

CEQA DETERMINATION OF EXEMPTION

Subject: This California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Determination of Exemption is in compliance with Carlsbad Municipal Code Section 19.04.060. An appeal to this determination must be filed in writing with the required fee within ten (10) calendar days of the City Planner's decision consistent with Carlsbad Municipal Code Section 21.54.140.

City Planner Decision Date: November 7, 2022

Project Number and Title: Village and Barrio Traffic Circles Project

Project Location - Specific: Village and Barrio Neighborhoods

Project Location - City: Carlsbad **Project Location - County:** San Diego

Description of Project: Five traffic circles at the intersections of [(1) Oak Avenue and Jefferson Street, (2) Pine Avenue and Madison Street, (3) Pine Avenue and Harding Street, (4) Chestnut Avenue and Roosevelt Street, (5) Chestnut Avenue and Madison Street], Traffic calming elements at the intersections of [Harding Street and Palm Avenue, and Madison Street and Magnolia Avenue], and High-visibility continental crosswalk at Oak Avenue and Roosevelt Street. Additionally, Carlsbad Municipal Water District and the Utilities Department staff will replace aging water and sewer infrastructure within the traffic circle improvements' project area. The utility improvements will enhance system reliability and maintenance operations.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Carlsbad

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: City of Carlsbad, Public Works

Name of Applicant: Lauren Ferrell, Associate Engineer

Applicant's Address: 1635 Faraday Avenue, Carlsbad, CA 92008

Applicant's Telephone Number: 442-339-2558

Name of Applicant/Identity of person undertaking the project (if different from the applicant above):
N/A

Exempt Status: (Check One)

- Ministerial (Section 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Section 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Section 21080(b)(4); 15269 (b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption - State type and section number: Section 15301 (c): Existing Facilities (Class 1)
- Statutory Exemptions - State code number: _____
- Common Sense Exemption (Section 15061(b)(3))

Reasons why project is exempt: The California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), and its implementing regulations ("CEQA Guidelines") adopted by the Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency, list classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment and as a result are exempt from further environmental review under CEQA. City staff completed a review of the project and potential environmental impacts associated with the project pursuant to CEQA and concluded that the project qualified for an exemption pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15301(c) (Existing Facilities).

The CEQA Guidelines include a list of classes of projects which have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment and which shall, therefore, be exempt from the provisions of CEQA. CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 is a Class 1 exemption for existing facilities, and includes (c) Existing highways and streets, sidewalks, gutters, bicycle and pedestrian trails, and similar facilities (this includes road grading for the purpose of public safety), and other alterations such as the addition of bicycle facilities, including but not limited to bicycle parking, bicycle-share facilities and bicycle lanes, transit improvements such as bus lanes, pedestrian crossings, street trees, and other similar alterations that do not create additional automobile lanes. The improvements to these intersections involve negligible expansion of the current uses beyond existing and does not result in additional automobile lanes. In addition, the water and sewer infrastructure are existing facilities that will not be expanding capacity.

During the development of this project. A number of studies were undertaken to assess the impact and design the projects. The feasibility and stop sign analysis studies were presented to the Traffic and Mobility Commissions on Sept. 7, 2021:

<https://www.carlsbadca.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/7674/637662831525730000>

The following analysis were undertaken:

- Feasibility Analysis
 - Fastest Path Analysis
 - Level of Traffic Stress (LTS) Analysis
- Stop Sign Removal Analysis
- Photometric Analysis
- Hydrology and Hydraulics Report
- Storm Water Standards Questionnaire (E-34)

Based on these analyses and traffic studies it can be determined that there will be no increase in vehicular use of the roadway, will occur within the existing public right of way, and will not change the overall facility use at any of the intersections impacted. The project will help encourage walking and biking to key designations in the Village and Barrio neighborhoods, having a positive impact to Vehicle Miles Travelled and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. No exception to the exemption as sets forth in CEQA Guidelines section 15300.2 applies.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Izzak Mireles, Associate Planner **Telephone:**442-339-2693


Eric Lardy, City Planner

11/7/22

Date