



**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: May 22, 2018

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 type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

SUBJECT: Authorization to Bid Avenue 152 Safety Improvements Project

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Adopt the Categorical Exemption prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the State CEQA Guidelines (General Rule Exemption per Section 15300.4 Application by Public Agencies and Section 15301 Existing Facilities; respectively, for the Avenue 152 Safety Improvements Project; and
2. Authorize the Environmental Assessment Officer, or designee, to sign and file the Notice of Exemption with the County Clerk; and
3. Approve the Plans, Special Provisions, Proposal and Contract ("Bid Documents") for the construction of the Avenue 152 Safety Improvements Project; and
4. Authorize the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to sign the Plans; and
5. Approve the advertisement for bids of the Avenue 152 Safety Improvements Project.

SUMMARY:

Tulare County is the lead agency on the Avenue 152 Safety Improvements Project funded primarily through the Federal Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) administered by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) through the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) as part of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the Twenty First Century (MAP-21) Act. The intent of the HSIP is to utilize program funding in the most cost effective manner towards the goal of system-wide collision reduction. The purpose of the Avenue 152 Safety Improvements Project (the Project) is to improve the overall safety and traffic operations along the Avenue

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152 corridor between State Route 99 and Road 222 (Porterville city limits).

Background

During the HSIP grant application process, Resource Management Agency (RMA) staff performed a traffic collision analysis of various locations throughout the County in accordance with the HSIP guidelines to identify potential projects for HSIP grant funding. One of those two competitive projects selected for funding was the Avenue 152 Safety Improvements Project.

Through the traffic collision analysis, the Avenue 152 corridor between Thompson Road (near State Highway 99 in Tipton) and Road 222 at the Porterville city limit was identified with higher than average collision concentrations. The Avenue 152 corridor serves as a major collector in Tulare County with an annual average daily traffic of 5,700. In addition, this roadway segment is identified by the Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG) as a Farm to Market Route, a network of roads with at least 300 trucks per day that comprise the backbone of commodity goods movement in Tulare County. Of the recorded collisions along this stretch of roadway, 34% are identified as "Broadside" (intersection type collision) and 41% percent are "Head-on", "Overturned" and "Hit-object". Various traffic safety countermeasures were selected and incorporated into the scope of the Avenue 152 Safety Improvements Project in order to reduce the collision frequency or severity at these locations.

In addition to the Avenue 152 Safety Improvements Project, as part of the Highway Bridge Program, the County proposes to replace the functionally obsolete Avenue 152 bridge over the Tule River. Currently, this bridge deck geometry is too narrow and the railing, guardrail, transition, approaches, and guardrail ends do not meet current AASHTO standards. This bridge replacement project is currently programmed to commence in 2021.

Furthermore, Caltrans is proposing to replace the bridge at the Avenue 152 overcrossing of State Route 99 in Tipton to improve traffic operations and safety. The new structure proposes to accommodate a 40-foot roadbed and sidewalk with a concrete barrier separating the sidewalk and traffic.

The Avenue 152 Safety Improvements Project, in conjunction with the replacement of the Avenue 152 over Tule River Bridge and Caltrans proposed bridge replacement of the Avenue 152 overcrossing of State Route 99, aligns with the County's safety improvement strategy along the Avenue 152 corridor.

Avenue 152 Safety Improvements Project

The scope of the Project includes safety improvements along the Avenue 152 corridor which includes rumble strips along the entire project length (center and edgeline), guardrails, signs, markings and flashing beacons. In addition, the scope includes designated left turn lanes along the Avenue 152 corridor at the intersections of Road 120, Road 160, Road 168, Road 172 and Road 200. Further, the Project includes the installation of a traffic signal with designated left turn lanes

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at the intersection of Avenue 152 and Road 208.

In order to accommodate the proposed safety improvements at the Avenue 152 and Road 208 intersection, right of way and easement were acquired from the northwest, northeast and southeast corners of the intersection. In addition, this project required the County to enter into agreements with the Porterville Irrigation District (PID) and Southern California Edison (SCE).

The County entered into an agreement with the PID to allow for the culvert extension and relocation of Rhodes-Fine Ditch (Tulare County Agreement No. 28495). Furthermore, the County entered into a Joint Utility Agreement and Utility Agreement with SCE; the Joint Utility Agreement (Tulare County Agreement No. 28460) formalizes SCE's rights and usage within a joint use easement located within County right of way where the underground facilities are to be installed, and the Utility Agreement (Tulare County Agreement No. 28459) authorizes and compensates SCE for costs associated with the relocation of the SCE poles not covered by the franchise agreement. SCE and AT&T is currently working on the relocation work.

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the County has also determined that two categorical exemptions: State CEQA Guidelines (14 Cal. Code Regs.) Section 15300.4 Application by Public Agencies and Section 15301 Existing Facilities; respectively, are applicable to the proposed action.

The Plans and Specifications for the Avenue 152 Safety Improvements Project are complete and ready to be approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Construction is anticipated to begin Fall of 2018.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

There is No Net County Cost to the General Fund.

