



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: July 7, 2020

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: Authorize the Submission of a Grant Application for the Safety Enhancement Quick-Build Project for the 2021 Active Transportation Program

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Authorize the submission of a grant application for funding from the 2021 Active Transportation Program, for the Countywide Safety Enhancement Quick-Build Project, with an estimated total project cost of \$850,000; and
2. Authorize the Resource Management Agency Director, or designee, to sign the Nomination Letter (Cover Letter for the Quick-Build Project Application); and
3. Authorize and direct the Resource Management Agency Director to act on the County's behalf in all matters pertaining to the application; and
4. Authorize and direct the Resource Management Agency Director, or designee, to submit Funds Requests and other program-supporting documentation; and
5. 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 Countywide Safety Enhancement Quick-Build Project; and
6. Authorize the Environmental Assessment Officer, or designee, to sign and file the Notice of Exemption with the County Clerk-Recorder.

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SUMMARY:

The California Transportation Commission (CTC) has released its Call for Projects (i.e. funding applications) through Cycle 5 of the Active Transportation Program (also known as the 2021 Active Transportation Program) which is funded by various federal and state funds, appropriated in the annual Budget Act including MAP-21, FAST Act, or other federal funds and State Highway Account funds. The Active Transportation Program (ATP) legislation defines the purpose as encouraging increased use of active modes of transportation, such as biking and walking, and defines the goals as:

- Increase the proportion of trips accomplished by biking and walking
- Increase safety and mobility of non-motorized users
- Advance the active transportation efforts of regional agencies to achieve greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals as established pursuant to Senate Bill 375 and Senate Bill 391
- Enhance public health, including reduction of childhood obesity through the use of programs including, but not limited, projects eligible for Safe Routes to School Program funding
- Ensure that disadvantaged communities fully share in the benefits of the program
- Provide a broad spectrum of projects to benefit many types of active transportation users

Quick-Build Pilot Program

The 2021 ATP will include a pilot program for the potential inclusion of quick-build projects in the program. The Commission anticipates dedicating a maximum of \$7,000,000 in the first programming year of the 2021 ATP to quick-build projects. The Commission may select, or not, several quick-build projects.

Quick-build projects are interim capital improvement projects that further the goals of the ATP. These projects require minor construction activities and are typically built with durable, low to moderate cost materials, and last from one year to five years. These projects have moderate design flexibility to anticipate adjustments that may occur. The purpose of a quick-build project is to immediately implement safety needs, allowing a community to benefit quickly from improvements made, and/or allow the people of a community affected by the project to provide input and test the project improvements before they are permanently constructed.

Quick-build projects are distinguished from temporary demonstration projects by the types of materials used and the intended duration of the project. In addition, quick-build projects have a data collection and study period that lasts from the beginning of the project through completion. Unlike traditional capital projects, quick-build projects can be adjusted; they can be changed based on community input and further technical analysis over time. If the quick-build project is successful, it will later be made permanent. If it is not successful, it can be easily deconstructed. Quick-build projects are intended to remain in place until capital upgrades are possible. All quick-build

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projects considered for funding in the ATP are expected to collect data to inform the approach for the project. Objective metrics are an important part of the process, both for making necessary adjustments and demonstrating success. Examples of data that can be collected are: surveys to show how many customers get to key destinations within the project area without cars; analyzed sales tax data to show faster-than-average retail growth on redesigned streets; number of collisions and injuries before and after the quick-build project; and vehicle speeds, volumes and travel times.

Quick-build projects must be CEQA compliant.

Proposed Quick-Build Project

It is proposed that the County apply for the quick-build project: the Countywide Safety Enhancement Quick-Build Project. This project consists of the installation of rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFB) at existing school crosswalks (nine different schools total) across eight unincorporated communities (see table below). This project also includes the installation of radar feedback signs (RFB) at 43 locations located in/near 19 communities.

The purpose, and need, of this project is to increase the safety and mobility of non-motorized users (i.e. residents of unincorporated communities). Increased safety will encourage residents to walk/bike; therefore, this will meet the goals/objectives of the ATP. These locations were strategically selected as a result of outreach and needs identification process with communities and residents of Tulare County.

Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (9 RRFBs total)

- Springville Union School District
- Richgrove School District
- Tipton School District
- Earlimart Elementary School
- Earlimart Middle School
- El Monte Middle School/Golden Valley Elementary School
- Traver Joint School District
- Monson-Sultana Joint Union School District
- Alta Vista School District

Radar Feedback Signs (43 RFBs total)

Community	Radar Feedback Signs
Alpaugh	2
Cutler	2
Delft Colony	1
Earlimart	4
Goshen	3
Ivanhoe	2
London	2

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Monson	2
Orosi	3
Pixley	4
Plainview	2
Poplar	1
Richgrove	2
Strathmore	3
Terra Bella	3
Tipton	2
Tonyville	2
Tooleville	2
Woodville	1

The total estimated cost of the Countywide Safety Enhancement Quick-Build Project is \$850,000. This is a competitive process; therefore, if awarded grant funding, construction is anticipated to begin Summer of 2022.

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

Furthermore, the County intends to submit infrastructure type grant applications (e.g. sidewalk improvement projects) in the 2021 ATP. However, due to the unforeseen COVID-19 global pandemic, the California Transportation Commission extended the grant application deadline for infrastructure type projects to September 15, 2020. This is to allow local agencies/municipalities additional time to complete tasks such as preparing their respective grant applications, working with their respective school districts to obtain letters of support, and/or collecting data such as pedestrian counts required for the grant applications. Staff will be requesting your Board's authorization to submit these infrastructure type grant applications at a later date.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

There is no Net County Cost to the General Fund.

The total cost of the Countywide Safety Enhancement Quick-Build Project is estimated to be \$850,000, which consists approximately \$75,000 in design, \$75,000 in construction engineering, and \$700,000 for construction costs (including contingencies).

As outlined in the California Transportation Commission's adopted 2021 ATP guidelines, ATP projects do not have a match requirement. If awarded grant funding, County Road Funds will be used to fund the design and construction phases of the project, which will be fully reimbursed by the Active Transportation Program.

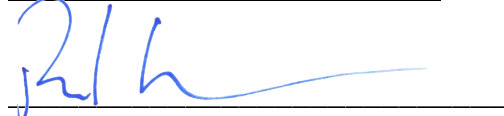
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LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

The County's five-year strategic plan includes the "Safety and Security initiative and the Quality of Life initiative" to provide for the safety and security of the public. The proposed projects will continue to improve the safety and security of pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists, and improve the quality of life for the residents by providing improved and safer infrastructure opportunities.

ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:



Reed Schenke, P.E.
Director

cc: County Administrative Office

Attachment(s) Attachment A – Vicinity Map (Countywide)
Attachment B – Draft Nomination Letter
Attachment C – Quick-Build Project Application Signature Page
Attachment D – Notice of Exemption

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

IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZE THE) Resolution No. _____
SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION)
FOR THE SAFETY ENHANCEMENT)
QUICK-BUILD PROJECT FOR THE)
2021 ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION)
PROGRAM)

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR _____, SECONDED BY
SUPERVISOR _____, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD JULY 7, 2020, BY THE
FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

