

Notice of Exemption

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

County Clerk
County of Orange County

From: Caltrans District 12
1750 E. Fourth St. Suite 100
Santa Ana, CA 92705

Project Title: 0W240 Minor A

Project Applicant: Caltrans

Project Location - Specific: SR-73 PM 23.5/23.7

Project Location - City: Irvine

Project Location - County: Orange

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 12 proposes a Minor A Safety Project, 0W240, on SR-73 (San Joaquin Hills Transportation Corridor), in the City of Irvine in Orange County, California. Specifically, this project is located 0.1 mile north of Bison Ave. Overcrossing (OC) and at 0.1 mile south of Macarthur Blvd. OC at Postmiles (PM) 23.5 and 23.7. The primary purpose of the project is to enhance safety and reduce the severity and number of fixed object collisions. The primary need for the project is that current safety devices are non-standard to Manual for Assessing Safety Hardware (MASH) standards. The project will enhance safety and reduce collision severity by upgrading safety devices to meet current MASH standards. The proposed work includes installing concrete barrier guardrail at two locations on existing on/off-ramps and relocating an electrical cabinet. The project utilizes federal and state funds and the disturbed soil area for the proposed project is anticipated to be less than one acre within the State right-of-way (ROW).

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Caltrans District 12

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Caltrans District 12

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: 15301 Class 1(d)
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is exempt under CEQA Section 15301, Class 1(d), because it involves minor alterations of existing public facilities specifically, upgrading existing safety devices and installing concrete barrier guardrail within the existing State right-of-way. The work does not create additional capacity, will not result in significant environmental effects.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Smita Deshpande Phone number: 949-279-8704

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: *Smita Deshpande* Date: 05/12/26 Title: Senior Environmental 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.