e., digging, drilling, etc.) if any evidence of archaeological, cultural, or paleontological resources are found, all work within the vicinity of the find shall stop until a qualified archaeologist can assess the finds and make recommendations. No excavation of any finds should be attempted by project personnel unless directed by a qualified archaeologist. Construction activities may continue in other areas. If the discovery proves significant under CEQA (Section 15064.5f; Public Resources Code or PRC 21082), additional work such as testing or data recovery may be warranted.

The discovery of human remains is always a possibility during ground disturbances; State of California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the Los Angeles County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to PRC Section 5097.98. The Los Angeles County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately. If the human remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission, which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendent (MLD). The MLD shall complete the inspection of the site within 48 hours of notification and may recommend scientific removal and nondestructive analysis of human remains and items associated with Native American burials.

In case of unforeseen discovery of cultural resources, measures are in place to manage unanticipated cultural resource finds or discovery of human remains. Therefore, no substantial adverse impact to cultural resources is anticipated.