

Notice of Exemption

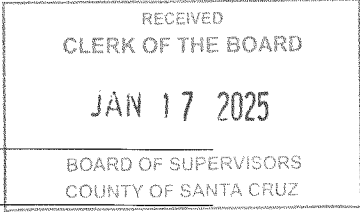
Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency): Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO)
110 Vernon St
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

County Clerk
County of: Santa Cruz

(Address)



Project Title: Rapid Corridors Project

Project Applicant: Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District

Project Location - Specific:
Front & Soquel Dr to Soquel Dr & Freedom Blvd

Project Location - City: Santa Cruz Project Location - County: Santa Cruz

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:
The Rapid Corridors Project aims to significantly improve speed and reliability on Soquel Drive for Routes 1 and 2, delivering faster, more dependable service on our community's primary travel corridor from Santa Cruz to Watsonville. Improvements include enhanced bus stop amenities (new shelters, lighting, benches), relocation/consolidation of rapid bus stops, bus bulbs (7), transit islands (16), transit signal priority, rectangular rapid flashing beacons (6), pedestrian hybrid beacons (1), high-visibility crosswalks (5), transit queue jumps (5), transit lanes (Front St & River St) and road and intersection improvements.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO)

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO)

- Exempt Status: (check one):
[] Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
[] Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
[] Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
[] Categorical Exemption. State type and section number:
[] Statutory Exemptions. State code number: PUC 21080.20(c) and 21080.25(b)(3)

Reasons why project is exempt:
This project seeks to increase ridership, speed, and reliability on two major routes by implementing transit signal priority, transit queue jumps, transit only lanes, enhanced bus stop amenities, enhanced pedestrian crossings, bus bulbs, and transit islands. This project is exempt pursuant PUC 21080.20(c) and 21080.25(b)(3).

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Corey Aldridge Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (831) 420-2501

- If filed by applicant:
1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: [Signature] Date: 1/16/2025 Title: CEO/General Manager

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Date Received for filing at OPR:
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

THIS NOTICE HAS BEEN POSTED AT THE CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OFFICE FOR A PERIOD COMMENCING 1/17 2025 AND ENDING 2/21 2025