

Notice of Exemption

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

County Clerk
County of Alameda
1106 Madison Street
Oakland, CA 94607

From: California Department of Transportation
111 Grand Avenue
Oakland, CA 94612

Project Title: Middle Mile Broadband Network Project: ADF-F17-CD4-UG6; 04-26-6-BB-0549

Project Applicant: Caltrans and American Dark Fiber

Project Location - Specific: Along State Route 17 in the City of Los Gatos, Santa Clara County, California, between Post Miles 6.539 and 6.541.

Project Location - City: Los Gatos

Project Location - County: Santa Clara

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

American Dark Fiber, in coordination with the California Department of Technology, proposes installation of approximately 35 linear feet of new underground fiber optic infrastructure using 4-inch high-density polyethylene conduit with fiber optic cable within Caltrans right-of-way along State Route 17 in the City of Los Gatos, Santa Clara County, California, between Post Miles 6.539 and 6.541. Construction activities include open trenching and installation of associated conduit and fiber optic facilities. All trenching will be conducted in accordance with the traffic control plan, and open trenches will be filled or covered during non-working hours. All work will occur within existing roadway rights-of-way and previously disturbed transportation corridors. No expansion beyond existing rights-of-way is proposed.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Transportation, District 4

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Transportation, District 4

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: _____
- ☒ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: PRC 21080.51

Reasons why project is exempt:

Middle Mile Broadband Initiative (MMBI) projects that are either installed underground or placed aurally along an existing pole in the right-of-way are exempt, under Senate Bill 156, which added section 21080.51 to the PRC.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Brian Gassner

Phone number: (510) 506-0372

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: Brian Gassner Date: 06/30/2026 Title: D4 Environmental Analysis
Branch Chief

☒ 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.

04-26-6-BB-0549 noe-a11y

Final Audit Report

2026-06-30

Created:	2026-06-30
By:	Patrick Co (s144788@dot.ca.gov)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAA-vaL8LuB-Meel4BO7Ly26w0hqvE_vRIh

"04-26-6-BB-0549 noe-a11y" History

-  Document created by Patrick Co (s144788@dot.ca.gov)
2026-06-30 - 3:33:08 PM GMT- IP address: 149.136.25.245
-  Document emailed to Brian Gassner (brian.gassner@dot.ca.gov) for signature
2026-06-30 - 3:54:56 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Brian Gassner (brian.gassner@dot.ca.gov)
2026-06-30 - 3:55:17 PM GMT- IP address: 52.5.236.11
-  Document e-signed by Brian Gassner (brian.gassner@dot.ca.gov)
Signature Date: 2026-06-30 - 6:44:24 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 149.136.25.253 - Signature Appearance Selected: IMAGE
-  Agreement completed.
2026-06-30 - 6:44:24 PM GMT

