

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

E202610000128

FROM: City of Fresno
Department of CAPITAL PROJECTS
747 R St., 2nd Floor
Fresno, California 93721-4016

FILED

TO: Fresno County Clerk
2220 Tulare Street
Fresno, California 93721

MAY 07 2026 12:21pm TIME

Office of Planning & Research SCH NO.: N/A
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, California 95812-3044

FRESNO COUNTY CLERK
BY Cyan Edmisten
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Cyan Edmisten

Project Title: Grantland Water Main Extension Between Shaw & Gettysburg Avenue, DPU JOB
NO.: 6043. PLAT 1741/1742

Project Location: North Grantland Avenue between Shaw and Gettysburg Avenue in Fresno, California

Project Location – City: City of Fresno **Project Location – County:** County of Fresno

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The City of Fresno (City) proposes the North Grantland Avenue Water Main Extension Project (project). The project is located outside of the existing city limits and would begin near the intersection of North Grantland Avenue and West Shaw Avenue. It would extend south approximately 2,500 feet before turning east for approximately 215 feet along the proposed alignment of West Gettysburg Avenue (Figure 1).

Within the project area, North Grantland Avenue is north-south, two-lane roadway without shoulders. The roadway widens to accommodate a left-hand turn lane near its intersection with West Shaw Avenue, a signalized intersection immediately north of the project area. The one-way, stop-controlled intersection of North Grantland Avenue and West Rialto Avenue falls within the project area, as well.

The project is located within the boundary of the City's West Area Neighborhoods Specific Plan. Existing land use immediately east of the project is agriculture and open space, while land use west of the project is rural residential, primarily consisting of single-family homes.

The project area is not currently served by the City's municipal water system. As part of the proposed project, a 16-inch diameter water main would be constructed along the approximate centerline of North Grantland Avenue. This water main would support forecasted demand in the West Area Neighborhoods Specific Plan. The proposed water main would terminate near the intersection with West Shaw Avenue, where it would connect to an existing 16-inch diameter water line on the west side of North Grantland Avenue. At the southern project terminus, the proposed pipe would connect to an existing 14-inch diameter water pipe. Installation would require excavation to a depth of approximately 5.5 feet, providing a minimum cover of 3.5 feet from the top of the proposed pipe to the ground surface.

Five fire hydrants would be installed within existing roadway right-of-way along the west side of North Grantland Avenue. Each would connect to the proposed water main via a 6-inch diameter pipe. In addition, water main stub connections (ranging between 8 to 16 inches in diameter) would connect to both sides of North Grantland Avenue where service is required.

All the proposed project improvements would occur within the existing rights-of-way; no temporary construction or access easements would be required.

Construction would take approximately 3.5 months, with hours limited to those approved by the City. The proposed water main and associated connections would be installed using open cut construction and existing utilities would be protected during construction. At the completion of construction, pavement, including markings, would be restored to original conditions.

North Grantland Avenue would remain open during construction with traffic control. Access would be maintained for all adjacent properties. A traffic control plan would be approved by both the City and Fresno County prior to construction.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Fresno – Department of Capital Projects, Engineering Division

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Department of Public Utilities, City of Fresno, 2600 Fresno Street, Room 4019 Fresno, CA 93721

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial: PRC § 21080(b)(1); CEQA Guidelines §15268
- Declared Emergency: PRC § 21080(b)(3); CEQA Guidelines §15269(a)
- Emergency Project: PRC § 21080(b)(4); CEQA Guidelines §15269(b) and (c)
- Categorical Exemption:
- Statutory Exemption: PRC § 21080.21

Reasons why project is exempt:

This project is statutorily exempt pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080.21.

Public Resources Code Section 21080.21 states that CEQA does not apply to any project of less than one mile in length within a public street or highway or any other public right-of-way for the installation of a new pipeline or the maintenance, repair, restoration, reconditioning, relocation, replacement, removal, or demolition of an existing pipeline. For purposes of this section, “pipeline” includes subsurface facilities but does not include any surface facility related to the operation of the underground facility.

The proposed North Grantland Avenue Water Main Extension Project qualifies for this statutory exemption because it consists of the installation of a 16-inch diameter water main and fire hydrants within the existing right-of-way of North Grantland Avenue and the proposed alignment of West Gettysburg Avenue. The project would extend municipal water service to support planned development within the City’s West Area Neighborhoods Specific Plan. All construction activities would occur within previously disturbed roadway corridors, no new right-of-way or easements would be required, and the project would not result in significant environmental effects. The project meets this Statutory Exemption because it would construct a new water main less than one mile (5,280 feet) in length with the proposed pipe length of approximately 2,800 feet. Additionally, the project includes installation of fire hydrants as extensions of the water main itself and are therefore not considered to be related to the operation of the underground facilities. These improvements are minor components of the public utility system and are included within the scope of the identified statutory exemption. Construction would be temporary

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(approximately 3.5 months), and the roadway would be restored to existing conditions following completion. Therefore, the project meets the criteria for exemption under Public Resources Code Section 21080.21.

This project is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080.21. Accordingly, a Statutory Exemption, as noted above, has been prepared for the project.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Anthony Aquino, Engineer II **Telephone No.** (559) 621-8863

Signature: Anthony Aquino **Date:** 03/31/2026

Printed Name and Title:

Anthony Aquino, Engineer II
Department of Capital Projects, Utilities & On-Site Project Management Division

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by applicant

Attachments: Categorical Exemption Determination