Funding sources for the Avenue 152 Safety Improvements Project include Federal Highway Safety Improvements Program (HSIP) funds, State Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP) funds and Road funds budgeted for this project. A summary of the total project cost and funding sources for the Avenue 152 Safety Improvements Project is as follows:

Engineering Design:	\$165,000
Right of Way (Staff support and Acquisition):	\$75,000
Rhodes-Fine Ditch Relocation Work:	\$25,000
Utilities Relocation:	\$515,000
Estimated Construction (Including Contingency):	\$2,210,000
Construction Engineering:	\$100,000
Total:	\$3,090,000

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Funding Sources are as follows:

Highway Safety Improvements Program (HSIP) Funds:	\$1,750,000
STBGP Funds:	\$606,592
Road Funds:	\$733,408
<hr/>	
Total:	\$3,090,000

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

Safety and Security and Economic Well Being – 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:



Reed Schenke, P.E.
Director

RS:jk

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

Attachment (s): Attachment A – Vicinity Map
Attachment B – Notice of Exemption
Attachment C – 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) Resolution No. _____
BID AVENUE 152 SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS)
PROJECT)

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR _____, SECONDED BY
SUPERVISOR _____, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD
OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD MAY 22, 2018 BY THE
FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

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

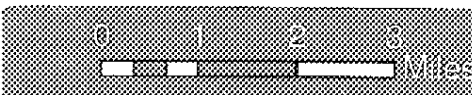
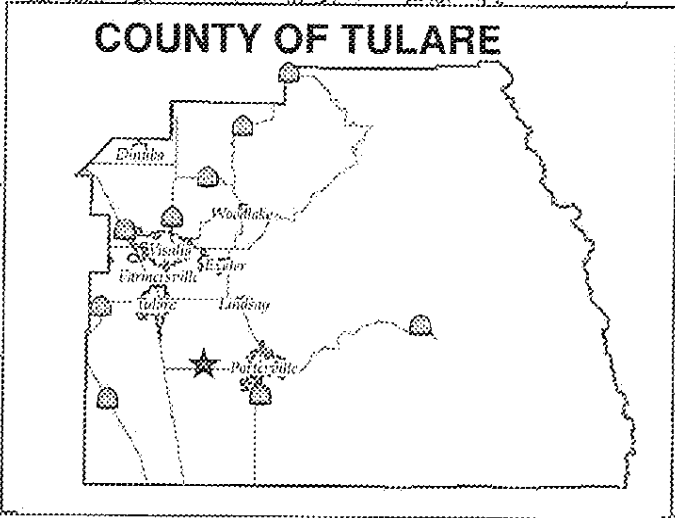
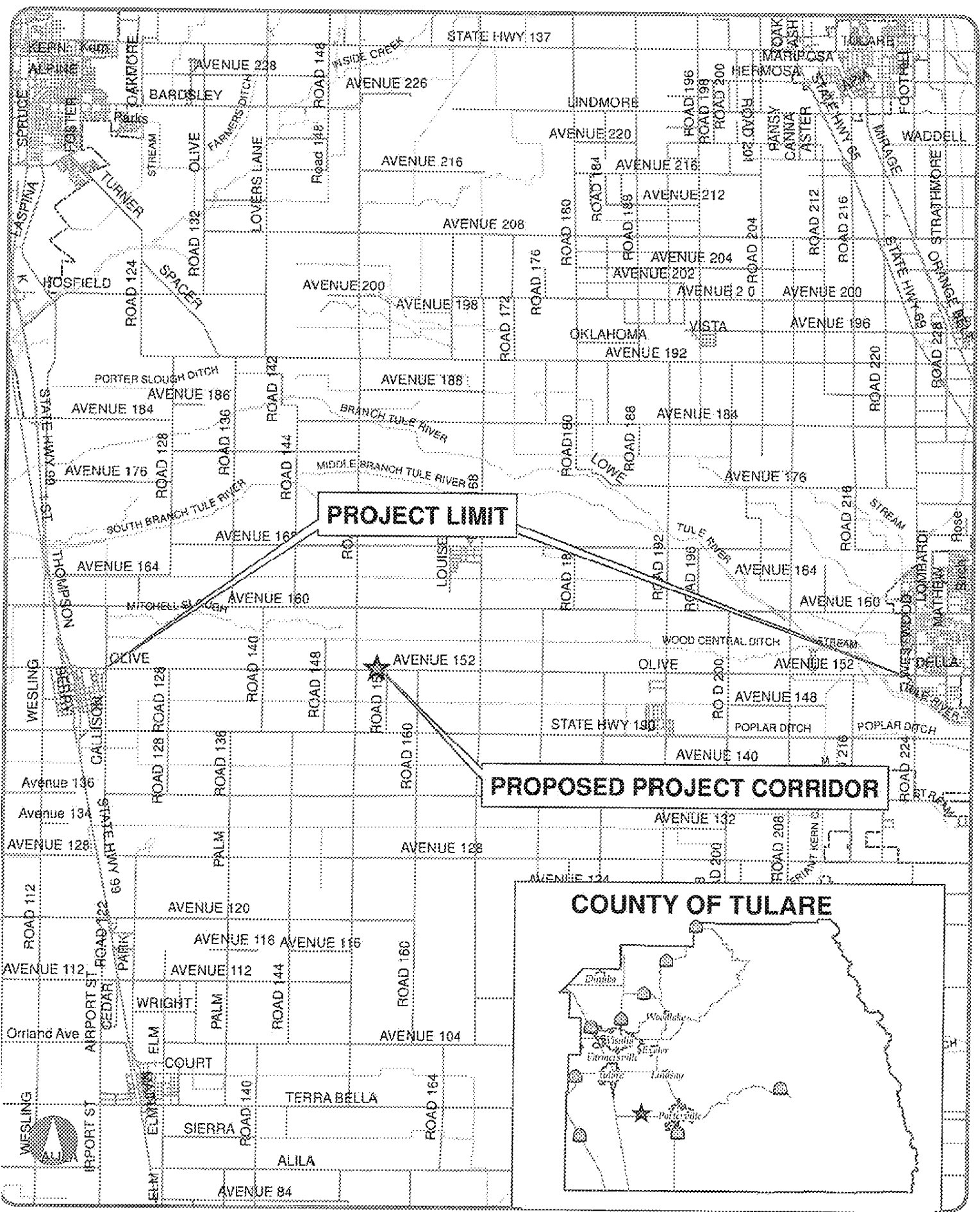
BY: _____
Deputy Clerk

