

RESOLUTION NO: 01-006

A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PASO ROBLES  
ESTABLISHING A FINDING OF CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION (CEQA) AND  
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (NEPA) FOR TWO GATEWAY MONUMENT SIGNS  
GW 00-001 AND GW 00-002  
(INITIATED BY THE CITY OF PASO ROBLES)

WHEREAS, Caltrans District 5 has obtained federal funding for the construction of gateway entrance signs along both the 101 and 46 State Highways, and

WHEREAS, the City of Paso Robles is working in direct coordination with Caltrans District 5 staff to facilitate the gateway sign projects, and

WHEREAS, Caltrans District 5 environmental planning staff conducted environmental studies of the two project sites and on November 30, 2000 established findings of a Categorical Exemption and Programmatic Categorical Exclusion in accordance with CEQA and NEPA, and

WHEREAS, portions of the subject site are located within or directly adjacent to Caltrans right of way, but the majority of the project sites are located on private property proposed to be leased for the purposes of the entry way signs described as follows:

GW 00-001 – North side of Highway 46 East at the eastern most edge of the City limit line (combination of Caltrans right of way and private property to be leased from Blacks Hatchery and Turkey Farm).

GW 00-002 – East side of Highway 101 at the eastern edge of the northbound Spring Street off-ramp, on a bluff above the Union Pacific Rail Road tracks (adjacent to Caltrans right of way on private property to be leased from Union Pacific Rail Road); and

WHEREAS, the project proposes to construct two landscaped city monument signs at each entryway location in an effort to enhance the community gateways of the city of Paso Robles in San Luis Obispo County. (See location maps). The monument signs will be approximately 30 feet wide and 18 feet high. Plantings will include California native and ornamental trees, shrubs and groundcovers. No trees are to be removed as part of this project, and

WHEREAS, in conducting field reviews, consulting with Caltrans District 5 environmental planning staff and their associated studies of Archaeological and Biological Resources, along with analysis of potential for hazardous waste, Air, Noise and Water Quality impacts, the City of Paso Robles planning staff has concluded that the preparation of a Categorical Exemption (CEQA) and Categorical Exclusion (NEPA) finding was appropriate for this project, and

WHEREAS, notice of these aforementioned findings were published in the newspaper for a period 20 days prior to the Planning Commission's discussion of this subject, and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held by the Planning Commission on January 9, and at that meeting there was opportunity for public comment regarding the environmental findings, and

WHEREAS, based on the information contained in the documentation of the project design and associated potential impacts, along with testimony and public input received as a result of the public notice, the Planning Commission finds that the project would qualify for a Categorical Exemption and Categorical Exclusion as set forth in the attached "Determination Form" (Exhibit A to resolution).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Planning Commission of the City of El Paso de Robles, based on its independent judgment, to approve a finding of Categorical Exemption (in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act) and Categorical Exclusion (in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act).

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 9<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2001 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: JOHNSON, MCCARTHY, STEINBECK, TASCONA, WARNKE

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

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CHAIRMAN RON JOHNSON

ATTEST:

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ROBERT A. LATA, PLANNING COMMISSION SECRETARY

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