## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

**FROM:** City of Fresno Development and Resource Management 2600 Fresno Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Fresno, California 93721-3604

TO: X Fresno County Clerk 2220 Tulare Street Fresno, California 93721

> \_\_\_\_Office of Planning & Research SCH NO.: N/A P.O. Box 3044, Room 212 Sacramento, California 95812-3044

**Project Title:** Environmental Assessment No. EA-17-016-HSR (Public Works File No. 12247) **Project Location:** 0.4 acre portion of North Thorne Ave located between Belmont Avenue and West Franklin Avenue

Project Location – City: City of Fresno Project Location - County: County of Fresno

**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:** The portion of North Thorne Avenue described above has become isolated due its previous use as a one-way southbound road only. The impact of the HSR project has completely cut access to Thorne Avenue from Belmont Avenue on the north, thereby making that portion unusable. Leaving that portion of Thorne as it is would be inefficient and instead could serve a better purpose. Vacating this portion of right-of-way will be beneficial to Calaveras Materials in that it will potentially alleviate ingress and egress issues created by a loss of property as a consequence of the HSR project.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Fresno Public Works Department

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Terry Marshall, Calaveras Materials Inc.

### Exempt Status: (check one)

- Ministerial PRC § 21080(b)(1); CEQA Guidelines §15268
- Declared Emergency PRC § 21080(b)(3); CEQA Guidelines §15269(a)
- Emergency Project PRC § 21080(b)(4); CEQA Guidelines §15269(b) and (c)
- X Categorical Exemption CEQA Guidelines §15301/Class 1
- Statutory Exemption PRC §\_\_\_\_\_

### Reasons why project is exempt:

Section 15301/Class 1 (b, c) Existing Facilities 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. Example include but are not limited to: Existing facilities of both investor and publicly owned utilities used to provide electric power, natural gas, sewerage, or other public utility services; and, existing highways and streets, sidewalks, gutters, bicycle and pedestrian trails, and similar facilities (this includes road grading for the purpose of public safety).

Furthermore, none of the exceptions to the Categorical Exemptions set forth in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 apply to the project.

| Lead Agency | Contact | Person: | Ralph Kachadourian |
|-------------|---------|---------|--------------------|
| Signature:  | 1       | lle     |                    |

