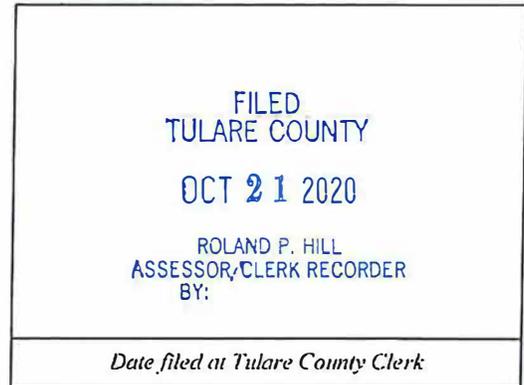


Notice of Exemption

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
- Lead Agency: Tulare County Resource Management Agency
5961 South Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, Ca 93277
Attn: hguerra@co.tulare.ca.us; Ph: (559) 624-7121
- Applicant(s): Tulare County General Services Agency
2637 W. Burrell Avenue, Suite 200
Visalia, CA 93291 Ph: (559) 205-1100



Project Title: Government Plaza Parking Lot Project
Project Location – Specific: Near the northwest corner of Mooney Blvd. (SR 63) and Avenue 268. in Visalia, CA
Project Location- Section, Township, Range: N/A
Project Location - City: Visalia, CA Project Location - County: Tulare

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Activity/Project: Tulare County General Services will be undertaking a 4-Phase project to improve, repair and replace existing parking lot and parking lot drive lanes, and add a new parking lot on the north side of the Government Plaza Building. The original development of the site included infrastructure for expanding parking in the area of the current planned parking lot expansion project.

Phase 1 of the project will include the construction of new parking on the north side of the Government Plaza Building. The new parking area will add 99 standard spaces, 5 Electric Vehicle Charging spaces, and 17 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant parking spaces. The new parking area will also reduce the originally planned motorcycle parking spaces from 17 to 3 motorcycle parking spaces to accommodate the ADA-compliant and Electric Vehicle Charging spaces. The total area for the new parking area construction is approximately 1.25 acres. The new parking area construction will include the removal of some 14 existing decorative, non-native, non-special status trees (10 approximately 30' in height and 4 approximately 15'-20' in height) and exterior sidewalk that needs to be reconstructed to meet ADA path of travel standards to the Government Plaza building from the new parking area. The new parking area construction will include concrete work for curbs and gutters, sidewalks, and medians. The main surface for the new parking area will be asphalt concrete. New landscaping (e.g., trees, shrubs, etc.) will be included along with the installation of new irrigation lines. The grading for the new parking area will be primarily fill. Storm drainage from the new parking area will connect to the existing storm drainage infrastructure. The existing ponding basin for storm drainage is on the Government Plaza property and was originally designed to accept/accommodate storm drainage from the proposed new parking area.

Phases 2, 3, and 4 include the repaving of existing parking areas and parking lot drive lanes on the south and west sides of the building. Repaving of the drive lanes will include the main facility entrance drive from the intersection of Mooney Blvd. and Avenue 268. The repaving will include the removal of the existing deteriorated asphalt concrete and the compaction of existing aggregate base or replacement of aggregate base in select areas. Once the existing paving demolition/removal is complete the new asphalt concrete paving will be installed. ADA parking in Phases 2, 3, and 4 areas has been recently updated and the scope for the ADA parking will be limited to restriping as needed. The total area for Phases 2, 3, and 4 is approximately 4.5 acres. Existing curbs, gutters, and landscaping and irrigation in Phases 2, 3, and 4 will not be disturbed as a part as this project. In the area of the drive lane connection to the intersection of Mooney Blvd. and Avenue 268 the traffic light loops west of the intersection will need to be reconstructed as a part of the Phase 2 construction. Thus, this Project, when completed, will provide a public benefit by providing additional, safe, and convenient standard parking, additional handicap parking spaces, electric vehicle charging spaces, sidewalk improvements, etc.; for visitors, customers, and employees utilizing Government Plaza.

Exempt Status: (check one)

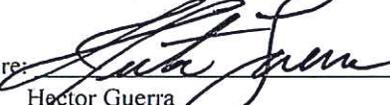
- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- General Rule: CEQA guidelines 15061 (b)(3)

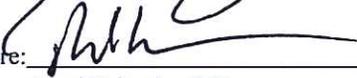
- X Categorical Exemption: CEQA Guidelines Class 1 Section 15301 Existing Facilities (c) and Section 15300.4
- Statutory Exemptions:

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. In this instance, parking areas and parking lot drive lanes, including the main facility entrance drive from the intersection of Mooney Blvd. and Avenue 268 at Tulare County Government Plaza. 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, Number 300 Section 111. CATEGORICAL EXEMPTIONS Class 1(c)(2) and Class 2: Replacement or Reconstruction (c). As such, Sections 15301(c) and 15300.4 are applicable and appropriate for this project

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

Project Planner/Representative: Mark Van Fossen. Capital Projects Coordinator II Area Code/Telephone: 559-205-1140

Signature:  _____ Date: 10/20/20 Title: Chief Environmental Planner
Hector Guerra

Signature:  _____ Date: 10/29/20 Title: Environmental Assessment Officer
Reed Schenke, P.E. RMA Director

X Signed by Lead Agency

Date received for filing at OPR: N/A