

Notice of Exemption

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

From: Caltrans District 8
464 W 4th St.
San Bernardino, CA 92401

Project Title: Director's Order SBD-40 San Bernardino- Truck Fire

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation - District 8

Project Location - Specific:

Interstate 40 (I-40) between Hector Road and the Desert Oasis Rest Area in Newberry Springs.

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

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The proposed Director's Order (DO) project consists of repairing roadway damage caused by the incident on westbound Interstate 40 (I-40) between Hector Road and the Desert Oasis Rest Area in Newberry Springs. The incident involved five vehicles, including three semi-trucks that became fully engulfed in flames. The fire blocked all westbound lanes and caused significant damage to the roadway, including the pavement and the dike. All work will occur in 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, Existing Facilities, 14 CCR § 15301
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:


This project is exempt under CEQA (Class 1) Existing Facility because it consists of minor repair and maintenance of existing facilities with 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: 06/04/2026 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.