NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

FROM: City of Fresno
Department of CAPITAL PROJECTS
747 R St., 2nd Floor
Fresno, California 93721-4016

TO: ☒ Fresno County Clerk
2220 Tulare Street
Fresno, California 93721

☒ Office of Planning & Research *SCH NO.:* N/A
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, California 95812-3044

***Project Title*:** Traffic Signal Left Turn Phasing at North Millbrook Avenue and East Alluvial Avenue, PW01105

***Project Location*:** Intersection of North Millbrook Avenue and East Alluvial Avenue

Project Location – City: City of Fresno ***Project Location – County:*** County of Fresno

***Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project*:** The City of Fresno, Public Works and Capital Projects Departments, is proposing to construct improvements for the intersection of North Millbrook Avenue and East Alluvial Avenue. The improvements will include the removal and replacement of existing traffic signals to provide new protected left turn phasing of the intersection. The construction will consist of new signal poles, safety lighting, updated signal controllers, signal loops, high visibility crosswalk, advanced stop bars, and allow for the future expansion of Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) equipment. It will also provide curb ramps which comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the installation of ADA compliant pedestrian signal (APS) push button equipment.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project:
City of Fresno – Department of Capital Projects, Design Division

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:
Geoffrey D. Essells, PE, Licensed Professional Engineer

Exempt Status: *(check one)*
☐ Ministerial: PRC § 21080(b)(1); CEQA Guidelines §15268
☐ Declared Emergency: PRC § 21080(b)(3); CEQA Guidelines §15269(a)
☐ Emergency Project: PRC § 21080(b)(4); CEQA Guidelines §15269(b) and (c)
☒ Categorical Exemption: CEQA Guidelines §15301/Class 1, §15302/Class 2
☐ Statutory Exemption: PRC §_____

Reasons why project is exempt: Staff has performed a preliminary environmental assessment of this project and determined that it falls within the Categorical Exemption set forth in CEQA Guidelines Section 15301/Class 1 which exempts projects that relate to the operation, repair, maintenance, leasing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures and facilities involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time. Examples include exterior or alterations including interior partitions, existing streets, gutters, sidewalks, additions to structures that are less than 2,500 square feet.

PW001105
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Staff has performed a preliminary environmental assessment of this project and determined that it falls within the Categorical Exemption set forth in CEQA Guidelines Section 15302/Class 2 which exempts projects that consist of replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced.

The proposed project is consistent with Class 1 and Class 2 exemption. The proposed improvements are minor, do not constitute any expansion of use, and will improve the public right-of-way without increasing capacity. The proposed project involves negligible expansion of the existing use, will be located on the same site as the existing infrastructure, and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity.

None of the exceptions to Categorical Exemptions set forth in the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2 apply to the project. No potential cumulative or significant effects will result from the project. The proposed project will not result in damage to scenic resources. The project is not located on land identified as a hazardous waste site on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code. There are no historic resources on the subject property for which the project may cause a substantial adverse change in significance.

The proposed project complies with all conditions described in Sections 15301/Class 1 and 15302/Class 2 of the California CEQA Guidelines. Based on staff analysis, it was determined that no adverse environmental impacts would occur as a result of the proposed project and none of the exceptions to Categorical Exemptions set forth in the CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 apply to this project. Therefore, a categorical exemption, as noted above, has been prepared for the project.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Geoffrey D. Essells, PE ***Telephone No.*** *(559) 621-5651*

Signature: Geoffrey D. Essells **Date:** 10/12/2026

Printed Name and Title:
Geoffrey D. Essells, PE, Licensed Professional Engineer
Department of Capital Projects, Design Division

☒ **Signed by Lead Agency** ☐ **Signed by applicant**

Attachments: Categorical Exemption Determination

CITY OF FRESNO
CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. PW01105

THE PROJECT DESCRIBED HEREIN IS DETERMINED TO BE CATEGORICALLY EXEMPT FROM THE PREPARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 19 OF THE STATE CEQA GUIDELINES.

APPLICANT: Geoffrey D. Essells, PE
Licensed Professional Engineer
City of Fresno Capital Projects Department
747 R Street, 2nd Floor
Fresno, CA 93721

PROJECT LOCATION: The project is located at the intersection of N Millbrook Ave. and E Alluvial Ave.

(City of Fresno Council District 6)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The City of Fresno, Public Works Department is proposing improvements at the intersection of N Millbrook Ave. and E Alluvial Ave. to enhance traffic flow and safety by modifying the traffic signal to include a protected left-turn phase for all four directions. This upgrade will incorporate new traffic poles, safety lighting, updated signal controller, signal loops, and conduit placement allowing for future expansion of Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) equipment, advanced stop bars, and ADA-compliant curb ramps to ensure accessibility for all users. Additionally, pedestrian countdown heads and accessible pedestrian signals (APS) will be installed to improve communication and safety for pedestrians. The infrastructure will also feature high-visibility crosswalks, significantly enhancing the overall safety and efficiency of the intersection for both vehicles and pedestrians.

This project is exempt under Section(s) 15301/Class 1 and 15302/Class 2 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines. None of the exceptions to Categorical Exemptions set forth in the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2 apply to this project.

EXPLANATION:
Section 15301/Class 1 exemptions, for projects pertaining to Existing Facilities, consist of 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 use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination. Examples include but are not limited to: Existing facilities of publicly owned

utilities used to provide electric power, natural gas, sewerage, or other public utility services; existing highways and streets, sidewalks, gutters, bicycle and pedestrian trails, and similar facilities (this includes road grading for the purpose of public safety) and other alterations such as the addition of bicycle facilities, including but not limited to bicycle lanes, and pedestrian crossings, and other similar alterations that do not create aditional automobile lanes; restoration or rehabilitation of deteriorated or damaged structures, facilities, or mechanical equipment to meet current standards of public health and safety; and, the Addition of safety or health protection devices for use during construction of or in conjunction with existing structures, facilities, or mechanical equipment, or topographical features including navigational devices.

Section 15302/Class 2 consists of replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced.

The proposed project is consistent with Class 1 and Class 2 exemption. The proposed improvements are minor, do not constitute any expansion of use, and will improve the public right-of-way without increasing capacity. The proposed project involves negligible expansion of the existing use, will be located on the same site as the existing infrastructure, and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity.

None of the exceptions to Categorical Exemptions set forth in the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2 apply to the project. No potential cumulative or significant effects will result from the project. The proposed project will not result in damage to scenic resources. The project is not located on land identified as a hazardous waste site on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code. There are no historic resources on the subject property for which the project may cause a substantial adverse change in significance.

The proposed project complies with all conditions described in Sections 15301/Class 1 and 15302/Class 2 of the California CEQA Guidelines. Based on staff analysis, it was determined that no adverse environmental impacts would occur as a result of the proposed project and none of the exceptions to Categorical Exemptions set forth in the CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 apply to this project. Therefore, a categorical exemption, as noted above, has been prepared for the project.

Date: October 12, 2026

Prepared By: Geoffrey D. Essells, PE
Licensed Professional Engineer

Submitted by: Geoffrey D. Essells

Geoffrey D. Essells, PE
Licensed Professional Engineer
City of Fresno
Capital Projects Department
(559) 621-5651