Telephone No. (559) 621-8172

Date: <u>8-18-17</u>

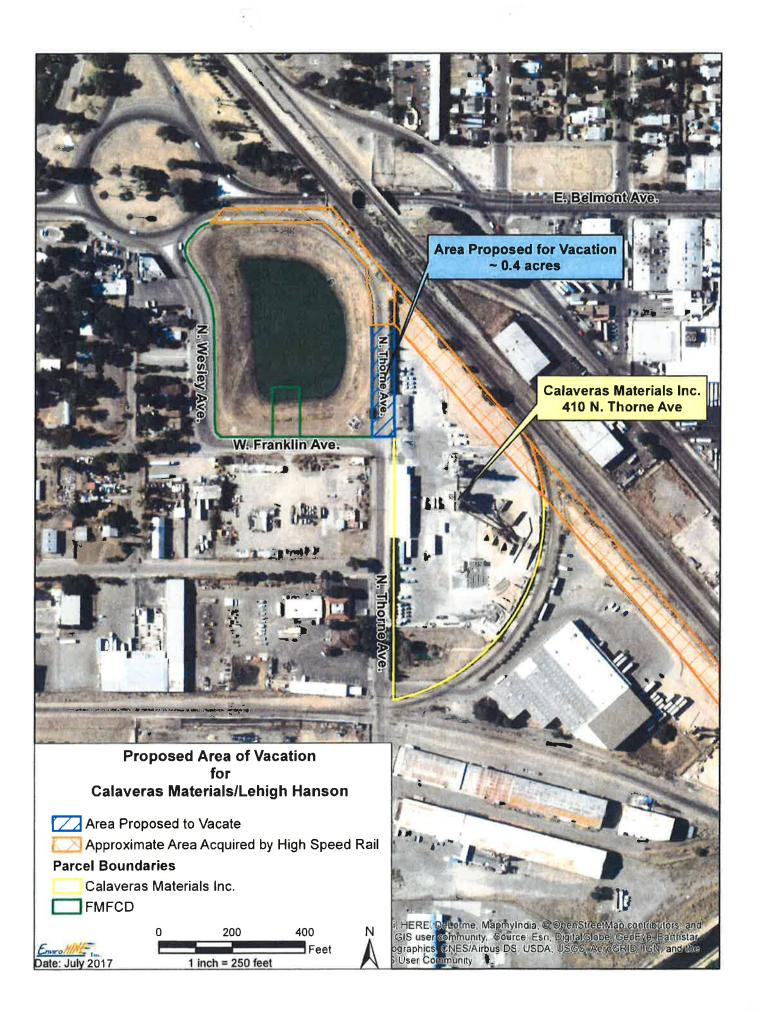
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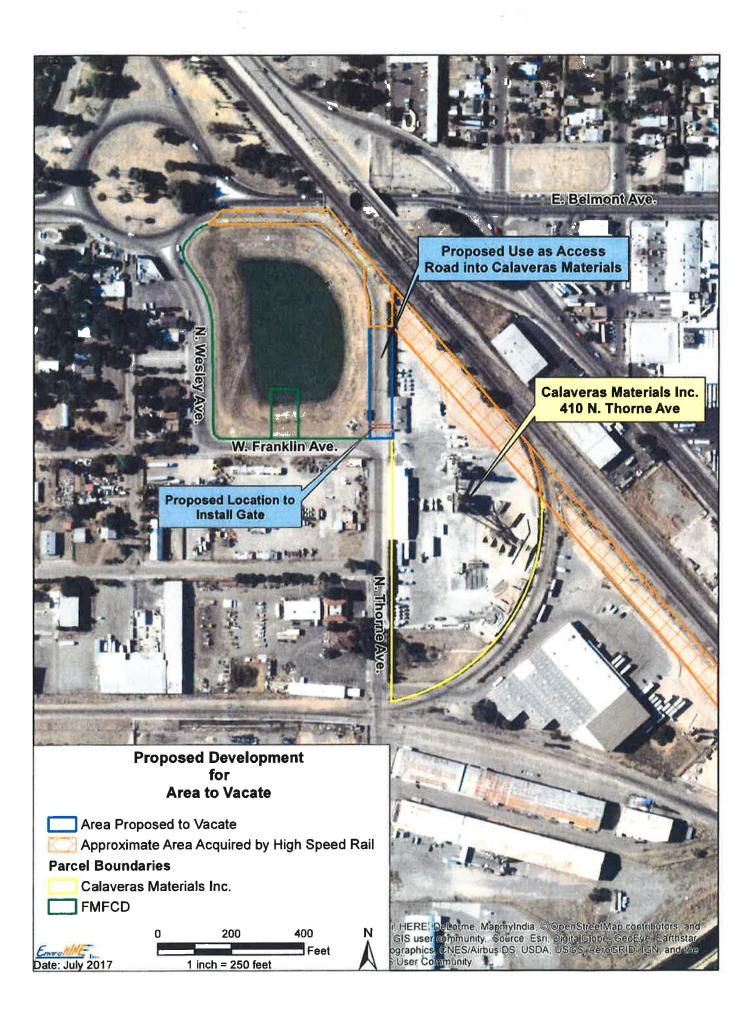
Ralph Kachadourian, Supervising Planner, Development Services Division, High Speed Rail Impacted Business Assistance Program

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by applicant

Attachments: Aerial Diagrams-Proposed Area of Vacation/Proposed Development for Vacated Area. Categorical Exemption Memorandum





#### CITY OF FRESNO CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. EA-17-016-HSR Public Works File No. 12247

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: Terry Marshall Calaveras Materials Inc. 410 N. Thorne Ave. Fresno, CA 93706
- **PROJECT LOCATION:** The proposed area to vacate consists of a 0.4 acre portion of North Thorne Ave located between Belmont Ave. and West Franklin Ave.
- **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The portion of North Thorne Avenue described above has become isolated due its previous use as a one-way southbound road only. The impact of the HSR project has completely cut access to Thorne Avenue from Belmont Avenue on the north, thereby making that portion unusable. Leaving that portion of North Thorne as it is would be inefficient and instead could serve a better purpose. Vacating this portion of right-of-way will be beneficial to Calaveras Materials in that it will potentially alleviate ingress and egress issues created by a loss of property as a consequence of the HSR project.

# This project is exempt under Sections 15301 Class 1(b, c) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.

EXPLANATION: Section 15301. Class 1 (b, c) Existing Facilities 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. Example include but are not limited to: Existing facilities of both investor and publicly owned utilities used to provide electric power, natural gas, sewerage, or other public utility services; and, existing highways and streets, sidewalks, gutters, bicycle and pedestrian trails, and similar facilities (this includes road grading for the purpose of public safety).

None of the exceptions to Categorical Exemptions set forth in the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2 apply to this project.

Date: August 18, 2017

Prepared and Submitted By: Juan Ramirez, Intern

Ralph Kachadourian, Supervising Planner High Speed Rail Impacted Business Assistance Program Development Services Division Development & Resource Management Department (559) 621-8172