

Notice of Exemption

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

From: California Department of Transportation (CalTrans)
1656 Union Street
Eureka, CA 95501

Project Title: HUM-96 Repair Culvert (01-0R001)

Project Applicant: N/A

Project Location - Specific: State Route 96 Post Mile (PM) 26.51

Project Location - City: Unincorporated area Project Location - County: Humboldt

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is proposing emergency repairs to State Route (SR) 96 at post mile (PM) 26.51 in Humboldt County. During December 2025, heavy winter rains and drainage failure caused a sinkhole to develop that undermined the highway shoulder and damaged the embankment and pavement structural section. Repairs will include installation of a new culvert and cutoff wall below the existing concrete apron to keep water from traveling below the existing concrete pad. The purpose of the project is to repair the failed drainage system and roadway facilities. The project is needed to restore the traveled way and protect the public from imminent safety hazards.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Transportation

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

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: Sec. 21080(b)(2);15269(b)

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is an emergency project essential to maintain, repair, or restore property and public services.

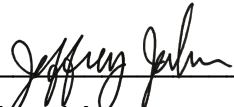
Lead Agency Contact Person: Jeffrey Jahn

Phone number: 530-708-5256

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: 7/28/2026 Title: Environmental Coordinator

☒ 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.