



**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: August 18, 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 Five (5) Grant Applications for the 2021 Active Transportation Program

- REQUEST(S):**
That the Board of Supervisors:
1. Authorize the submission of five (5) applications for funding from the 2021 Active Transportation Program with an estimated total project cost of \$14,700,000; and
 2. Authorize the Resource Management Agency Director, or designee, to sign the grant applications; and
 3. Authorize and direct the Resource Management Agency Director, or designee, to act on the County's behalf in all matters pertaining to these applications; and
 4. Authorize and direct the Resource Management Agency Director, or designee, to submit Funds Requests and other program-supporting documentation.

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:

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DATE: August 18, 2020

- 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

With the passage of Senate Bill 1, there is \$440 million of funding available for Cycle 5 of ATP. Since ATP Call for Projects occur every two years, this equates to \$220 million in funding per year and is broken down as follows:

- \$34 million in State Highway Account (SHA)
- \$88.5 million in Federal
- \$100 million in Senate Bill (SB1) State Funds

However, ATP legislation requires that all projects be selected through a competitive process. Consistent with these requirements, ATP funds are distributed as follows:

- 40% to Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPOs) in the urban areas with populations greater than 200,000
- 10% to small urban and rural areas with populations of 200,000 or less
- 50% to projects competitively awarded by the CTC on a statewide basis

ATP will fund infrastructure projects, non-infrastructure projects and plans that encourage increased use of active modes of transportation. With this purpose in mind, there are six different applications for applicants to complete depending on the project type and size. The six types application are as follows:

- A. Large Project (total project cost greater than \$7,000,000)
- B. Medium Project (total project cost in between Large and Small Projects)
- C. Small Project (total project cost less than \$2,000,000)
- D. Non-infrastructure Only
- E. Plan (Safe Routes to School Plan, Active Transportation Plan, etc.)
- F. Quick-Build Project Pilot Program

Previously Awarded ATP Projects and Guidance from the CTC

The County has been awarded approximately \$8.1 million in ATP funding to provide improvements to encourage increased use of active modes of transportation such as biking and walking. Projects awarded under previous ATP funding cycles (Cycles 1 through 4) include the following projects:

SUBJECT: Authorize the Submission of Five (5) Grant Applications for the 2021 Active Transportation Program

DATE: August 18, 2020

Previously Awarded ATP Projects		
Funding Cycle	Project Name	Awarded Amount
Cycle 1	Tulare County Safe Routes to School Plan	\$ 110,000
	Terra Bella Sidewalk Improvements	\$ 397,000
	Tooleville Sidewalk Improvement	\$ 379,000
Cycle 2	Traver Jacobs Street Improvements	\$ 1,790,000
	Pixley Main Street Improvements	\$ 1,018,000
	Earlimart Park Sidewalk Improvements	\$ 159,000
Cycle 3	Woodville Sidewalk Improvements	\$ 836,000
	Earlimart Sidewalk Improvements	\$ 1,868,000
	Allensworth Elementary Sidewalk Improvement	\$ 260,000
Cycle 4	Road 160 Sidewalk Improvements	\$ 1,288,000
Total		\$ 8,105,000

While the County has had great success with the ATP, the program has become extremely competitive in recent years. In an effort to increase competitiveness of the County's ATP applications, the Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG) invited key staff from the CTC to visit several of the County's proposed projects for ATP Cycle 5. This provided the County a great opportunity to demonstrate to the CTC the scope of the proposed projects, why these types of projects are needed in these rural communities, and how the County can strengthen its ATP Cycle 5 grant applications.

Based on the CTC's feedback, the County's strategy in ATP Cycle 5 is to focus on select projects from adopted plans that have the best chance of receiving funds.

Proposed Cycle 5 ATP Projects

As part of the ATP application acceptance, proposed projects are screened for being included within an adopted plan prior to the evaluation stage. Projects included in an adopted plan are more competitive and will receive additional consideration as compared to projects that are not incorporated in an adopted plan. As such, five (5) proposed ATP Cycle 5 projects were strategically selected from the following adopted plans below in which Resource Management Agency (RMA) staff believes will be most competitive based on the new changes and guidelines in this year's ATP funding cycle:

- Safe Routes to School Plan (Phase 1 & Phase 2)
- Complete Streets Policy
- Community Plan Update
- Regional Active Transportation Plan

SUBJECT: Authorize the Submission of Five (5) Grant Applications for the 2021 Active Transportation Program

DATE: August 18, 2020

Of the projects identified in the adopted plans above, RMA staff is proposing to submit five (5) projects for ATP Cycle 5 with a total estimated cost of \$14.7 million focusing on the communities of Poplar, Cutler, Strathmore, Tipton, and East Porterville.

