

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Making Conservation
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January 19, 2021

Ms. Kristin Parsons
Project Manager
City of Elk Grove
8401 Laguna Palms Way
Elk Grove, CA 95758

03-City of Elk Grove
RPSTPL 5479(060)
Arterial Roads Rehabilitation

Dear Ms. Parsons:

Enclosed is a copy of the completed Categorical Exclusion (CE) for the Arterial Roads Rehabilitation Project. Our evaluation was based on the information contained in the PES.

We agree with the determination of the PES including the conclusion that the project qualifies for a Categorical Exclusion (CE) in accordance with the code of Federal Regulations Title 23, Section 771.112(c)(3). It is evident that no significant environmental impacts could occur as a result of this project. The City of Elk Grove is responsible for ensuring that all required minimization measures are incorporated into the project design and included in the construction contract.

This completes the requirement for conformance with the National Environmental Policy Act and other federal environmentally-related processes. Questions may be directed to Thaleena Bhattal, Caltrans Environmental Coordinator, at (530) 821-8301.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura Loeffler".

Laura Loeffler, Branch Chief,
North Region, Division of Environmental
Environmental Management, M-1 Branch

Enclosures



**CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
DETERMINATION FORM (rev. 05/2020)**

Project Information

DIST-CO-RTE: 03-City of Elk Grove **PM/PM:**

EA: **Federal-Aid Project Number:** RPSTPL 5479(060)

Project Description

The City of Elk Grove, in coordination with Caltrans, proposes to reconstruct and rehabilitate roadside shoulders to provide bicycle lanes in each direction along sections of Waterman Road, Elk Grove Florin Road, and Elk Grove Blvd. Roadway shoulders are being modified to accommodate bicycle lanes in each direction while maintaining the existing one-travel lane in each direction. The number of travel lanes, turn-pocket lanes, and traffic signals remain the same after construction.

Caltrans CEQA Determination (Check one)

- Not Applicable** – Caltrans is not the CEQA Lead Agency
- Not Applicable** – Caltrans has prepared an IS or EIR under CEQA

Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the project is:

- Exempt by Statute.** (PRC 21080[b]; 14 CCR 15260 et seq.)
- Categorically Exempt. Class Enter class.** (PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15300 et seq.)
 - No exceptions apply that would bar the use of a categorical exemption (PRC 21084 and 14 CCR 15300.2). See the SER Chapter 34 for exceptions.
- Covered by the Common Sense Exemption.** This project does not fall within an exempt class, but it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity may have a significant effect on the environment (14 CCR 15061[b][3].)

Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

N/A <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> Print Name	N/A <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> Signature	N/A <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> Date
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Project Manager

N/A <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> Print Name	N/A <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> Signature	N/A <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> Date
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Caltrans NEPA Determination (Check one)

Caltrans has determined that this project has no significant impacts on the environment as defined by NEPA, and that there are no unusual circumstances as described in 23 CFR 771.117(b). See SER Chapter 30 for unusual circumstances. As such, the project is categorically excluded from the requirements to prepare an EA or EIS under NEPA and is included under the following:

[X] 23 USC 326: Caltrans has been assigned, and hereby certifies that it has carried out the responsibility to make this determination pursuant to 23 USC 326 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated April 18, 2019, executed between FHWA and Caltrans. Caltrans has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under:

[X] 23 CFR 771.117(c): activity (c)(3)

[] 23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)(Enter activity number)

[] Activity Enter activity number listed in Appendix A of the MOU between FHWA and Caltrans

[] 23 USC 327: Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, Caltrans has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under 23 USC 327. The environmental review, consultation, and any other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by Caltrans pursuant to 23 USC 327 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated December 23, 2016 and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.

Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

Laura Loeffler

Print Name

Laura Loeffler

Signature

01/19/21

Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Cindy Root

Print Name

Cindy Root

Signature

1/20/2021

Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion: 10/1/20

Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: N/A

The project will include pavement rehabilitation or surface pavement treatment (as deemed necessary where there are damaged sections of pavement) on sections of Waterman Road and Elk Grove Florin Road, and, as needed, will widen roadway shoulders to accommodate Class 2 bike lanes with the goal of providing continuous bike routes in Eastern Elk Grove. The bicycle and pedestrian improvements and pavement rehabilitation will take place on the following segments:



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1. Waterman Road – approximately 700 feet south of Bond Road to 850 feet north of Rancho Drive.
2. Waterman Road – approximately 850 feet north of Rancho Drive to Elk Grove Blvd.
3. Waterman Road – approximately 80 feet north of Dino Drive/Mainline Drive to Kent Street.
4. Waterman Road – Kent Street to approximately 400 feet south of Brinkman Court.
5. Waterman Road – approximately 400 feet south of Brinkman Court to Mosher Road.
6. Waterman Road – Mosher Road to approximately 1,000 feet south of Mosher Road.
7. Waterman Road – approximately 1,000 feet south of Mosher Road to Grant Line Road.
8. Elk Grove Florin Road – Elk Grove Blvd to Valley Oak Lane.

Segments 1, 5, and 6 will rehabilitate pavement and widen shoulders to accommodate a Class 2 Bike Lane in both directions.

Segments 2, 3, 4, 7, and 8 will have pavement rehabilitation or surface pavement treatment, and restriping to provide a Class 2 Bike Lane in both directions.

The project will create a new at-grade, mid-block pedestrian crossing along Elk Grove-Florin Road between Cadura Circle and Plaza Park Drive; extend an existing sidewalk segment on the western side of Waterman Road to the Laguna Creek Trail entrance/parking area.

At the existing bridge crossing of Laguna Creek and Elk Grove Creek, the proposed improvements are limited to resurfacing of the existing street surface. No work will occur outside the existing paved surface of the bridges.

Drainage improvements are limited to adjusting or relocating existing drainage systems components to conform to the wider shoulders. Existing drainage culverts at driveways will be replaced.

Purpose and Need Statement:

Need statement: Sections along portions of Waterman Road, Elk Grove Florin Road, and Elk Grove Boulevard have dilapidated pavement conditions and do not provide an area designated for bicyclists or pedestrians.

Purpose statement: Prevent further deterioration that would likely result in costlier replacement of pavement in the future. Meet the goals identified within the City of Elk Grove's 2014 Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Trails Master Plan by constructing wider shoulders to install a Class 2 bicycle facility.



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Implementation of the project will extend the useful life of the pavement, improve ride quality for both motorists and cyclists, and will fill in gaps in the existing Class 2 bike lane network in East Elk Grove, especially along Waterman Road.

Utilities and Right of Way:

Existing utilities will be relocated, but all work will be located within the existing right of way.

No right of way acquisitions or easements are needed for this project.

The City and Contractor are responsible for acquiring any necessary permits or authorizations from any jurisdictional resource and permitting agencies.

Biology:

- Conduct environmental awareness training.
- Install temporary barrier fencing and/or flagging to protect environmentally sensitive habitat areas.
- Conduct periodic monitoring visits.
- Implement best management practices (BMPs) to protect water quality.
- No vehicle or equipment activity outside of construction footprint.
- Conduct pre-construction tree survey.
- Restrict ground-disturbing activities to the dry season (typically April 15 to October 15).
- Implement erosion control.
- Conduct a preconstruction survey for Western Spadefoot.
- Implement measures to protect Burrowing Owl.
- Conduct a preconstruction nesting migratory bird and raptor survey and establish no-disturbance buffers, if necessary.

Environmental Commitment

Changes to the drainage system are not anticipated in this project that could affect Waters of the U.S. Construction related BMPs would be implemented. Any new ditches that will be constructed as part of the project will mimic the existing hydrology present within the project area by continuing to isolate Waters of the U.S. in the Biological Study Area from the roadways by conveying stormwater flows from the roadways into the existing drainage system adjacent to roadways. In this way, Waters of the U.S. surrounding the project area will be unaffected by grading and unaffected by increasing the amount of impervious surfaces (shoulder widening) associated with the project because the excavated roadside ditches will function like the existing roadside ditches by continuing to isolate waters of the U.S. in the BSA from stormwater flows from the road.



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Hazardous Waste:

- Based on the project activities and the results of the site record investigation, a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment (Preliminary Site Investigation) shall be completed prior to final design.