



**RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
COUNTY OF TULARE  
AGENDA ITEM**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

KUYLER CROCKER  
District One  
PETE VANDER POEL  
District Two  
AMY SHUKLIAN  
District Three  
J. STEVEN WORTHLEY  
District Four  
MIKE ENNIS  
District Five

**AGENDA DATE:** April 18, 2017

Public Hearing Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Published Notice Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advertised Published Notice	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meet & Confer Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Electronic file(s) has been sent	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Personnel Resolution attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agreements are attached and signature line for Chairman is marked with tab(s)/flag(s)	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>

CONTACT PERSON: Celeste Perez    PHONE: (559) 624-7010

**SUBJECT:** Authorization to Bid Avenue 280 Widening Project

**REQUEST(S):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Reaffirm the findings in the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) that was completed under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) certified and adopted by the Board on May 2, 2012; and
2. Approve the Plans, Special Provisions, Proposal and Contract ("Bid Documents") for the construction of the Avenue 280 Widening Project; and
3. Authorize the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to sign the Plans; and
4. Approve the advertisement for bids of the Avenue 280 Widening Project.

**SUMMARY:**

**Background**

The Avenue 280 Widening Project (the "Project") will widen an approximately 2-mile stretch of the existing two lane roadway to a four lane divided roadway, from State Route 99 to Road 100 (Akers), near the westerly limits of the City of Visalia. The 2-mile segment from State Route 99 to Road 100 is the first phase of the overall project to widen approximately 11-miles of the Avenue 280 corridor, with the cities of Visalia, Farmersville and Exeter to the east, acting as the lead agencies for the other phases within their respective cities.

Avenue 280 is a principal east-west major arterial that links State Route 99 and the cities of Visalia, Farmersville, and Exeter, as well as the unincorporated areas of

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Tulare County. The need for the Project arises from year 2035 traffic forecasts that predict increased use of the Avenue 280 corridor and resultant congestion. In addition, future traffic conditions included in the 2011 Supplemental Traffic Analysis reports prepared for the proposed project indicate that the average daily traffic volumes within the proposed project corridor will experience a net increase from 21% to 95%.

The purpose of the Project is to improve traffic operations and reduce congestion along the Avenue 280 corridor and improve the regional transportation and circulation system in the adjacent portion of Tulare County and the cities of Visalia, Farmersville and Exeter.

On May 22, 2012, the Board of Supervisors approved (Resolution Number 2012-0364) a Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the Project. On August 1, 2012, the California Department of Transportation approved the Environmental Assessment with finding of no significant impact pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The Project is consistent with the adopted CEQA and NEPA documents.

In addition to the widening, this Project will include a Class 2 bicycle lane along the corridor, Class 1 Pedestrian and Bicycle facility to the southwest of Shirk Road, storm drainage system from State Route 99 to Aspen Street, decorated raised median and street lighting.

### **Measure R Funding**

A program supplement under "Measure R Cooperative Agreement" was approved on December 2, 2014 under authority of Resolution No. 2014-0871 (Agreement No. 26914), which allowed a funding of \$600K for the engineering phase of the Project. A separate program supplement under "Measure R Cooperative Agreement" was approved on April 28, 2015 under authority of Resolution No. 2015-0292 (Agreement No. 27083), which allowed a funding of \$2.6 Million for Right-of-Way phase.

County staff recently reevaluated project costs for the Avenue 416 Widening Project and determined that project savings in the amount of \$1,436,000 was available. As a result, Tulare County submitted a request to the Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG) to transfer the project savings from the Avenue 416 Widening Project to the Avenue 280 Widening Project. The County's request was approved at TCAG's board meeting on December 12, 2016 under the Resolution No. 2016-108 (Amendment No. 1 to the 2016 Strategic Work Plan) authorizing Tulare County to transfer the project savings in the amount of \$1,436,000 from the Avenue 416 Widening Project to the Avenue 280 Widening Project.

Tulare County Resource Management Agency (RMA) is concurrently seeking your Board's approval of two Measure R Program Supplements. The first Program Supplements will amend Tulare County Agreement No. 24962 and transfer the project savings (\$1,436,000) from the Avenue 416 Widening Project to the Avenue

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280 Widening Project. The second Program Supplement will authorize \$14,836,000 in Regional Program Funds to fund the Construction and Construction Engineering Phase of this project and allow all expenditures after January 31, 2017 for the Preliminary Engineering and Right of Way Phases to be covered under the new agreement.