To further increase the competitiveness of the proposed projects, RMA staff have completed, at a minimum, 30% designs for all 5 projects. Below is a summary of the five (5) proposed project locations for ATP Cycle 5 followed by additional details of each project location.

ATP Cycle 5 – Proposed Project Locations			
Community	Project Name	Description	Estimated Total Project Cost
Poplar	Poplar Avenue 145 Sidewalk Improvements	Curb & gutter, sidewalk, ADA ramps	\$2,100,000
Cutler	Cutler George Road & 2nd Drive Sidewalk Improvements	Curb & gutter, sidewalk, ADA ramps, road rehabilitation	\$3,000,000
Tipton	Tipton Sidewalk Improvements	Curb & gutter, ADA ramps, pedestrian crossing, and bus stops	\$4,800,000
Strathmore	Strathmore Complete Streets Improvements	Road diet, curb & gutter, sidewalk, ADA ramps, and bus stops	\$2,600,000
East Porterville	East Porterville Crabtree Avenue Sidewalk Improvements	Curb & gutter, sidewalk, ADA ramps, RRFB crosswalk	\$2,200,000
Total Estimated Project Cost:			\$14,700,000

Project 1: Poplar Avenue 145 Sidewalk Improvements

It is proposed that the County apply for the Poplar Avenue 145 Sidewalk Improvements Project. This project consists of improvements along Avenue 145 between Road 190 and Road 193 in the community of Poplar near Pleasant View Elementary School, see Attachment B for Vicinity Map. Improvements include installation of curb & gutter, sidewalk, ADA ramps, drive approaches, asphalt paveouts, and drainage improvements.

The total estimated cost of this project is \$2,100,000. Since the total cost is more than \$2 million (Medium Project), RMA staff proposes a 1% leverage (\$21,000) to increase competitiveness of the project in the project evaluation process.

Project 2: Cutler George Road & 2nd Drive Sidewalk Improvements

It is proposed that the County apply for the Cutler George Road & 2nd Drive Sidewalk Improvements Project. This project consists of improvements along George Road & 2nd Drive between Avenue 407 and State Route 63 in the community of Cutler near Cutler Elementary School, see Attachment C for Vicinity Map. Improvements include installation of curb & gutter, sidewalk, ADA ramps, drive approaches, and drainage improvements.

SUBJECT: Authorize the Submission of Five (5) Grant Applications for the 2021 Active Transportation Program

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In addition, RMA staff proposes to rehabilitate the existing road within the limits of this project. However, rehabilitation of an existing road (which in this case primarily benefits motorized users) is considered an ineligible project element; this is not be eligible for ATP funds. It is estimated that approximately \$700,000 is a non-participating cost (cost of ineligible project elements) and will be covered with Road Funds or Measure R Local Program Funds.

The total estimated cost of this project is \$3,000,000 (\$2,300,000 ATP eligible cost + \$700,000 non-participating cost). Since the total cost is more than \$2 million (Medium Project), RMA staff proposes a 1% leverage (\$23,000) on ATP eligible cost (\$2,300,000) to increase competitiveness of the project in the project evaluation process.

Project 3: Tipton Sidewalk Improvements

It is proposed that the County apply for the Tipton Sidewalk Improvements Project. This project consists of improvements along Evans Road (between Avenue 152 and Lerda Avenue) and Woods Avenue (between Thompson Road and Newman Road) in the community of Tipton near Tipton Elementary School District, see Attachment D for Vicinity Map. Improvements include installation of curb & gutter, sidewalk, ADA ramps, drive approaches, and drainage improvements.

The total estimated cost of this project is \$4,800,000. Since the total cost is more than \$2 million (Medium Project), RMA staff proposes a 1% leverage (\$48,000) to increase competitiveness of the project in the project evaluation process.

Project 4: Strathmore Complete Streets Improvements

It is proposed that the County apply for the Strathmore Complete Streets Improvements Project. This project consist of the road dieting of Orange Belt Drive (between Avenue 196 and Avenue 198) and improvements along Avenue 198 between Orange Belt Drive and Road 231 in the community of Strathmore near Strathmore Middle School and Strathmore Elementary School, see Attachment E for Vicinity Map.

A road diet (also called a lane reduction or road rechannelization) is a technique in transportation planning to reduce the number of travel lanes to achieve systemic improvements (optimizes street space to benefit all users to improve safety and comfort for pedestrians as well as bicyclists). Reducing the number of thru lanes on a multilane roadway can reduce crossing distance and exposure for pedestrians while reducing vehicle speeds.

Pedestrian improvements along Avenue 198 include installation of curb & gutter, sidewalk, ADA ramps, drive approaches, and drainage improvements.

The total estimated cost of this project is \$2,600,000. Since the total cost is more than \$2 million (Medium Project), RMA staff proposes a 1% leverage (\$26,000) to increase competitiveness of the project in the project evaluation process.

