



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

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

KUYLER CROCKER  
District One  
PETE VANDER POEL  
District Two  
AMY SHUKLIAN  
District Three  
EDDIE VALERO  
District Four  
DENNIS TOWNSEND  
District Five

**AGENDA DATE:** March 26, 2019

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 tab(s)/flag(s)	Chairman is marked with	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/>

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

**SUBJECT:** Two-Way STOP Controlled Intersections in Tipton

**REQUEST(S):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve a Categorical Exemption consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR), Section 15061(b)(3) general rule exemption;
2. Find there is no substantial evidence that proposed activity will have a significant effect on the environment and determine the Categorical Exemption is consistent with the CEQA Title 14 CCR, Section 15061(b)(3) general rule exemption, that was prepared for the project reflects the independent judgment of the County and completed in compliance with the CEQA of 1970;
3. Direct the Environmental Assessment Officer of the Tulare County Resource Management Agency, or designee, to file a Notice of Exemption with the Tulare County Clerk.
4. Approve the designation of a Two-Way STOP controlled intersection on Spencer Avenue (D114A) at Smith Road (D107A) and on Newman Road (D108A) at Spencer Avenue (D114A), in the community of Tipton; and
5. Authorize the installation of STOP signs on Spencer Avenue at Smith Road and on Newman Road at Spencer Avenue, in accordance with the provisions of Section 2B.04 of the 2014 California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) and Section 22450(c) of the California Vehicle Code (CVC).

**SUBJECT:** Two-Way STOP Controlled Intersections in Tipton

**DATE:** March 26, 2019

**SUMMARY:**

The intersections of Spencer Avenue (D114A) at Smith Road (D107A) and Newman Road (D108A) at Spencer Avenue (D114A), are located in the community of Tipton, within Tulare County. Spencer Avenue runs east and west, while Smith Road and Newman Road runs north and south. Community concerns have been raised about traffic and pedestrian safety, as both of these intersections are uncontrolled.

In response to these concerns regarding traffic and pedestrian safety, Tulare County Resource Management Agency (RMA) conducted an investigation and concluded that installation of Stop signs at these locations would enhance and improve traffic and pedestrian safety in the community.

The California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD), Section 2B.04 Right of Way at Intersections, states in part; "State or local laws written in accordance with the 'Uniform Vehicle Code'... establish the right-of-way rule at intersections having no regulatory traffic control signs such that the driver of a vehicle approaching an intersection must yield the right-of-way to any vehicle or pedestrian already in the intersection... The right-of-way can be modified at through streets or highways by placing YIELD or STOP signs on one or more approaches."

In addition, the California Vehicle Code (CVC), Section 22450(c), states in part that "a local authority may adopt rules and regulations by ordinance or resolution providing for the placement of a stop sign at any location on a highway under its jurisdiction where the stop sign would enhance traffic safety".

These intersections meet the requirements of Section 2B.04 Right of Way at Intersections, for the installation of Two-Way STOP controls. As such, RMA staff recommends approval for the installation of Two-Way STOP controls on Spencer Avenue (D114A) at Smith Road (D107A) and on Newman Road (D108A) at Spencer Avenue (D114A), in the community of Tipton.

A Categorical Exemption was prepared by the Tulare County Environmental Planning Division and approved by the Environmental Assessment Officer. The activity/project is considered Exempt under Categorical per Title 14 CCR Section 1561(b)(3), general rule exemption.

**FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:**

No Net County Cost.

The cost of installing Two-Way STOPs on Spencer Avenue at Smith Road and on Newman Road at Spencer Avenue, is budgeted in the current fiscal year's Roads Budget for signs and stenciling.

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

Strategic Initiative: Safety and security includes the goal of improving and maintaining adequate transportation infrastructure. Installation of Two-Way STOP controls at these locations will enhance intersection circulation and pedestrian safety.

