



**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: November 5, 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 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: STOP Controlled Intersections in the Community of Cutler

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve the designation of a One-Way STOP control at the following intersections: Cutler Drive (D126) at Railroad Drive (D128B), Santa Fe Drive (D125B) at Railroad Drive, Topeka Road (D124B) at Railroad Drive, Short Avenue (LA405) at Road 124, Amethyst Avenue (LA406A) at Road 124, Avenue 407 at Road 124 and a Two-Way STOP controlled intersection on First Drive (D129B) at Santa Fe Drive (D125B), in the community of Cutler; and
2. Authorize the installation of a STOP sign on Cutler Drive at Railroad Drive, Santa Fe Drive at Railroad Drive, Topeka Road at Railroad Drive, Short Avenue at Road 124, Amethyst Avenue at Road 124, Avenue 407 at Road 124 and two STOP signs on First Drive at Santa Fe Drive, 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).
3. Approve a Categorical Exemption consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR), Section 15061(b)(3) Common Sense Exemption;
4. 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) Common Sense Exemption, that was prepared for the project reflects the independent judgment of the County and completed in compliance with the CEQA of 1970; and

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5. 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.

SUMMARY:

These intersections are located in the Community of Cutler within Tulare County. Cutler Drive, Santa Fe Drive and Topeka Road all "T" into Railroad Drive and Short Avenue, Amethyst Avenue and Avenue 407 all "T" into Road 124. Railroad Drive becomes Road 124 creating a through highway from State Route 63 (R128) to Avenue 408 and these "T" intersections are currently uncontrolled. First Drive (D129B) at Santa Fe Drive (D125B) is not a "T" intersection but it is also an uncontrolled intersection with very wide roadways. Community concerns have been raised about traffic and pedestrian safety.

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 throughout 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."

Section 2B.04, paragraph 3 further states "YIELD or STOP signs should be used at an intersection if one or more of the following conditions exist:

- A. An intersection of a less important road with a main road where application of the normal right-of-way rule would not be expected to provide reasonable compliance with the law;
- B. A street entering a designated through highway or street; and/or
- C. An unsignalized intersection in a signalized area."

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 One-Way and Two-Way STOP controls at these intersections. As such, RMA staff recommends approval for the installation of these One-Way and Two-Way STOP controls at the intersections stated above, in the community of Cutler.

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community of Cutler.

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 15061(b)(3), Common Sense Exemption.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

No Net County Cost to the General Fund.

The cost of installing the One-Way and Two-Way STOPs at these locations, 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 the One-Way and Two-Way STOP controls at these locations will enhance intersection circulation and pedestrian safety.

ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:



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 STOP) Resolution No. _____
CONTROLLED INTERSECTIONS IN THE)
COMMUNITY OF CUTLER)**

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR _____, SECONDED BY
SUPERVISOR _____, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD November 5, 2019,
BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