SUBJECT: Authorize the Submission of Five (5) Grant Applications for the 2021 Active Transportation Program

DATE: August 18, 2020

Project 5: East Porterville Crabtree Avenue Sidewalk Improvements

It is proposed that the County apply for the East Porterville Crabtree Avenue Sidewalk Improvements Project. This project consists of improvements along Crabtree Avenue between Page Street and Alta Vista Elementary School in the community of East Porterville near Alta Vista School District, see Attachment F for Vicinity Map. Improvements include installation of curb & gutter, sidewalk, ADA ramps, drive approaches, asphalt paveouts, and drainage improvements.

The total estimated cost of the Crabtree Avenue Sidewalk Improvements Project is \$2,200,000. Since the total cost is more than \$2 million (Medium Project), RMA staff proposes a 1% leverage (\$22,000) to increase competitiveness of the project in the project evaluation process.

Quick-Build Pilot Program

The 2021 ATP includes a pilot program for the potential inclusion of quick-build projects in the program.

On July 7, 2020, your Board authorized the submission of a quick-build grant application for the 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.

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.

Grant Application Deadline

Due to the unforeseen COVID-19 global pandemic, the CTC 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 pedestrian counts required for the grant applications.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

There is no Net County Cost to the General Fund.

As outlined in the California Transportation Commission's adopted 2021 ATP

SUBJECT: Authorize the Submission of Five (5) Grant Applications for the 2021 Active Transportation Program

DATE: August 18, 2020

guidelines, ATP projects do not have match requirements. However, the CTC encourages the leveraging of additional funds for infrastructure projects that have a total cost of more than \$2 million to increase competitiveness in the application evaluation process.

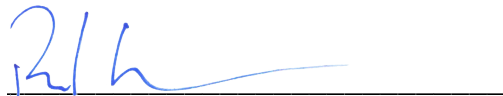
To count towards leveraging in the evaluation process, the proposed leverage funds cannot be from any of the CTC's competitive funding programs (only local funds from the CTC's formulaic programs will count towards leveraging funds). Further, the CTC will consider eligible funds spent or committed to earlier project phases – as well as future ATP-funded phases.

For this reason, staff is proposing to leverage \$140,000 in local Road Funds. Depending on the individual projects, there may be non-participating costs (currently estimated at \$700,000), such as drainage and roadway improvements that may not be eligible for reimbursement with these State/Federal funds (ineligible project elements). However, the determination of whether a project element is eligible or ineligible will be determined by the CTC once the project(s) are selected for funding. Should there be non-participating costs, County Road Funds will be used to cover the expenses.

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 – ATP Cycle 5 Project Locations Map (Countywide)
Attachment B – Project 1: Poplar Vicinity Map
Attachment C – Project 2: Cutler Vicinity Map
Attachment D – Project 3: Tipton Vicinity Map
Attachment E – Project 4: Strathmore Vicinity Map
Attachment F – Project 5: East Porterville Vicinity Map

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

IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZE THE) Resolution No. _____
SUBMISSION OF FIVE (5) GRANT)
APPLICATIONS 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 AUGUST 18, 2020, BY
THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