* * * * *

1. Adopted the Categorical Exemption prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the State CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.4 Application by Public Agencies and Section 15301 Existing Facilities; respectively, for the Avenue 152 Safety Improvements Project; and
2. Authorized the Environmental Assessment Officer, or designee, to sign and file the Notice of Exemption with the County Clerk; and
3. Approved the Plans, Special Provisions, Proposal and Contract ("Bid Documents") for the construction of the Avenue 152 Safety Improvements Project; and
4. Authorized the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to sign the Plans; and
5. Approved the advertisement for bids of the Avenue 152 Safety Improvements Project.

Attachment A

Vicinity Map



Attachment B

Notice of Categorical Exemption

Notice of Exemption

Fee Exempt per Government Code Section 6103

To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

Tulare County Clerk
Room 105, Courthouse
221 South Mooney Boulevard
Visalia, CA 93291

Dated filed at Tulare County Clerk's Office

Lead Agency: Tulare County Resource Management Agency
5961 South Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, Ca 93277 Ph: (559) 624-7000
Attn: hguerra@co.tulare.ca.us

Applicant(s): Tulare County Public Works
5961 South Mooney Boulevard
Visalia, CA 93277 Ph: (559) 624-7000

Project Title: Avenue 152 Safety Improvements Project

Project Location - Specific: Avenue 152 between State Route 99 and Road 222 (Elderwood St.)

Project Location- Section, Township, Range: N/A

Project Location - City: N/A

Project Location - County: Tulare

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The project consists of safety improvements along Avenue 152 corridor between State Route 99 and Road 222. The safety improvements will include adding left turn lanes on Avenue 152 at the intersections of Road 120, 160, 168, 176, 200 and 208. In order to construct left turn lanes at these intersections, it will require widening of the existing roadway by at minimum of six (6) feet in each side. The project will also involve installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Avenue 152 and Road 208. Installation of traffic signal at the intersection of Ave 152 and Road 208 will include widening of existing intersection with larger turn radius, undergrounding of existing overhead utilities, removal of two trees and undergrounding an existing ditch. Other improvements will include centerline and edge line rumble strips installation along the corridor within project limits, installation of guardrails at various locations, replacing of existing traffic signs, and striping. Construction is anticipated to begin in August 2018.

Exempt Status: (check one)

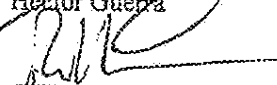
- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- General Rule: CEQA guidelines 15061 (b)(3)
- Categorical Exemption: **CEQA Guidelines Class 1 Section 15301 Existing Facilities (c)**
- Statutory Exemptions:

Reasons why project is exempt: This action is consistent with Section 15301 Class 1, Existing Facilities (c) Existing highways and streets, sidewalks, gutters, bicycle and pedestrian trails, and similar facilities. Also, consistent with Section 15300.4, Application by Public Agencies, the County of Tulare Board of Supervisors adopted an exemption for the construction of the aforementioned facilities per the Tulare County Guidelines for the Implementation of California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, Section 300 (c)(14). Therefore, the application of CEQA Section 15301 and Tulare County Guidelines for the Implementation of CEQA of 1970, Section 300 (c)(14) are applicable and appropriate for this project.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Tulare, Resource Management Agency

Project Planner/Representative: Reed Schenke, Director Area Code/Telephone: 559-624-7142

Signature:  Date: 5/7/18 Title: Chief Environmental Planner

Signature:  Date: 5/7/18 Title: Environmental Assessment Officer
Director

Signed by Lead Agency

Date received for filing at OPR: N/A