Print Form

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

County Clerk
County of: Santa Clara

From: (Public Agency): Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (Caltrain)
166 N Rollins Road, Millbrae, CA 94030
(Address)

Project Title: Rengstorff Avenue Grade Separation Project

Project Applicant: Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (Caltrain)

Project Location - Specific:

Caltrain corridor and Central Expressway, north of Escuela Ave. to Ortega Ave.; Rengstorff Avenue, 650 ft. north and 600 ft. south of rail corridor

Project Location - City: Mountain View Project Location - County: Santa Clara

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

See attachment.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (Caltrain)

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (Caltrain)

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: 21080.13 - Railroad grade separation project

Reasons why project is exempt:

This project is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 21080.13 of the Public Resources Code (CEQA Guidelines Article 18 § 15282), which provides exemption for any railroad grade separation project that eliminates an existing grade crossing or which reconstructs an existing grade separation.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Michael Tauchen Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (650) 730-4847

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: 9/3/26 Title: Deputy Director, Env. Compliance

▪ Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR:

Revised 2011

☐

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Supplemental Information for the Rengstorff Avenue Grade Separation Project

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Rengstorff Avenue Grade Separation Project spans a t-shaped area formed by Rengstorff Avenue and the Caltrain corridor. Along the Caltrain corridor and the adjacent Central expressway, the Project extends from a point north of Escuela Avenue to a point approximately adjacent to Ortega Avenue, and along Rengstorff Avenue the Project extends approximately 650 feet to the north and approximately 600 feet to the south of the rail corridor. Rengstorff Avenue is a critical north-south route between U.S. Highway 101 and El Camino Real that also serves as a gateway to the technology companies located near the bay to the north of the railroad tracks.

The purpose of and need for the Project is to: (1) improve public safety by eliminating the existing at-grade railroad crossing at Rengstorff Avenue; and (2) improve traffic circulation and emergency response time, and to reduce queuing caused by the frequent rail traffic.

The Project will involve lowering Rengstorff Avenue and its intersection with Central Expressway (County Route G6), which runs parallel to and north of the Caltrain tracks. The low point of Rengstorff Avenue under the railroad tracks will be approximately 22 feet below existing ground level. The Project will reconstruct and slightly realign the two existing Caltrain tracks by approximately five feet to the south, but the two tracks will remain at their current elevation. A 120-foot-long rail bridge will be constructed to carry the tracks over the lowered Rengstorff Avenue.

The existing Leland Avenue and Crisanto Avenue intersections with Rengstorff Avenue, on the south side of the Caltrain train tracks, will be closed due to the proposed lowering of Rengstorff Avenue. A connector roadway will be constructed to maintain access between Rengstorff Avenue and Leland Avenue immediately south of its current location. The Leland Avenue connector roadway will be located along west side of Rengstorff Avenue and connect with Rengstorff Avenue approximately 270 feet south of the existing intersection. A new parking lot will be provided along the Leland Avenue connector roadway to provide 1:1 replacement of existing parking at the La Plaza Market parking lot that is impacted by the project.

Crisanto Avenue will be terminated with a cul-de-sac east of Rengstorff Avenue. A new pedestrian overcrossing will be constructed across the lowered Rengstorff Avenue at Crisanto Avenue to maintain east/west pedestrian/bicycle access between Crisanto Avenue and Leland Avenue that would otherwise cross the existing intersection. Stairs and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant ramps will connect the pedestrian overcrossing with Rengstorff Avenue. Rengstorff Avenue will include cycle tracks and a landscaped buffer between the roadway and flanking sidewalks. Designated bike lanes would be added to Central Expressway approaching the Rengstorff Avenue intersection.

The Project will include several retaining walls and landscaped terraces to provide support for excavation along the lowered portion of roadways.