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

BY: _____
Deputy Clerk

* * * * *

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Attachment A

ATP Cycle 5 Project Locations Map



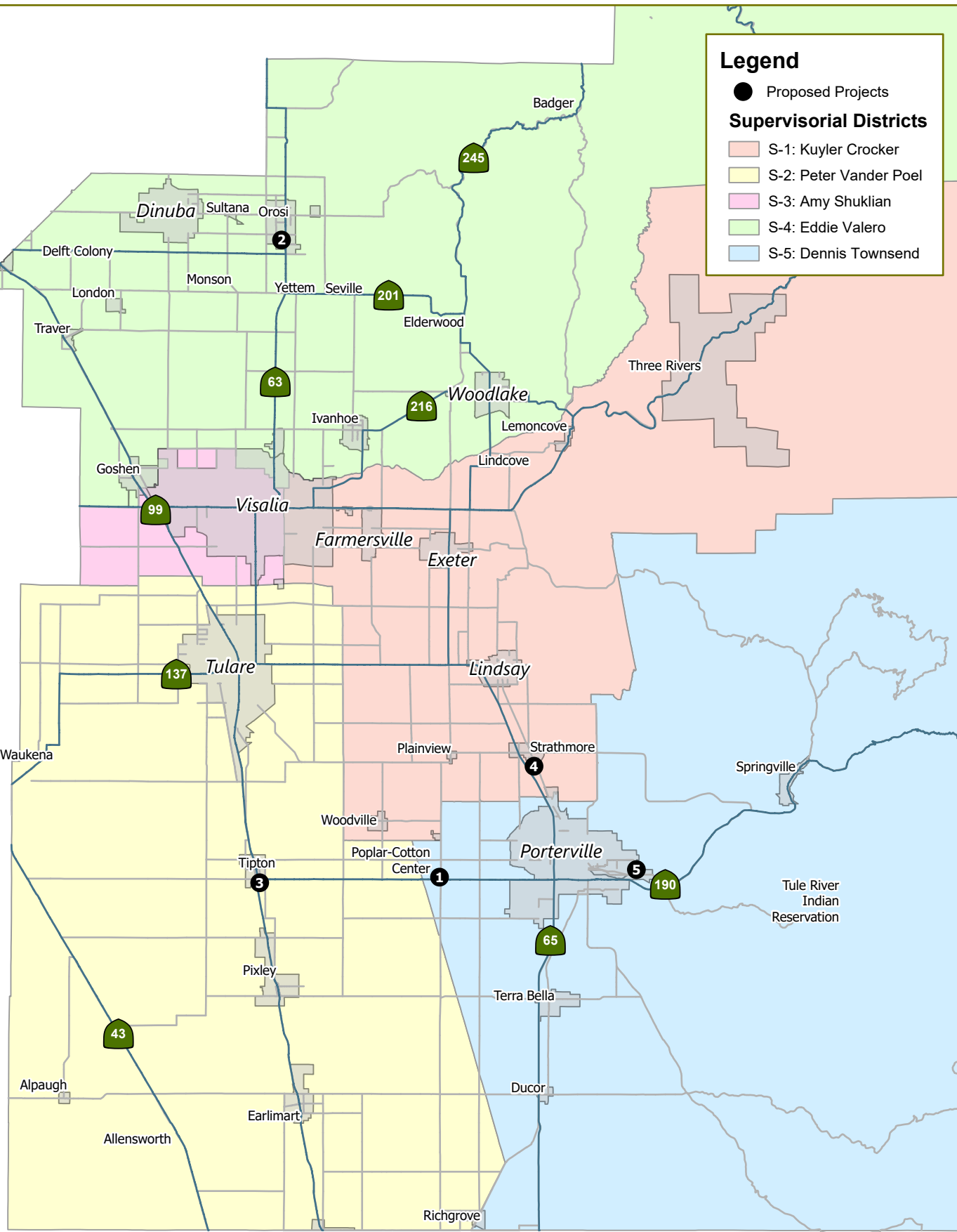
Legend

- Proposed Projects

Supervisorial Districts

- S-1: Kuyler Crocker
- S-2: Peter Vander Poel
- S-3: Amy Shuklian
- S-4: Eddie Valero
- S-5: Dennis Townsend

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



Road 16 Road 40 Road 64 Road 88 Road 112 Road 136 Road 160 Road 184 Road 208 Road 232 Road 256



Attachment B

Project 1: Poplar Vicinity Map



Avenue 147

Walker

Imperial

Kilroy

Avenue 146

Tobias

Pleasant View Elementary School



Road 190

Road 191

Road 193

Avenue 145

Imper Al

Road 192


State Hwy 190

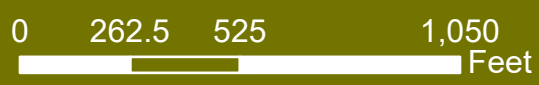
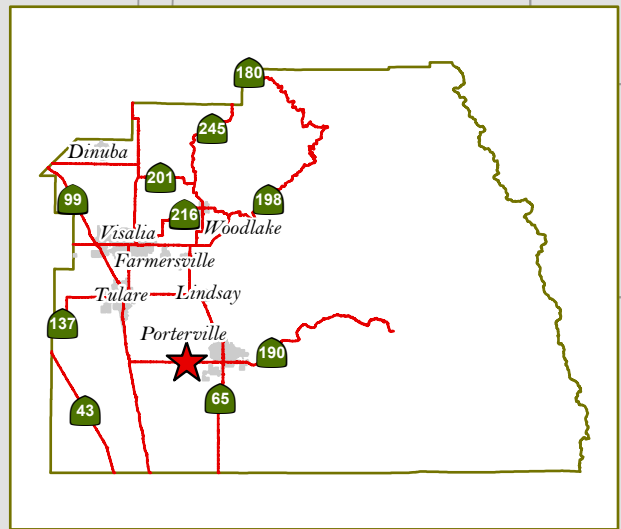


