

## 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, Environmental Planning  
464 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, MS 823  
San Bernardino, California 92401

Project Title: SBD-18 Repair Slope/Embankment

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), District 8

Project Location - Specific: Interstate (I)-18 PM 20.6 to 20.9; I-189 PM 0.16 to 0.26

Project Location - City: Various Project Location - County: San Bernardino

### **Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:**

It is proposed to repair the slope/embankment due to recurring erosion issues. There are two (2) sacked concrete retaining walls that are failing and will be removed and replaced with a sidehill viaduct, cold plane AC pavement, overlaying with Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA), installing stripe and pavement marker delineation, replacement of existing metal beam guardrail with installation of a concrete barrier and Midwest guardrail system, replacement AC dike, installation of a double twisted wire mesh with turf reinforced mat system between SR 189 and SR 18, erosion control coverings, installing a new storm drain, and replacing the existing rip-rap, re-planting trees at 3 to 1 ratio where trees are removed. There will be ROW title perfection with APN#0340-251-02 (Church of Spiritual Technology) for construction of the sidehill viaduct, all other work will be within State ROW.

The purpose of this project is to address the undermining of the roadway, prevent continued erosion of the slope between SR-18 and SR-189, and to prevent erosion on the south side of SR-18, by providing a permanent restoration solution.

There is a need to stop ongoing embankment erosion issues due to water runoff and snow melt, undermining of the roadway, over-turning of the metal beam guardrail, and slope deterioration.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Caltrans, District 8

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Caltrans, 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(d) Section 15301.
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reasons why project is exempt:**

The project consists of the operation, repair, maintenance or minor alteration of existing public structures, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. Restoration or rehabilitation of deteriorated or damaged structures, facilities, or mechanical equipment to meet current standards of public health and safety. All project activities would be conducted on paved areas. There will be ROW title perfection with APN#0340-251- 02 (Church of Spiritual Technology) for construction of the sidehill viaduct, all other work will be within State ROW.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Cesar Garcia

Phone number: (909) 472-1699

**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: Cesar Garcia      Date: 3/17/2026      Title: Senior Env. Scientist

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.