

**CITY OF FRESNO
CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. P18-01643**

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: City of Fresno
Department of Transportation – Fresno Area Express (FAX)
2223 “G” Street
Fresno, CA 93706

PROJECT LOCATION: The proposed project is located along the Shaw Avenue corridor between Valentine and Cedar Avenues; and, along the Cedar Avenue corridor between Shaw and Jensen Avenues in the City and County of Fresno (as shown on attached Exhibit A).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed project includes new bus stop improvements within existing public street rights-of-way at multiple intersections along the Shaw Avenue and Cedar Avenue corridors. Proposed improvements include: replacement and construction of new bus shelters, benches, hand rails, trash receptacles, and associated signage at bus stop locations; replacement and installation of new AC pavement and concrete curb, gutter, sidewalk, bus pads, ramps and truncated domes at bus turnouts; installation of lighting and solar LED fixtures, electrical pull boxes and conduit for shelter facilities and furnishings; replacement of disturbed landscaping (not including removal of mature trees) and replacement and installation of new irrigation systems. The proposed project will also include minor acquisitions of public rights-of-way easements behind bus stop locations at a limited number of street intersection corners for ADA compliance purposes where no impacts will occur to adjacent private property. No permanent traffic lane removals or changes will occur.

This project is exempt under Section(s) 15301/Class 1, 15302/Class 2, 15303/Class 3, 15304/Class 4, 15311/Class 11 of the State of California CEQA Guidelines.

EXPLANATION:

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); Restoration or

rehabilitation of existing facilities to meet current standards of public health and safety; the Addition of safety or health protection devices for use in conjunction with existing facilities, including navigational devices; Maintenance of existing landscaping, native growth, and water supply; and, Demolition and removal of individual small structures, including accessory (appurtenant) structures.

Class 2 exemptions, for projects involving Replacement or Reconstruction, 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. Examples include but are not limited to: Replacement of structures with new structures of substantially the same size, purpose, and capacity; Replacement or reconstruction of existing utility systems and/or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity; and, Conversion of overhead electric utility distribution systems to underground including connection to existing overhead electric utility distribution lines where the surface is restored to the condition existing prior to the undergrounding.

Class 3 exemptions, for projects proposing New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures, consist of the construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and, the conversion of existing small structures from one use to another where only minor modifications are made to the exterior of the structure. Examples include but are not limited to: Water main, sewage, electrical, gas and other utility extensions, including street improvements of reasonable length to serve such construction; and, Accessory (appurtenant) structures.

Class 4 exemptions, for projects involving Minor Alterations to Land, consist of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes. Examples include but are not limited to: Grading of land with a slope of less than 10 percent; Filling of earth into previously excavated land with compatible materials; New gardening or landscaping, including the replacement of existing conventional landscaping with water efficient or fire resistant landscaping; Minor trenching and backfilling where the surface is restored; and, The creation of bicycle lanes on existing rights-of-way.

Class 11 exemptions, for projects involving Accessory Structures, consist of construction, or placement of minor structures accessory to (appurtenant to) existing commercial, industrial or institutional facilities, including but not limited to on-premise signs and small parking lots.

The proposed project includes only minor alterations and upgrades which will not negatively impact the existing characteristics of the respective areas or the condition of land. The project will repair, replace or construct new public and alternative transportation/transit improvements, facilities and structures within public rights-of-way and will provide enhancements for public health and safety purposes within public streets and at street intersections. No mature trees will be removed and disturbed vegetation will be replaced with new irrigation. The proposed project will positively contribute to promoting reductions in vehicle miles traveled, automobile delays and to greenhouse gas emissions through the


further development of multimodal transportation networks

The proposed project complies with all conditions described in 15301/Class 1, 15302/Class 2, 15303/Class 3, 15304/Class 4, and 15311/Class 11 of the California CEQA Guidelines. There is no substantial evidence in the record that any of the exceptions to these Categorical Exemptions, set forth in CEQA Guidelines section 15300.2, apply to this project.

No adverse environmental impacts will occur as a result of the proposed project.

Date: July 27, 2018

Prepared By: Will Tackett, Supervising Planner

Submitted By: 
Will Tackett, Supervising Planner
City of Fresno
Development & Resource Management
Department
(559) 621-8277