Legend

 Unincorporated Community

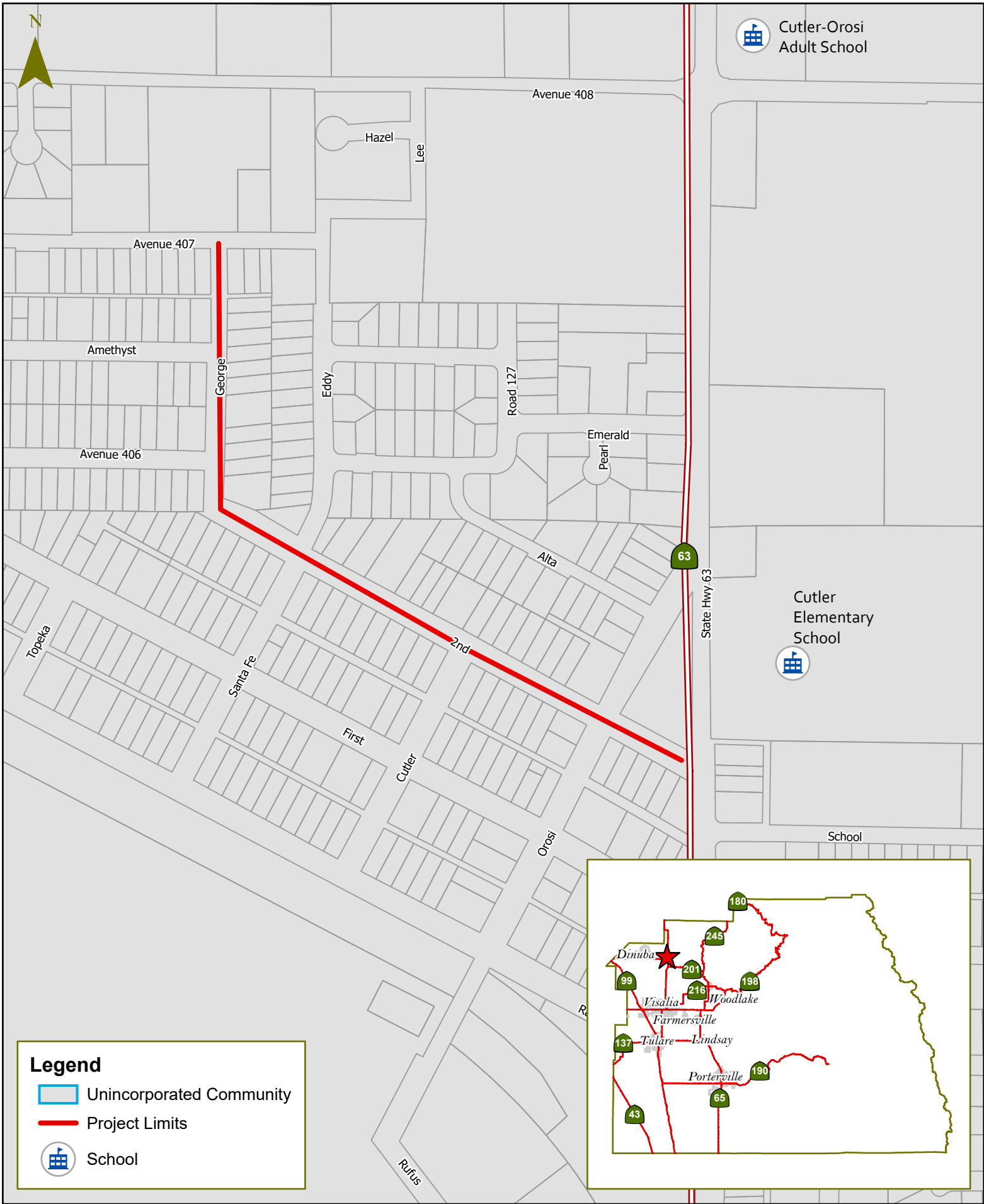
 Project Limits

 School






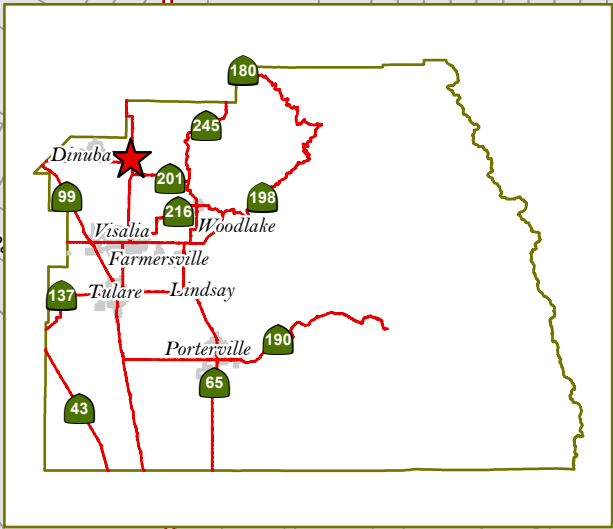
Attachment C

