

## Notice of Exemption

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

**From:** Caltrans District 8  
464 W 4<sup>th</sup> St.  
San Bernardino, CA 92401

Project Title BAMIYAN MARKETPLACE # 0193

Project Applicant: Zairey, Inc Attention Ahmad Zaki

Project Location - Specific: Ortega Highway & Grand Ave (SR-74)

Project Location - City: Lake Elsinore Project Location - County: Riverside County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The proposed Encroachment permit project is located in the City of Lake Elsinore (City), in the western portion of Riverside County, California. The project proposes to construct Bamiyan Marketplace, Phase 1 of the project would include the following off-site improvements, which would occur within Caltrans right-of-way (ROW).

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Transportation, District 8

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Transportation, 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(C) , Existing Facilities, 14 CCR § 15301 , Class 2, Section Number: 14 CCR § 15302. Replacement or Reconstruction
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:


This project is exempt under CEQA ( Class 1(C) , Existing Facilities, 14 CCR § 15301 Class 2, Section 15302) Replacement or Reconstruction of existing highway and Street in the same location, involving negligible or no expansion of use, and no

exceptions apply. No work will take place beyond Form adapted from Appendix E of the CEQA Guidelines August 2024.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Gita Tokhmafshan Phone number: 909-501-5742

**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:  Date: 02/19/2026 Title: Sr. Environmental Planner

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.