**SUBJECT:** Two-Way STOP Controlled Intersections in Tipton  
**DATE:** March 26, 2019

**ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:**



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Reed Schenke, P.E.  
Director

Cc: County Administrative Office

Attachment(s): Attachment A - Vicinity Map  
Attachment B - CEQA Exemption

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

IN THE MATTER OF TWO-WAY STOP ) Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_  
CONTROLLED INTERSECTIONS IN )  
TIPTON )

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR \_\_\_\_\_, SECONDED BY  
SUPERVISOR \_\_\_\_\_, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD March 19, 2019, BY  
THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:  
NOES:  
ABSTAIN:  
ABSENT:

ATTEST: JASON T. BRITT  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/  
CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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

\* \* \* \* \*

1. Approved a Categorical Exemption consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR), Section 15061(b)(3) general rule exemption;
2. Found there is no substantial evidence that proposed activity will have a significant effect on the environment and determined the Categorical Exemption is consistent with the CEQA Title 14 CCR, Section 15061(b)(3) general rule exemption, that was prepared for the project reflects the independent judgment of the County and completed in compliance with the CEQA of 1970;
3. Directed the Environmental Assessment Officer of the Tulare County Resource Management Agency, or designee, to file a Notice of Exemption with the Tulare County Clerk.
4. Approved the designation of a Two-Way STOP controlled intersection on Spencer Avenue (D114A) at Smith Road (D107A) and on Newman Road (D108A) at Spencer Avenue (D114A), in the community of Tipton; and
5. Authorized the installation of STOP signs on Spencer Avenue at Smith Road and on Newman Road at Spencer Avenue, in accordance with the provisions of Section 2B.04 of the 2014 California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) and Section 22450(c) of the California Vehicle Code (CVC).

# **Attachment A**



## **Attachment B**

# 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, California 93291

<i>Date received by Tulare County Clerk</i>

**Lead Agency:** Tulare County -- Resource Management Agency  
5961 South Mooney Blvd  
Visalia, CA 93277 ph: 559- 624-7000  
Attn: [hguerra@co.tulare.ca.us](mailto:hguerra@co.tulare.ca.us)

**Applicant(s):** Tulare County Public Works ph: 559-624-7142  
5961 South Mooney Blvd.  
Visalia, CA 93277

**Activity / Project Title:** Two-Way STOP Controlled Intersections in Tipton

**Activity / Project Location - Specific:** Spencer Avenue (D114A) at Smith Road (D107A) and Newman Road (D108A) at Spencer Avenue (D114A) in Tipton, CA

**Activity / Project Location - Section, Township, Range:** SE 1/4 of NE 1/4 of S31 T21S R25E

**Activity / Project Location:** Within the unincorporated community of Tipton, CA

**Activity / Project Location - County:** Tulare

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Activity / Project:** This project will enhance vehicular circulation and pedestrian safety at the intersections of Spencer Avenue at Smith Road and Newman Road at Spencer Avenue in the unincorporated community of Tipton, CA. These intersections are currently uncontrolled, with no Stop signs.

In response to concerns regarding traffic and pedestrian safety, the Tulare County Resource Management Agency (RMA) conducted an investigation. To improve the vehicular circulation and pedestrian safety at these intersections, the Traffic Operations Division determined that these intersections meet the requirements of Section 2B.04 Right of Way at Intersections of the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD), and is consistent with the California Vehicle Code (CVC), Section 22450(c), which states in part that “a local authority may adopt rules and regulations by ordinance or resolution providing for the placement of a stop sign at any location on a highway under its jurisdiction where the stop sign would enhance traffic safety”.

### Exempt Status:

- Ministerial (PRC Sections 21080(b)(1); 15268));
- Declared Emergency (PRC Sections 21080(b)(3);15269(a));
- Emergency Project (PRC Sections 21080(b)(4);15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemptions: General Rule Exemption: (14 Cal. Code Regs. Section 15061(b)(3))**
- Statutory Exemptions: N/A.

**Reasons Why Activity/Project are Exempt from CEQA:** This activity/project is intended to enhance vehicular and pedestrian safety, and as noted above, meets the requirements of Section 2B.04 of the CA MUTCD and CVC Section 22450(c). As such, the activity/project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to the “general rule” or “common sense” exemption on the ground that it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity (installation of stop signs) may have a significant effect on the environment (14 Cal. Code Regs., §15061, subd. (b)(3)).



**Name of Public Agency Approving Activity / Project:** Tulare County Resource Management Agency

**Activity/Project Representative:** Johnny Wong, P.E., Chief Engineer    **Telephone:** (559) 624-7000

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: Chief Environmental Planner  
Hector Guerra

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: Environmental Assessment Officer  
Reed Schenke

Signed by Lead Agency                      Date received for filing at OPR: N/A