Project 2: Cutler Vicinity Map



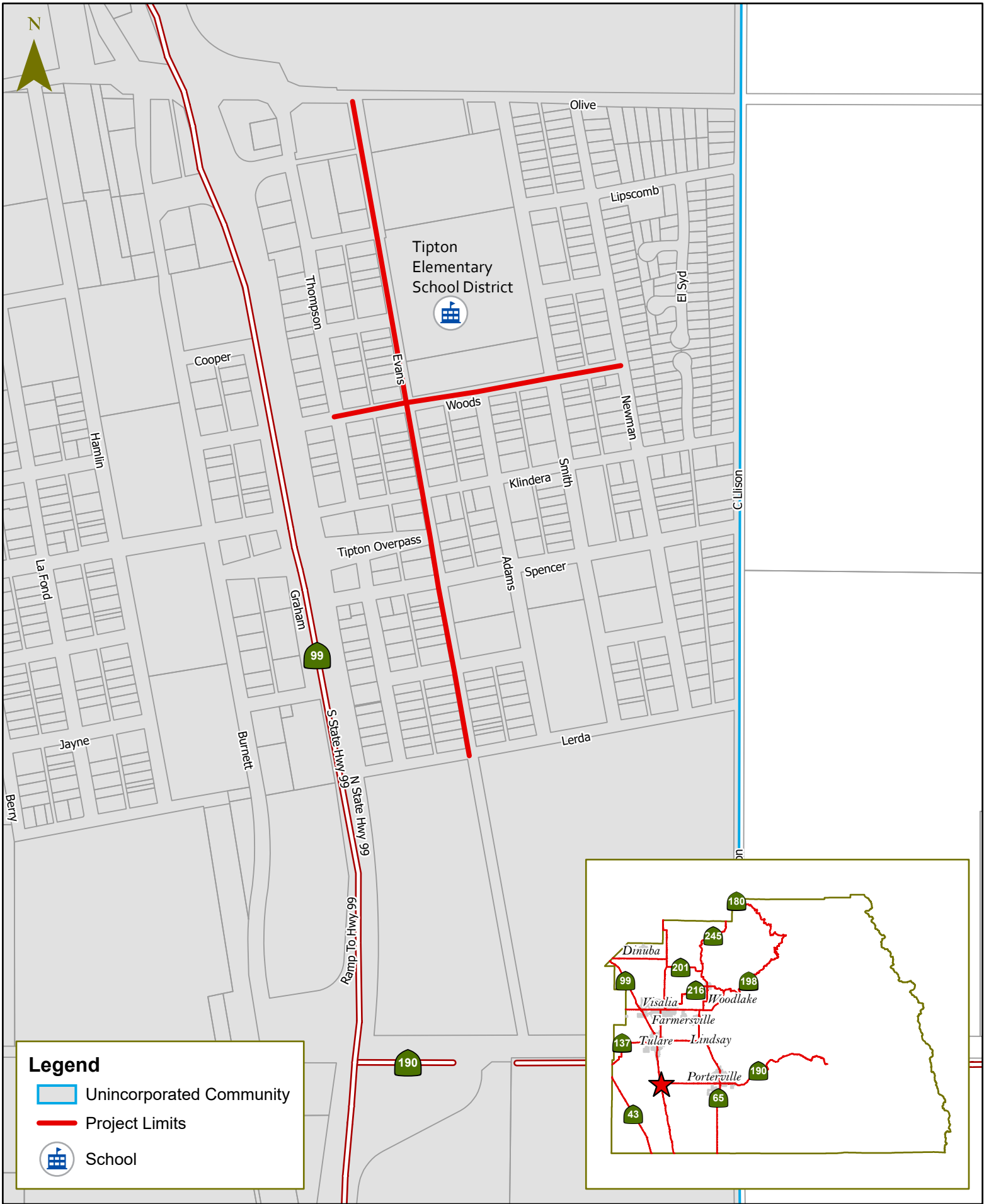
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-  Unincorporated Community
-  Project Limits
-  School