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

BY: _____
Deputy Clerk

* * * * *

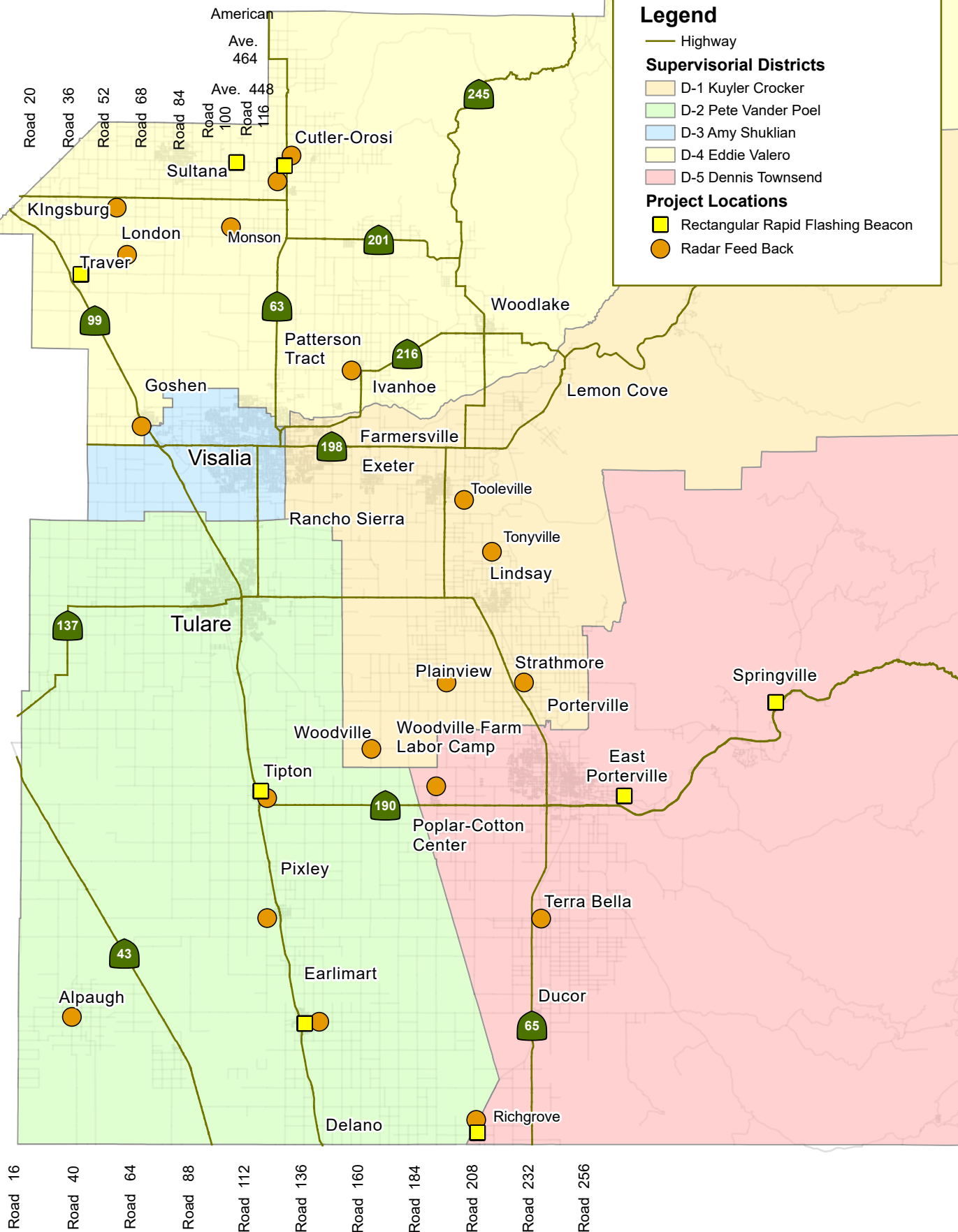
1. Authorized the submission of a grant application for funding from the 2021 Active Transportation Program, for the Countywide Safety Enhancement Quick-Build Project, with an estimated total project cost of \$850,000; and
2. Authorized the Resource Management Agency Director, or designee, to sign the Nomination Letter (Cover Letter for the Quick-Build Project Application); and
3. Authorized and directed the Resource Management Agency Director to act on the County's behalf in all matters pertaining to the application; and
4. Authorized and directed the Resource Management Agency Director, or designee, to submit Funds Requests and other program-supporting documentation; and
5. Adopted 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 Countywide Safety Enhancement Quick-Build Project; and
6. Authorized the Environmental Assessment Officer, or designee, to sign and file the Notice of Exemption with the County Clerk-Recorder.

Attachment A

Vicinity Map



Ave. 432
Ave. 416
Ave. 400
Ave. 384
Ave. 368
Ave. 352
Ave. 336
Ave. 320
Ave. 304
Ave. 288
Ave. 272
Ave. 256
Ave. 240
Ave. 224
Ave. 208
Ave. 192
Ave. 176
Ave. 160
Ave. 144
Ave. 128
Ave. 112
Ave. 96
Ave. 80
Ave. 64
Ave. 48
Ave. 32
Ave. 16
County Line