### **Right of Way**

This Project requires Right of Way acquisitions, Public Utility Easements, and Temporary Construction Easements from eleven (11) property owners along the corridor. Thirteen (13) out of the fifteen (15) acquisitions have been completed from nine (9) property owners. Staff is in the process of finalizing the negotiations with the property owner located at the southwest corner of the Avenue 280 and Shirk Road intersection. In addition, staff is currently negotiating with the owners of the property located at the west end of the Project to obtain the necessary easements for the construction of the proposed storm drain basin. Staff is also coordinating with the developer of a proposed project on the southwest quadrant of the project for the necessary Right of Way for Utility and Trail easement dedications to accommodate the future development within this project. It is expected that all necessary Right of Way acquisitions or dedications will be completed prior to the construction of the Project.

### **Utility**

RMA staff is working closely with all utility companies along the Project corridor. In addition, a separate contract for clearing the Right of Way is currently in place to clear the right of way to allow for utility relocations. Southern California Edison (SCE) has completed their design for the relocation of approximately 30 transmission and distribution poles. SCE anticipates to begin the relocation work in July/August of 2017, which may take approximately two months. Other utility companies such as Southern California Gas, AT&T and CalWater are aware of this project and are working closely with RMA staff to complete any necessary relocation work to expedite the Project.

The Plans and Specifications for the Avenue 280 Widening Project are complete and ready to be approved by the Board of Supervisors. Construction is anticipated to begin in July of 2017.

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**FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:**

There is No Net County Cost to the General Fund.

The total project cost for the Avenue 280 Widening Project is as follow:

Engineering Design:	\$828,500
Right of way:	\$2,144,000
Estimated Construction (Including Contingency):	\$12,518,500
Construction Engineering:	\$591,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$16,082,000</b>

This Project is being funded by the following sources:

Measure R Regional Program Funds:	\$14,836,000
Road Funds:	\$1,246,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$16,082,000</b>

As a separate request, County staff is concurrently seeking your Board's approval of a Measure R Program Supplement to amend Tulare County Agreement No. 24962 and transfer the project savings (\$1,436,000) from the Avenue 416 Widening Project to the Avenue 280 Widening Project with this Agenda Item. Together, the \$13,400,000 previously allocated by Tulare County Association of Governments Measure R Strategic Work Plan for the Avenue 280 Widening Project and the amount of project savings (\$1,436,000) from the Avenue 416 Widening Project is not to exceed a Measure R allocation of \$14,836,000. Project costs exceeding the Measure R allocation of \$14,836,000 will be covered by County Road Funds.

The total construction cost for the Avenue 280 Widening Project is \$12,518,500; this includes approximately \$11,916,000 for construction and \$602,500 in contingency. Staff estimate that an additional \$1.25 million of Road Funds will be required to fund the Project.

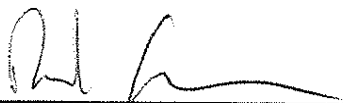
In order to minimize financial impacts to Road Funds, County staff will implement effective construction management strategies for the Construction/Construction Engineering Phase of the Project. These strategies aim to keep costs low by eliminating the number of change orders that happen during the construction process, thus, reducing the amount of contingency required for the Project. In addition, County staff will work closely with TCAG staff to transfer any additional unused funds from the Avenue 416 Widening Project, should funds become available, to the Avenue 280 Widening Project. Further, the Project bid includes a Bid Alternate option which adds financial flexibility to the Project should bids come in higher than anticipated during the bidding process.

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**LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:**

This project will enhance the safety and security of the public by improving the transportation infrastructure for both the general population in the region and the motorists using this facility.

**ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:**



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Reed Schenke, P.E.  
Interim Director

RS:hb

cc: Auditor-Controller  
County Counsel  
County Administrative Office (2)

Attachment(s) Attachment A – Vicinity Map  
Attachment B – Bid Documents (On file with Clerk to the Board)

# BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZATION TO )  
 BID AVENUE 280 WIDENING PROJECT ) Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR \_\_\_\_\_, SECONDED BY  
 SUPERVISOR \_\_\_\_\_, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE  
 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD APRIL 18, 2017, BY  
 THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:  
 NOES:  
 ABSTAIN:  
 ABSENT:

ATTEST: MICHAEL C. SPATA  
 COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/  
 CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

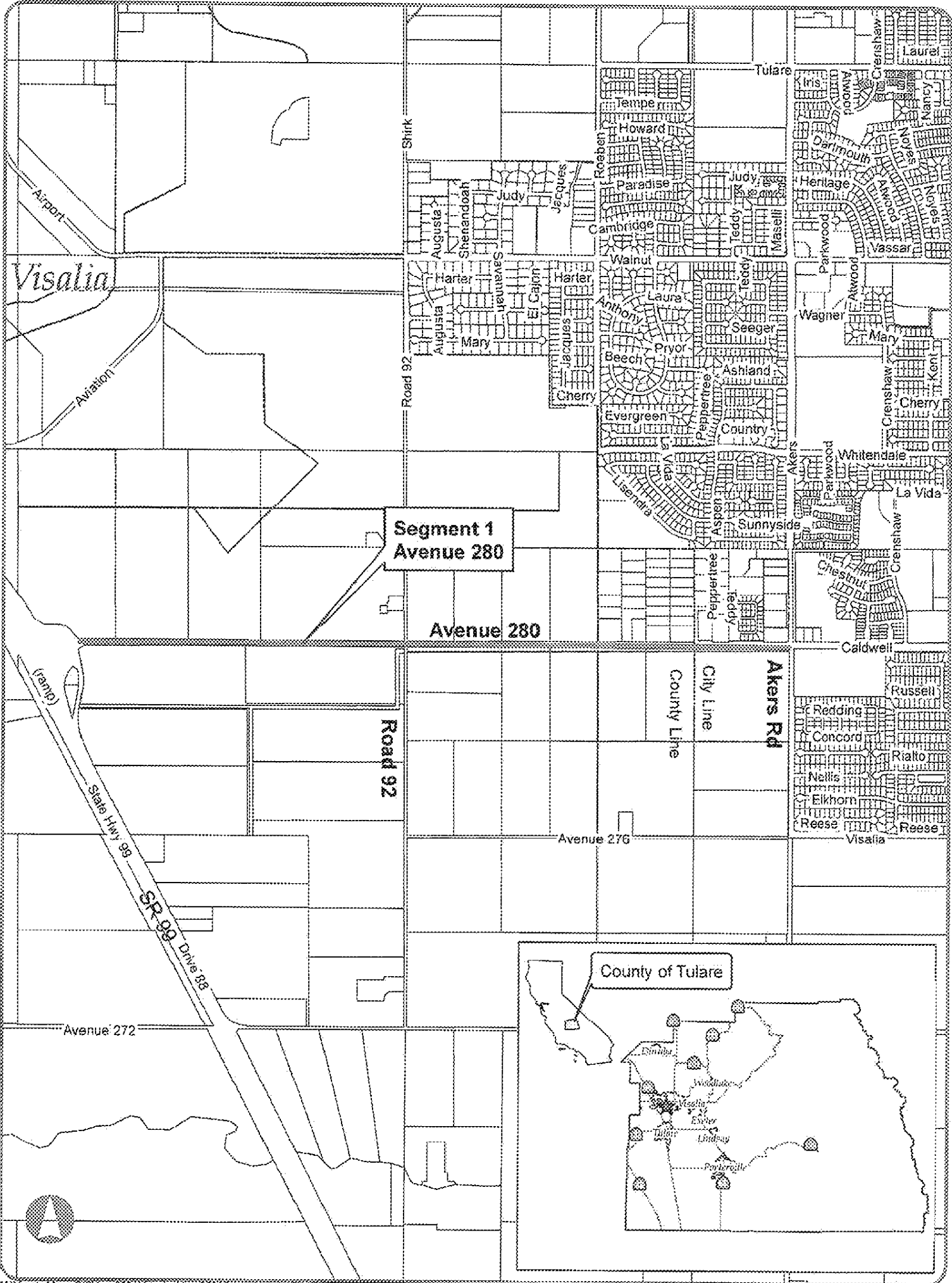
BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Deputy Clerk

\* \* \* \* \*

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## **Attachment A**

### **Vicinity Map**



**Segment 1  
Avenue 280**