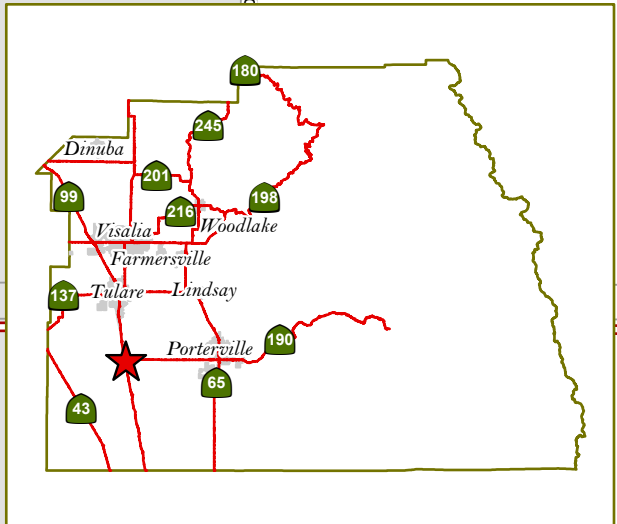
Attachment D

Project 3: Tipton Vicinity Map



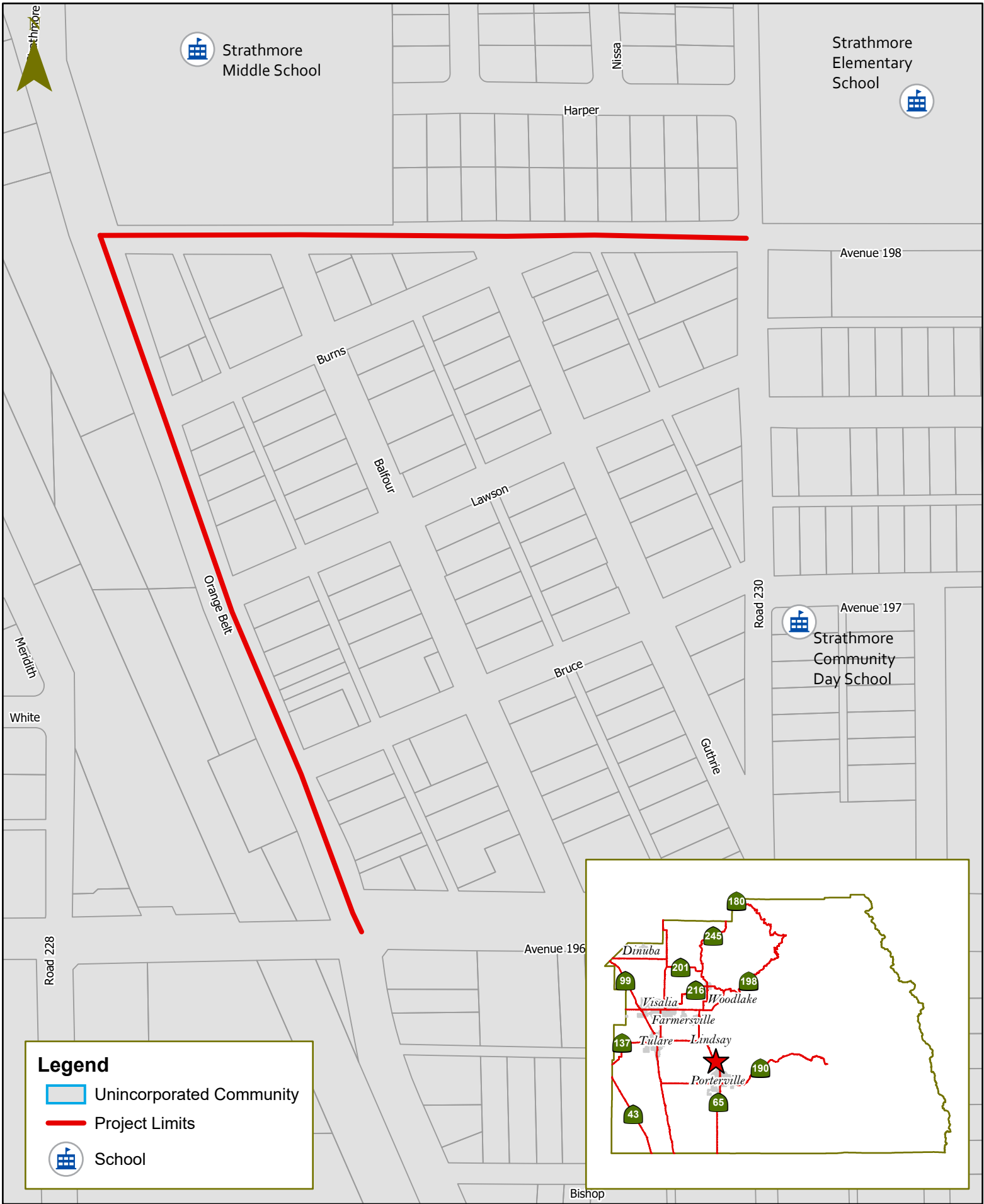
Legend

-  Unincorporated Community
-  Project Limits
-  School






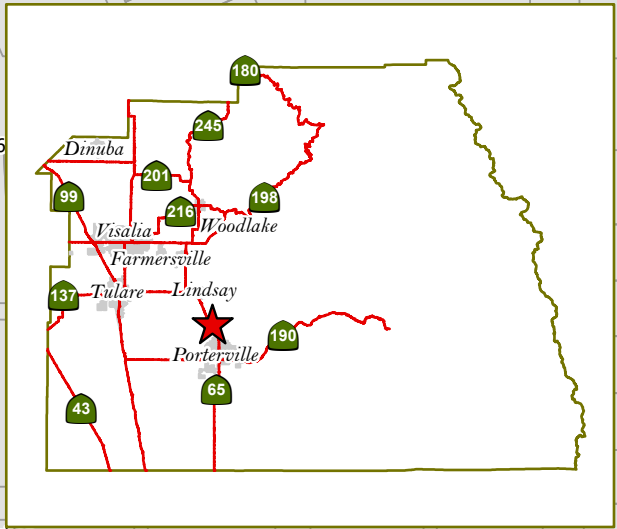
Attachment E

Project 4: Strathmore Vicinity Map



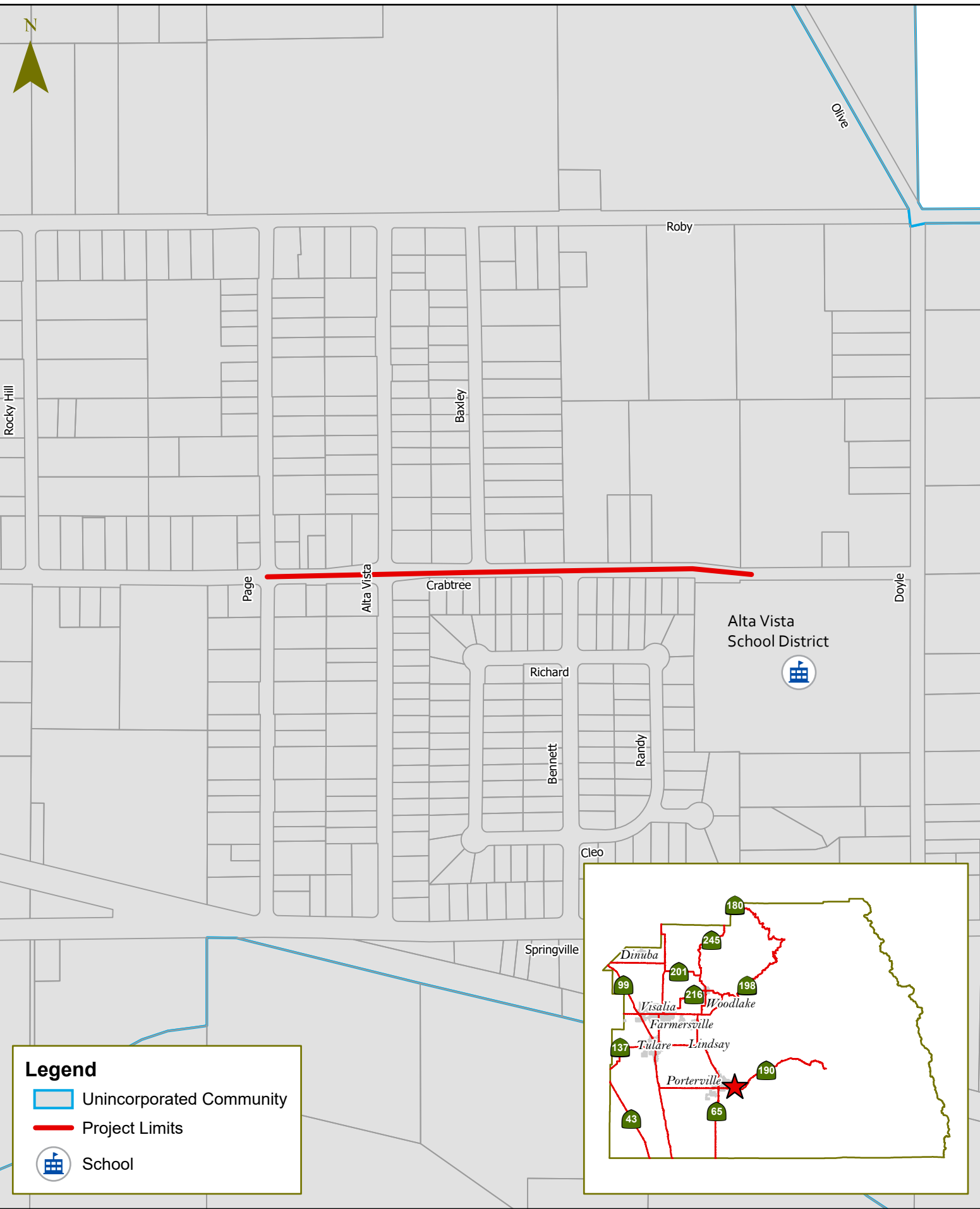
Legend

-  Unincorporated Community
-  Project Limits
-  School



Attachment F




Project 5: East Porterville Vicinity Map



Alta Vista
School District



Legend

-  Unincorporated Community
-  Project Limits
-  School