Legend

— Highway

Supervisorial Districts

D-1 Kuyler Crocker

D-2 Pete Vander Poel

D-3 Amy Shuklian

D-4 Eddie Valero

D-5 Dennis Townsend

Project Locations

■ Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon

● Radar Feed Back

0 4 8 16 Miles

Attachment B

Draft Nomination

Letter



RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY

5961 SOUTH MOONEY BLVD
VISALIA, CA 93277
PHONE (559) 624-7000
FAX (559) 730-2653

Aaron R. Bock Economic Development and Planning
Reed Schenke Public Works
Sherman Dix Fiscal Services

REED SCHENKE, DIRECTOR

MICHAEL WASHAM, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

July 7, 2020

California Transportation Commission
Attn: Mitch Weiss, Executive Director
1120 N Street, MS 52
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Nomination Package for a Quick-Build Project Application for the 2021 Active Transportation Program

Dear Mr. Weiss:

As required by the Adopted 2021 Active Transportation Program Guidelines, the County of Tulare respectfully submits the nomination package for the Countywide Safety Enhancement Quick-Build Project. Enclosed in this nomination package are the following documents from the Pilot Quick-Build Project Application:

1. Part A: Applicant and Project Information
2. Part B: Applicant Narrative
3. Part C: Attachments

The purpose and need of the Countywide Safety Enhancement Quick-Build Project is to increase the safety and mobility of non-motorized users in various unincorporated communities in the County of Tulare. Proposed improvements include the installation of rectangular rapid flashing beacons at existing school crosswalks to increase safety for students, thereby, increasing the number of students walking/biking to/from schools. This project also includes the installation of radar feedback signs in/near unincorporated communities as a traffic calming technique to reduce vehicular speeds as these vehicles approach these communities.

The County of Tulare appreciates your thoughtful consideration of our Countywide Safety Enhancement Quick-Build Project grant application.

Sincerely,

Reed Schenke, P.E.
Director

Attachments:

- Part A: Applicant and Project Information
- Part B: Application Narrative
- Part C: Attachments

Attachment C

Quick-Build Project Application
Signature Page

Part C: Attachments

Attachment A: Signature Page

IMPORTANT: Applications will not be accepted without all required signatures.

Implementing Agency: Chief Executive Officer, Public Works Director, or other officer authorized by the governing board.

The undersigned affirms that their agency will be the “Implementing Agency” for the project if funded with ATP funds and they are the Chief Executive Officer, Public Works Director or other officer **authorized by their governing board with the authority to commit the agency’s resources and funds**. They are also affirming that the statements contained in this application package are true and complete to the best of their knowledge. For infrastructure projects, the undersigned affirms that they are the manager of the public right-of-way facilities (responsible for their maintenance and operation) or they have authority over this position.

Signature:	_____	Date:	_____
Name:	_____	Phone:	_____
Title:	_____	e-mail:	_____

For projects with a Partnering Agency: Chief Executive Officer or other officer authorized by the governing board. *(For use only when appropriate)*

The undersigned affirms that their agency is committed to partner with the “Implementing Agency” and agrees to assume the responsibility for the ongoing operations and maintenance of the facility upon completion by the implementing agency and they intend to document such agreement per the CTC guidelines. The undersigned also affirms that they are the Chief Executive Officer or other officer authorized by their governing board with the authority to commit the agency’s resources and funds. They are also affirming that the statements contained in this application package are true and complete to the best of their knowledge.

Signature:	_____	Date:	_____
Name:	_____	Phone:	_____
Title:	_____	e-mail:	_____

Attachment D

Notice of
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

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

Dated filed at Tulare County Clerk's Office

Project Title: Countywide Safety Enhancement Quick-Build Project

Project Location - Specific: Various locations throughout Tulare County, CA

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

Project Location - City: N/A

Location - County: Tulare

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The purpose of the Countywide Safety Enhancement Quick-Build Project is to improve the safety of the general population throughout the region. The proposed improvements will include the installation of rectangular rapid flashing beacons at existing school crosswalks and installation of radar feedback signs in/near unincorporated communities. If awarded funding, construction is anticipated to begin during the Summer of 2022.

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: _____ Title: Chief Environmental Planner
Hector Guerra

Signature: _____ Date: _____ Title: Environmental Assessment Officer
Reed Schenke, P.E. Director

☒ Signed by Lead Agency

Date received for filing at OPR: N/A