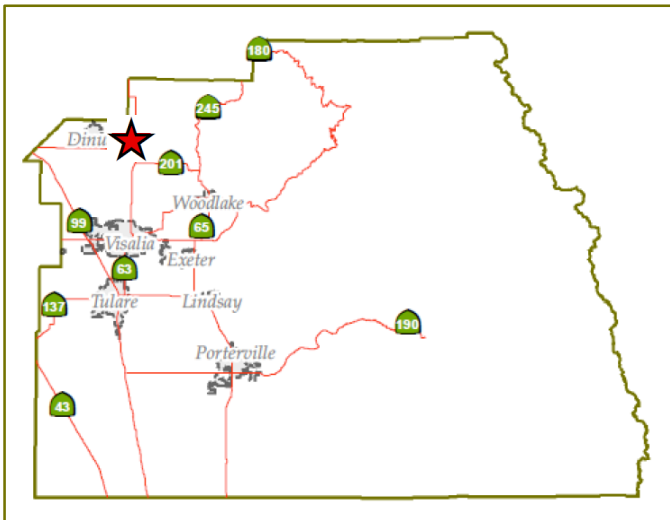
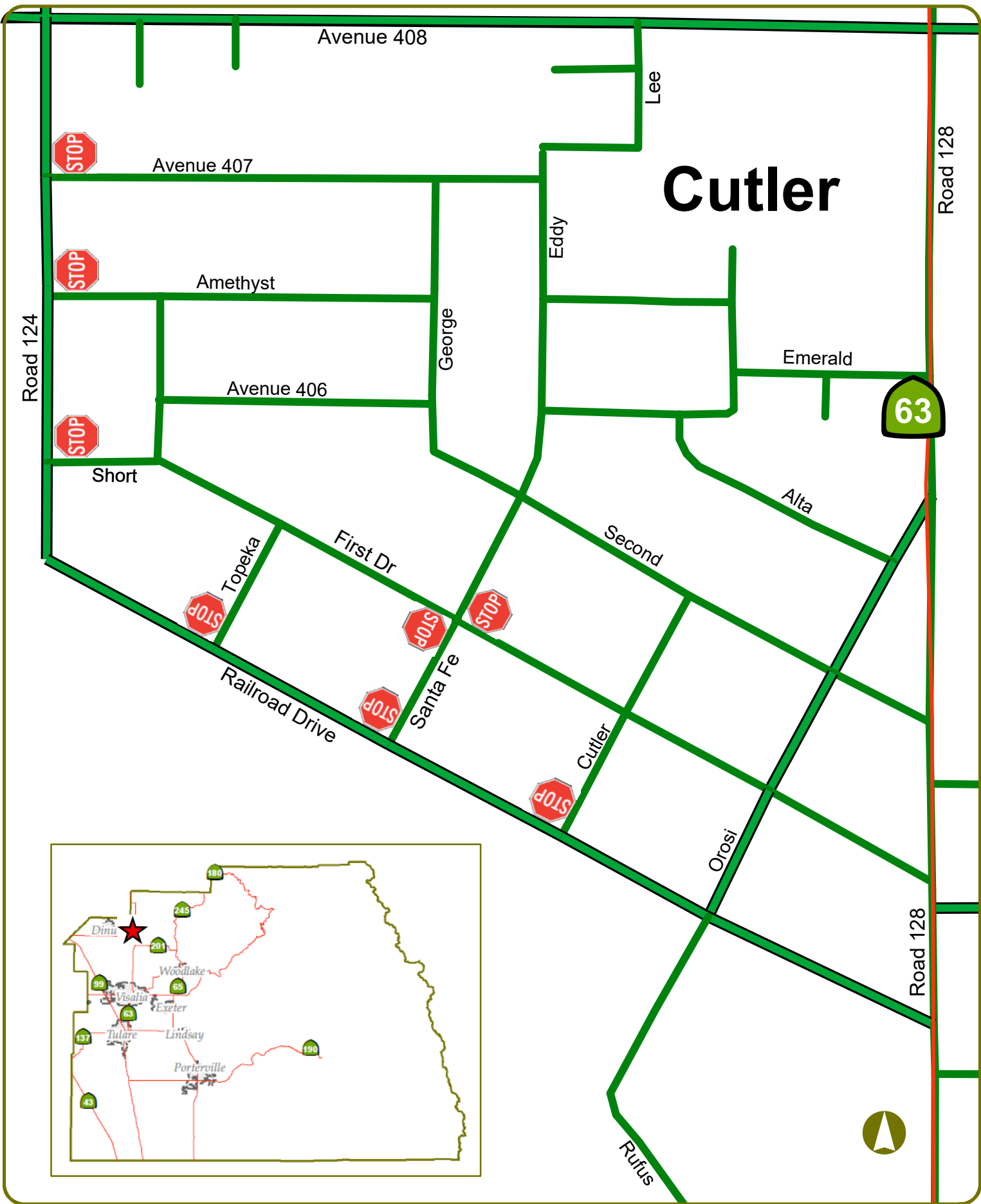
ATTEST: JASON T. BRITT
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/
CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY: _____
Deputy Clerk

* * * * *

1. Approved the designation of a One-Way STOP control at the following intersections: Cutler Drive (D126) at Railroad Drive (D128B), Santa Fe Drive (D125B) at Railroad Drive, Topeka Road (D124B) at Railroad Drive, Short Avenue (LA405) at Road 124, Amethyst Avenue (LA406A) at Road 124, Avenue 407 at Road 124 and a Two-Way STOP controlled intersection on First Drive (D129B) at Santa Fe Drive (D125B), in the community of Cutler; and
2. Authorized the installation of a STOP sign on Cutler Drive at Railroad Drive, Santa Fe Drive at Railroad Drive, Topeka Road at Railroad Drive, Short Avenue at Road 124, Amethyst Avenue at Road 124, Avenue 407 at Road 124 and two STOP signs on First Drive at Santa Fe Drive, 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).
3. Approved a Categorical Exemption consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR), Section 15061(b)(3) Common Sense Exemption;
4. Found 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) Common Sense Exemption, that was prepared for the project reflects the independent judgment of the County and completed in compliance with the CEQA of 1970; and
5. 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.

Attachment A



Vicinity Map - New Stops in Community of Cutler

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

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

Activity / Project Title: STOP Controlled Intersections in the Community of Cutler

Activity / Project Location - Specific: Cutler Drive (D126) at Railroad Drive (D128B), Santa Fe Drive (D125B) at Railroad Drive, Topeka Road (D124B) at Railroad Drive, Short Avenue (LA405) at Road 124, Amethyst Avenue (LA406A) at Road 124, Avenue 407 at Road 124 and First Drive (D129B) at Santa Fe Drive (D125B) in Cutler, CA

Activity / Project Location - Section, Township, Range: SW & NW 1/4 of NE 1/4 of S19 T16S R25E

Activity / Project Location: Within the unincorporated community of Cutler, 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 stated above, and will consist of installing a One-Way Stop sign on these "T" intersections and a Two-Way Stop sign on First Drive at Santa Fe Drive in the unincorporated community of Cutler, 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: Common Sense 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 "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