

**CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION/ CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM**

03 – BUT City of Chico

CML 5037 (020)

Dist.-Co.-Rte. (or Local Agency)

P.M/P.M.

E.A. (State project)

Federal-Aid Project No. (Local project)/ Proj. No.

**CHANGE FOR CITY OF CHICO PROJECT**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

(Briefly describe project, purpose, location, limits, right-of-way requirements, and activities involved.)

The City of Chico proposes improvements along segments of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> streets in the City's Downtown core to promote non-motorized modes of travel for a "complete street" to facilitate and enhance all modes of travel. The project consists primarily of restriping current bi-directional traffic flows on segments of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2nd streets to one-way traffic flows within the (continued)

**CEQA COMPLIANCE** (for State Projects only)

Based on an examination of this proposal, supporting information, and the following statements (See 14 CCR 15300 et seq.):

- If this project falls within exempt class 3, 4, 5, 6 or 11, it does not impact an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped and officially adopted pursuant to law.
- There will not be a significant cumulative effect by this project and successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time.
- There is not a reasonable possibility that the project will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.
- This project does not damage a scenic resource within an officially designated state scenic highway.
- This project is not located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Govt. Code § 65962.5 ("Cortese List").
- This project does not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

**CALTRANS CEQA DETERMINATION** (Check one)

Exempt by Statute. (PRC 21080[b]; 14 CCR 15260 et seq.)

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

Categorically Exempt. Class \_\_\_\_\_. (PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15300 et seq.)

Categorically Exempt. General Rule 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 (CCR 15061[b][3])]

Print Name: Environmental Branch Chief

Print Name: Project Manager/DLA Engineer

Signature

Date

Signature

Date

**NEPA COMPLIANCE**

In accordance with 23 CFR 771.117, and based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the State has determined that this project:

- does not individually or cumulatively have a significant impact on the environment as defined by NEPA and is excluded from the requirements to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and
- has considered unusual circumstances pursuant to 23 CFR 771.117(b) (<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/hep/23cfr771.htm> - sec. 771.117).

In non-attainment or maintenance areas for Federal air quality standards, the project is either exempt from all conformity requirements, or conformity analysis has been completed pursuant to 42 USC 7506(c) and 40 CFR 93.

**CALTRANS NEPA DETERMINATION** (Check one)

Section 6004: The State has been assigned, and hereby certifies that it has carried out, the responsibility to make this determination pursuant to Chapter 3 of Title 23, United States Code, Section 326 and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) dated June 7, 2010, executed between the FHWA and the State. The State has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under:

23 CFR 771.117(c): activity (c)(\_\_\_\_)

23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)(3)

Activity \_\_\_\_ listed in the MOU between FHWA and the State

Section 6005: Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the State has determined that the project is a CE under Section 6005 of 23 U.S.C. 327.

Susan D. Bauer

Felicia Haslem

Print Name: Environmental Branch Chief

Print Name: Project Manager/DLA Engineer

*Susan D. Bauer*

12/13/10

*Felicia Haslem*

12/13/10

Signature

Date

Signature

Date

Briefly list environmental commitments on continuation sheet. Reference additional information, as appropriate (e.g., air quality studies, documentation of conformity exemption, FHWA conformity determination if Section 6005 project; §106 commitments; §4(f); §7 results; Wetlands Finding; Floodplain Finding; additional studies; and design conditions). Revised June 7, 2010

**CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION/CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM**  
**Continuation Sheet**

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Continued from page 1:

existing right-of-way. Improvements include conversion of 1<sup>st</sup> Street to one-way (west bound) from the intersection of Flume, Camellia, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Streets to Salem, and conversion of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to one-way (east bound) from Broadway to the intersection of Flume, Camellia, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Streets. The project includes the addition of bicycle lanes on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Streets, pedestrian bulb-outs at several locations, a traffic “drop-off” circle located at 1<sup>st</sup> and Salem, a round-a-bout at the intersection of Flume, Camellia, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Streets intersection, restriping areas along 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Salem, Wall and Flume Streets to establish additional diagonal parking spaces, installation of parking kiosks at midblock locations to support the new parking spaces, and planting landscape trees in existing locations where trees are damaged or missing and in new locations created in conjunction with intersection corner bulbing.

Based on project evaluation, it has been determined that no adverse environmental impacts will result from the proposed project with implementation of the following minimization measures:

### **Environmental Commitments**

#### **Biology**

##### **Measure 1: Minimization Measure for Migratory Bird Treaty Act**

- All trees that will be impacted by project construction will be removed during the non-nesting season (between September 16 and February 28). If this is not possible and project construction is to begin during the nesting season (March 1 – September 15), all suitable nesting habitat within 30 m (100 ft) of the limits of work shall be surveyed by a qualified biologist prior to initiating construction-related activities. Surveys will be conducted no more than 14 days prior to the start of work. If an active nest is discovered, a 30 m (100 ft) buffer shall be established in the Biological Study Area (BSA) around the nest tree and delineated using orange construction fence or equivalent. The buffer shall be maintained in place until the end of the breeding season or until the young have fledged, as determined by a qualified biologist.
- In some instances, the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) may approve decreasing the specified buffers with implementation of other avoidance and minimization measures (e.g., having a qualified biologist on-site during the nesting season to monitor nesting activity). If no nesting is discovered, construction can begin as planned. Construction beginning during the non-nesting season and continuing into the nesting season shall not be subject to these measures.

#### **Cultural Resources**

##### **Measure 2: Minimization Measure for Cultural Resources**

- A qualified archaeological monitor will be present at all times during construction earth work for the round-a-bout at the Flume Street location.
- If buried archaeological resources are found during construction, a Late Discovery Plan will be implemented to identify and protect these resources.