



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To:
Los Angeles County Clerk
Business Filing & Registration
12400 E Imperial Hwy, Room 1101
Norwalk, CA 90650

From:
City of Pasadena
Department of Public Works
100 North Garfield Avenue, N306
Pasadena, California 91101

Project Title: Sierra Madre Blvd. Median Enhancements

Project Applicant: City of Pasadena, Department of Public Works

Project Address: Sierra Madre Blvd. between Washington Blvd. and Michillinda Ave.

Project City: Pasadena **Project County:** Los Angeles

Project Description: The existing landscape median will be replaced with more drought tolerant plants including shrubs and groundcover and new shade trees along the 1.25 mile corridor. The project will also include installation of nature-based solutions and green infrastructure, including bioswales and bioretention, dry rock beds, and drywells to capture dry weather and wet weather surface flows.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Pasadena

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: City of Pasadena, Department of Public Works

Exempt Status (Check one):

- ☐ Ministerial (California Public Resources Code, §21080(b)(1); California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 18, §15268)
- ☐ Declared Emergency (California Public Resources Code, §21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- ☐ Emergency Project (California Public Resources Code, §21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))
- ☒ Categorical Exemption (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, §15301, Class 1, Existing Facilities) as a minor alteration of the street with no or negligible expansion of use.
- ☐ Statutory Exemption (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 18)
- ☐ General Rule (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 5, §15061(b)(3))

Reason why project is exempt: This project is determined to be categorically exempt from environmental review pursuant to the guidelines of the CEQA (Public Resources Code §21080(b) (9); California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, §15301, Class 1, Existing Facilities). Class 1 exempts from environmental review the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. The proposed project consists of enhancing the current medians with stormwater retention improvements—above and below ground—to capture dry weather and surface water flows to improve water quality, increase tree canopy to promote carbon sequestering and enrich aesthetic greening along this heavily urbanized corridor. No expansion of use would occur. There are no features that distinguish this project from others in the exempt class and there are no unusual circumstances. There are also no cumulative impacts of successive projects, the project is not within a highway designated as a state scenic highway, or on a hazardous waste site pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5, and the project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource; no exceptions to the exemption apply. A Notice of Exemption was previously filed for this project.

Lead Agency: City of Pasadena, Public Works Department
Contact Person: Dawn Petschauer **Phone:** (626) 744-3929

COMPLETED BY: Jeff Khun
TITLE: Project Manager
DATE: July 28, 2026

REVIEWED BY: John Bellas
TITLE: Environmental Coordinator
DATE: July 28, 2026

7/28/26