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NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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) Right of Way. Project No. 862415

LOCATION: Jalama Road at Mile Post 4.3 in the Third Supervisorial District.

PROJECT TITLE: Jalama Road Culvert Replacement at Mile Post 4.3

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Approve the Jalama Road Culvert Replacement at Mile Post (MP) 4.3 and Authorize the Director of Public Works to proceed with right-of-way negotiations for the potential purchase of Temporary Construction and Permanent Easements in support of the Jalama Road Culvert Replacement.

The Jalama Road Culvert Replacement Project proposes to replace existing culverts at Jalama Road MP 4.3, with a larger culvert, to allow for greater capacity to solve a long-term risk associated with roadway failure at the project location. The culvert will be sized to convey a discharge equal to or less than the 50-year recurrence interval flow. The existing culvert is a 195-foot long, 30-inch diameter corrugated steel pipe with two equal-sized 30-inch inlets that join under the road fill. The inlet area will be graded to create one low point that directs flow into the inlet. A headwall will be constructed so that the inlet directs water flow into the culvert. Rock rip rap will be installed to protect the outlet areas from erosion in conjunction with an energy dissipater at the culvert outlet to minimize scour and erosion.

This exemption considers all further administrative activities for this project such as the Statement of Final Quantities.

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Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Santa Barbara

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Public Works Transportation Division

Exempt Status: (Check one)

- Ministerial
 Statutory Exemption
 Categorical Exemption 15301(c)
 Emergency Project
 Declared Emergency

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section: 15301(c) Existing Facilities – Class 1 consists 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. The types of “existing facilities”, itemized below are not intended to be all inclusive of the types of projects which might fall within Class 1. The key consideration is whether the project involves negligible or no expansion of an existing use. Examples include but are not limited to: (c) Existing highways and streets, sidewalks, gutters, bicycle and pedestrian trails, and similar facilities (this includes road grading for the purpose of public safety).

Reasons to support exemption findings: Consistent with this exemption, this proposed project involves the repair and maintenance within an existing road drainage facility. The project allows for a replacement culvert to project the existing roadway facility. Further, there are no unusual circumstances which would create a possibility that there would be a significant effect. Therefore, this project can be found to be categorically exempt from CEQA.

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.

- (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 projects involve the repair and maintenance of an existing roadway to protect the vehicle travel-way from erosion. In addition, there are no other identified projects which would contribute to cumulative impacts. Therefore, 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 involves routine repairs to a public road facility for the traveling public. The project will occur where no sensitive resources are located. Therefore, 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, or removal of protected or specimen trees in the public right of way, rock outcropping or similar resource. 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 locations in the roadway right of way. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

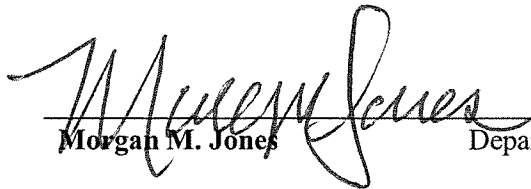
- (f) Historical Resources. A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.**

The roadways involved are not identified as a historical resource. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Chris Sneddon, Deputy Director, Public Works-Transportation Division, Phone: (805) 568-3064

Department/Division Representative: Morgan M. Jones, Senior Engineering Environmental Planner,

Acceptance Date: **February 2, 2021**
Distribution: Hearing Support Staff for posting

 _____ December 23, 2020
Morgan M. Jones Department Representative Date

NOTE: A copy of this document must be posted with the County's Planning & Development Department at least 6 days prior to consideration of the activity by the decision-makers to comply with County CEQA guidelines and a copy must be filed with the County Clerk of the Board after project approval to begin a 35-day statute of limitations on legal challenges.

Distribution: Date filed with Planning & Development _____.

Distribution: Date Filed by County Clerk: _____.

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