

Attachment B

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

County Clerk

County of: Los Angeles

From: (Public Agency): _____
LA County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012-2592

(Address)

Project Title: Lone Hill to Control Point White Double-Track Project

Project Applicant: Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Project Location - Specific:

The project is located along the San Bernardino Metrolink Line (SBL) between Lone Hill Avenue (MP 26.55) in San Dimas and CP White (MP 30.4) in La Verne within Los Angeles County.

Project Location - City: San Dimas, La Verne Project Location - County: Los Angeles

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The proposed project would involve the double-tracking of approximately 3.9 miles of railroad track and related infrastructure, and associated safety and grade crossing improvements at 12 at-grade crossings. See continuation sheet.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Erika Wilder

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: CEQA Guidelines §15275(a) and (b)

Reasons why project is exempt:

The proposed project would facilitate the increase of passenger rail service on a rail line already in use. The proposed project also involves improvements to existing stations and parking facilities and does not exceed four miles in length. Therefore, pursuant to §15275(a) and (b), the project is exempt from CEQA.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Erika Wilder Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 213.922.7305

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: _____ Date: _____ Title: _____

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

Lone Hill to Control Point White Double-Track Project Description

The Lone Hill Avenue to CP White Double-Track Project would include approximately 3.9 miles of double track along the San Bernardino Metrolink Line, one of the busiest commuter rail lines in the Metrolink system. To improve the overall functionality of the line, adding a second track where a single track currently exists, at least along this segment of the San Bernardino Line, would help to increase capacity in the future, improve safety and performance, and reduce delays. In addition to the proposed double tracking, the proposed project would include improvements to ten public at-grade crossings and two private grade crossings, and the extension of the existing platform at the existing Pomona Fairgrounds Station. Other modifications include drainage improvements, relocation of utilities and signal houses, and other associated improvements. The proposed project improvements are mostly within the existing railroad or public right-of-way (ROW), and only partial (corner cut) acquisitions of additional ROW will be required for installation of safety improvements at intersections for quiet zone readiness.

A summary of the major proposed project elements is provided below:

- Design 3.9 miles of second mainline track between Lone Hill Avenue (MP 26.55) in San Dimas and CP White (MP 30.4) in La Verne.
- Design connections to auxiliary tracks that include industrial spur and siding tracks.
- Design 12 roadway at-grade crossings, including two private grade crossings, pier protection at the SR-57 underpass, and associated improvements.
- Relocate and modify train-control signal and communication equipment, including signal houses and communications towers.
- Relocate and/or protect utilities.
- Design culvert and drainage improvements.
- Design pedestrian safety enhancements at all grade crossings.
- Design sidewalk and driveway modifications at grade crossings to accommodate the second track and enhance safety.
- Explore options of adding a second platform or crossover at the Pomona Fairgrounds station to be used seasonally, extending the existing station, or keeping the station platform as is.

Purpose and Need/Project Objectives

1. Construct a second track and associated railroad improvements to improve Metrolink passenger rail and freight service to eliminate the current bottleneck and improve travel time along this portion of the SBL, thereby improving operational reliability.
2. Improve safety and accessibility at the existing at-grade crossings by upgrading 12 public and private at-grade roadway crossings and add pier protection at the SR-57 undercrossing.
3. Facilitate the potential for implementation of Quiet Zones in the future by designing the project to meet Quiet Zone standards.