Notice of Exemption

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

County Clerk
County of Los Angeles
12400 Imperial Highway
Norwalk, CA 90650

From: California Department of Transportation, District 7 (DOT)
100 S. Main St. MS16A
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Project Title: HM-3 Bridge Maintenance

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation, District 7 (DOT)

Project Location - Specific: Interstate 5 and State Route 14/14U at various post miles

Project Location - Cities: Santa Clarita, Agua Dulce, and Palmdale

Project Location - County: Los Angeles

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:
The Office of Maintenance Engineering requests environmental clearance for the Plans, Specifications, and Estimates (PS&E) package for Bridge Maintenance (HM-3) Project EA 0Y760 in the cities of Santa Clarita, Agua Dulce, and Palmdale in Los Angeles County. The project includes work at multiple bridge locations along Interstate 5 (I-5) and State Route (SR) 14 and 14U, including Lake Hughes Road UC at I-5 PM R59.49; Sierra Highway UC at SR-14 PM R25.13; Canyon Road Boulevard UC at PM R31.40; Lost Canyon Road UC at PM 32.53; Oak Springs Road UC at PM 33.94; Agua Dulce Road UC at PM 39.85; Santiago Road UC at PM R50.75; Vincent Ramp UC at PM R54.55; California Aqueduct at PM R57.14; Rancho Vista Boulevard UC (left and right) at PM R61.37; Avenue ‘N’ OC at PM R63.67; and the Los Angeles Aqueduct SHV at SR-14U PM T27.37. The project scope includes methacrylate deck treatment, polyester concrete overlay, joint seal replacement, concrete spall repair, bridge rail repair, and erosion backfill work. The purpose of the project is to preserve multiple bridge structures, and there is a need to complete this work now to prevent further deterioration and higher future repair costs. The state-funded project will include polyester overlays, methacrylate treatments, spall repairs, and related maintenance activities, all occurring within Caltrans right of way with no anticipated TCEs, and all access and staging will be within Caltrans right of way. Ground disturbance will consist of up to 1 foot of excavation for erosion backfill, no excavation for rail repair or approach

slab work, and a minimum excavation depth of 6 feet for construction area signs using 6-inch by 6-inch posts. For the spall repair locations, the anticipated saw-cut depth is 1 inch, and for bridge 53-2222 the approximate concrete removal areas are 2 feet by 1 foot by 1 inch and 1 foot by 0.5 foot by 1 inch. Vegetation impacts will be limited to clearing and grubbing beneath Bridge 53-1936 as part of erosion control and backfilling, and the clearing and grubbing information is noted in the plans for the undermined portion of the abutment slope, with no tree trimming or removals anticipated. Traffic handling will involve lane and ramp closures, associated detours, and night work, but no full or extended closures. No utility impacts or relocations are expected, and local roads or access routes will not be affected. Only temporary BMPs will be used during construction, with no new permanent treatment BMPs proposed.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Transportation, District 7 (DOT)

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Transportation, District 7 (DOT)

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: Class 1 (14 CCR §15301(c))
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:
The project qualifies for a CEQA exemption because it involves routine maintenance and preservation of existing bridge facilities, including methacrylate deck treatment, polyester concrete overlay, spall repair, joint seal replacement, bridge rail repair, and limited erosion backfill, with no expansion of use. All work occurs entirely within existing Caltrans right-of-way and does not require tree removal, utility relocation, permanent BMP installation, or other activities that could result in environmental impacts. Ground disturbance is minimal and limited to shallow excavation associated with erosion backfill and temporary construction sign posts. Because the work restores and maintains existing structures without increasing capacity or altering environmental conditions, it meets the criteria of Class 1 (15301).

Lead Agency Contact Person: Nestor Espinoza Phone number: 213-310-2694

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: 10/26/2026 Title: Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisor)

☒ Signed by Lead Agency ☐ Signed by Applicant

Date Received for filing at OPR: 10/26/2026

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

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Final Audit Report 2026-10-26

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