

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Land Use & Climate Innovation
State Clearinghouse
CEQASubmit.lci.ca.gov

County Assessor/Recorder/Clerk
Attn: Fish and Wildlife Notices
1600 Pacific Highway, Suite 260, MS A-33
San Diego, CA 92101

FROM: County of San Diego, Department of Public Works
Environmental Services Unit
Attn: Anissa Busch
5510 Overland Avenue, Suite 410, MS O-332
San Diego, CA 92123

SUBJECT: FILING OF NOTICE OF EXEMPTION IN COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE SECTION 21108 OR 21152

Project Name: ESTABLISH APPROPRIATIONS IN THE ROAD FUND, ADOPT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SIGNALIZATION, AND AUTHORIZE ADVERTISEMENT AND AWARD OF A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR THREE TRAFFIC SIGNALS IN THE UNINCORPORATED COUNTY AND CEQA FINDING (DISTRICTS: 2 & 5)

Project Location: 1. Lake Jennings Park Rd & El Monte-Julian Ave, Lakeside (District 2)
2. Mission Rd & Santa Margarita Dr, Fallbrook (District 5)
3. Mission Rd & Pepper Tree Ln, Fallbrook (District 5)

Project Applicant: County of San Diego, Department of Public Works
5510 Overland Ave, Suite 410, San Diego, CA 92123

Project Description: To adopt a resolution to formally add intersections to Traffic Resolution No. 303 Relating to the Establishment of Signalized Intersections in the County of San Diego. The request will also establish additional appropriations from the Road Fund fund balance of \$4,200,000 in the current year spending plan for the three traffic signal projects at 1) Lake Jennings Park Rd & El Monte Rd-Julian Ave (\$1,500,000), 2) Mission Rd & Santa Margarita Dr (\$1,500,000) and 3) Mission Rd & Pepper Tree Lane (\$1,200,000) and approve the advertisement and award of a construction contract for all three traffic signals.

Agency Approving Project: County of San Diego

County Contact Person: Murali Pasumarthi Telephone: 858-694-3892


Date Form Completed: February 11, 2026

This is to advise that the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors (County decision-making body) has approved the above described project on February 11, 2026 (#1) and found the project to be exempt from CEQA under the following criteria: **Exempt status and applicable section of the CEQA ("C") and/or State CEQA Guidelines ("G"):** (check only one)

- Categorical Exemption:** Sec. G 15301 - Existing Facilities
 Declared Emergency: Sec. C 21080(b)(3); Sec. G 15269(a)
 Emergency Project: Sec. C 21080(b)(4); Sec. G 15269(b)(c)
 General: Sec. C.
 Ministerial: Sec. C 21080(b)(1); G 15268
 Preliminary Review: Sec. G
 Statutory Exemption: Sec. G

Statement of reasons why project is exempt: Section 15301 of the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines exempts from CEQA review the "operations, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of the existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use." The key consideration is whether the project involves negligible or no expansion of use. The proposed improvements at the three intersections would consist of replacement and/or installation of new traffic signals, pedestrian ramps, continental crosswalks, and traffic operational improvements along the existing County-maintained roadways. The goal of the project is to increase vehicular and pedestrian safety by facilitating existing vehicle and pedestrian movement through the intersections and roadway segments. Therefore, the project is categorically exempt in accordance with Section 15301 of the CEQA Guidelines because it involves the minor alteration of existing public roadways involving negligible or no expansion of existing use.

The following is to be completed only upon formal project approval by the appropriate County of San Diego decision-making body.

Signature:  Telephone: (619) 415-9920
Name (Print): Emily Roberts Title: Environmental Planning Manager

This Notice of Exemption has been signed and filed by the County of San Diego.

This notice must be filed with the Recorder/County Clerk as soon as possible after project approval by the decision-making body. The Recorder/County Clerk must post this notice within 24 hours of receipt and for a period of not less than 30 days. At the termination of the posting period, the Recorder/County Clerk must return this notice to the Department address listed above along with evidence of the posting period. The originating Department must then retain the returned notice for a period of not less than nine months. Reference: CEQA Guidelines Section 15062.