

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Assessor/Recorder/County Clerk
Attn: Fish and Wildlife Notices
1600 Pacific Highway, Suite 260
San Diego CA 92101
MS: A-33

From: CITY OF CARLSBAD
Planning Division
1635 Faraday Avenue
Carlsbad, CA 92008
(442) 339-5153

Subject: Filing of this Notice of Exemption is in compliance with Section 21152b of the Public Resources Code (California Environmental Quality Act).

Project Number and Title: EMERGENCY BLUFF STABILIZATION NORTH OF ENCINAS CREEK BRIDGE ON THE WEST SIDE OF CARLSBAD BOULEVARD

Project Location - Specific: City right-of-way along the west side of southbound Carlsbad Boulevard, north of the Encinas Creek Bridge and south of Solamar Drive.

Project Location - City: Carlsbad **Project Location - County:** San Diego

Description of Project:

The project involves the Declaration of Local Emergency and completion of emergency bluff stabilization work along the west side of southbound Carlsbad Boulevard, north of the Encinas Creek Bridge. City staff identified coastal bluff erosion on June 25, 2026, and subsequently observed minor changes in pavement cracking along the roadway shoulder. A Sept. 8, 2026, geotechnical technical memorandum identified active ongoing bluff retreat with the potential for additional, unpredictable instability with little to no warning, threatening the integrity of southbound Carlsbad Boulevard and creating a risk to public safety, coastal access, and roadway infrastructure.

Emergency stabilization consists of extending the existing rock revetment approximately 192 feet north through placement of approximately 4- to 8-ton rock rip-rap along the affected bluff. The work may extend into an additional approximately 65-foot portion of the bluff if necessary to address field conditions and stabilize the affected area. The work is limited to that necessary to stabilize the bluff, maintain the continued operation of southbound Carlsbad Boulevard, and prevent or mitigate further erosion and roadway damage. The city has submitted an application to the California Coastal Commission for an Emergency Coastal Development Permit for the emergency work.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Carlsbad

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Brandon Miles, City of Carlsbad, Public Works

Name of Applicant: City of Carlsbad, Public Works

Applicant's Address: 1635 Faraday Avenue, Carlsbad, CA 92008

Applicant's Telephone Number: (442) 339-2745

Name of Applicant/Identity of person undertaking the project (if different from the applicant above):
N/A

Exempt Status: (Check One)

- ☐ Ministerial (Section 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- ☐ Declared Emergency (Section 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- ☒ Emergency Project (Section 21080(b)(2) and (4); 15269 (b) and (c));
- ☐ Categorical Exemption
- ☒ Statutory Exemptions – State code number: PRC Sections 21080(b)(2) and (4); CEQA Guidelines Sections 15269(b) and (c)

☐ Common Sense Exemption (Section 15061(b)(3))

Reasons why project is exempt: The proposed action is statutorily exempt from environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Public Resources Code Sections 21080(b)(2) and (4) and CEQA Guidelines Sections 15269(b) and (c), which apply to emergency repairs to publicly owned facilities necessary to maintain service essential to public health, safety or welfare and other specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency.

The affected coastal bluff is undergoing active erosion and retreat immediately adjacent to southbound Carlsbad Boulevard. The geotechnical evaluation identified the potential for additional, unpredictable instability with little to no warning and determined that the integrity of the roadway is at risk. Immediate stabilization is necessary to maintain the continued operation of southbound Carlsbad Boulevard, protect public safety and roadway infrastructure, and prevent or mitigate further bluff erosion and roadway damage.

Delaying the emergency work could allow additional bluff retreat or failure to occur before stabilization can be completed, increasing the risk to life, property, coastal access, and essential public infrastructure.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Brandon Miles

Telephone: 442-339-2745

NMS

9-10-26

Mike Strong, Director of Community Development

Date

Date received for filing at OPR: