NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

RECEVED

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

2024 JUL 10 A 9 37

FROM: Department of Public Works/Transportation Division

(Lead Department/Division)



Based on a preliminary review of the project the following activity is determined to be exempt from further environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970 (Pub. Res. Code Section 21000 et seq.), as defined in the State CEQA Guidelines and County Revised CEQA Guidelines.

APN(s): NA.

LOCATION: North Santa Barbara County, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Supervisorial Districts.

<u>PROJECT TITLE:</u> Cooperative Agreement and Construction of Measure A North County Safe Routes to School and Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects; Third, Fourth, and Fifth Supervisorial Districts.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This item is on the agenda to approve a cooperative agreement with the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) to receive Measure A North County Safe Routes to School, Bicycle and Pedestrian Program funding for Cycle 4 of the Programs. The projects to be funded with this action are Orcutt School Crossings Safety Improvements (Capital Project) and Safe Route to School in North County (Education and Awareness Programs).

Measure A grants from this program are awarded on a competitive basis. The County successfully applied for \$184,000 in funding to promote safety and connectivity projects in North County. In addition, the County co-sponsored a successful \$140,000 grant application for education and safety training programs throughout North County with the nonprofit MOVE Santa Barbara County.

SBCAG administers the Measure A North County Safe Routes to School, Bicycle & Programs. Cycle 4 of the program spans Fiscal Years 24-25 through 27-28 with \$664,519 in total funding available. This program funds a variety of projects to fill gaps in the regional bicycle/pedestrian network, rehabilitate important infrastructure on the existing network, facilitate bicycle usage, and increase the safety of children walking and riding bikes to school.

The Measure A Investment Plan requires grant award recipients (Sponsors) to execute a Cooperative Agreement with SBCAG (Authority), and all funding recommendations are contingent on an executed agreement. The SBCAG Board approved the recommended list of projects to be funded through Cycle 4 on May 16th, 2024.

Projects to be funded with this action:

Orcutt School Crossings Safety Improvements (Capital Project)

This proposed project will install Leading Pedestrian Interval (LPI) timing signals and audible push buttons at 4 crosswalks at 4 signalized intersections that serve a total of 13 schools, with around 7,000 students, in Orcutt. This project is designed to increase pedestrian comfort and safety which may in turn encourage more walking to school in Orcutt.

LPI signals allow pedestrians to enter the crosswalk 3 to 7 seconds before motor vehicles on the street parallel to the crosswalk are given a green light. By giving pedestrians advance and extra time to enter an intersection, the visibility of those in the crosswalk is improved. In order to add LPI timing, this grant funds the installation of 4 traffic controllers, 24 audible pedestrian push buttons, and staff time for programming and installation.

These 4 intersections were prioritized based on proximity to schools, traffic volumes, and collision history:

- Bradley Rd/Foster Rd
- Bradley Rd/Clark Rd
- Bradley Rd / Rice Ranch Rd
- Clark Ave / Orcutt Rd

The grant includes an 18 percent local match. If approved by your Board, the Department will provide \$40,840 in General Fund – Road Funds to meet the local match requirements.

Safe Route to School in North County (Education and Awareness Programs)

The County co-sponsored this education program provided by MOVE Santa Barbara County. With this funding, MOVE Santa Barbara County will deliver Safe Routes to School programming to 34 public schools in cities and unincorporated areas in the Santa Maria Valley, Lompoc Valley, and Santa Ynez Valley with an anticipated impact of reaching 21,610 students.

All \$140,000 in awarded funding will go directly to MOVE Santa Barbara County to administer this program.

County of Santa Barbara
Public Works Transportation Division

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section: 15301: Class 1, consisting 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 existing or former use for (c) existing highways and streets, sidewalks, gutters, bicycle and pedestrian trails, and similar facilities.

Reasons to support exemption findings: The project involves entering into a cooperative agreement with Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) to receive Measure A North County Safe Routes to School, Bicycle and Pedestrian Program funding for Cycle 4 of the Programs. The projects to be funded with this action are Orcutt School Crossings Safety Improvements (Capital Project) and Safe Route to School in North County (Education and Awareness Programs). Awarded projects entail minor alterations to existing facilities in order to improve pedestrian safety at schools.

There is no substantial evidence that there are unusual circumstances (including future activities) resulting in (or which might reasonably result in) significant impacts which threaten the environment. The exceptions to the categorical exemptions pursuant to Section 15300.2 of the State CEQA Guidelines are:

(a) Location. Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, and 11 are qualified by consideration of where the project is to be located -- a project that is ordinarily insignificant in its impact on the environment may in a particularly sensitive environment be significant. Therefore, these classes are considered to apply all instances, except where the project may impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 is a Class 1 exemption; therefore, this exception does not apply as this area is not in a mapped environmentally sensitive habitat area or in an officially mapped area of severe geologic hazard or officially designated (by federal, state, or local government action) scenic area.

(b) Cumulative Impact. All exemptions for these classes are inapplicable when the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time is significant.

The project involves the reconfiguration of public parking stalls in existing public road. There are no other projects proposed in the same area, thus this exception does not apply.

(c) Significant Effect. A categorical exemption shall not be used for an activity where there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.

The project does not involve and is not located in any wetland or an officially designated environmentally sensitive habitat area, or in officially mapped areas of severe geologic hazard. Therefore, are no unusual circumstances which would create a possibility that there would be a significant effect on the environment and this exception does not apply.

(d) Scenic Highways. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees,

historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources, within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway. This does not apply to improvements which are required as mitigation by an adopted negative declaration or certified EIR.

The project does not involve a scenic highway or a project which may result in damage to a scenic resource, rock outcropping or similar resources. Therefore, this exception does not apply

(e) Hazardous Waste Sites. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

There are no hazardous wastes site or permitted facilities are located in the area. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

(f) Historical Resources. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

The site involved is not identified as a historical resource. The project area was reviewed and it was determined there are no cultural or historical resources in the project area. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

Lead Agency Contact Person: <u>Mostafa Estaji</u>, <u>Deputy Director</u>, <u>Public Works-Transportation</u> <u>Division</u>, Phone: (805) 568-3064.

Department/Division Representative: <u>Kalani Durham, Engineering Environmental</u> Planner/Coordinator.

Acceptance Date: July 9, 2024

Kalani Durhan	ι	June 13, 2024
Kalani Durham	Department Representative	Date
NOTE: To comply with County approval to begin a 35-day statue	of limitations on legal challenges.	vith the County Clerk of the Board after project
Distribution: Date Filed b	y County Clerk:	1/24



2023 CEQA Transmittal Memorandum

County of Santa Barbara - Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

105 E. Anapamu St. Room 407 • Santa Barbara • CA • 93101 (805) 568-2240

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	Phone	
	805-	568-3094
	Lead Ag	ency Email
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e A North County Safe Routes to School ar	nd Bicycle	and Pedestrian Project
Email	Phone	
esanford@countyofsb.org	805-	568-3337
City	State	Zip
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Journal Entry

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Created On: 6/24/2024 11:07:21 AM Created By: Lori Griffin-Lynch

Cash Type: 1 - Interfund References Audit Trail: 06/24/24

Accounting

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Dept. of Public Works - Transportation	yluna@countyofs	b.org		07/10/202	24	
COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING				DOCUMENT N	IUMBER	
Santa Barbara						
PROJECT TITLE						
Cooperative Agreement and Construction of Measure A Nort	h County Safe Routes	to School ar	nd Bio	ycle and Ped	estrian Pro	ject
PROJECT APPLICANT NAME	PROJECT APPLICANT E	MAIL		PHONE NUMB	ER	
Eve Sanford	esanford@count	yofsb.org		(805) 568-	3337	
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS	CITY	STATE		ZIP CODE		
123 E. Anapamu St	Santa Barbara	CA		93101		
PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)						
✓ Local Public Agency School District	Other Special District	☐ Sta	ite Ag	ency	Private E	ntity
CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:			_			0.00
☐ Environmental Impact Report (EIR)		\$4,051.25				0.00
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☐ CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)						
☐ Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)						
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☐ Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources	Control Board only)	\$850.00	\$_			0.00
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