

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

Tulare County Clerk
Room 105, Courthouse
221 South Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93291

February 2, 2022

DJ

DATE SUBMITTED TO STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Lead Agency: Tulare County Resource Management Agency
5961 South Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93277 (559) 624-7000
Attn: hguerra@tularecounty.ca.gov
jwillis@tularecounty.ca.gov

Applicant(s): Tulare County Public Works
5961 South Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93277 (559) 624-7000

Project Title: Avenue 328 Safety Improvements Project

Project Location - Specific: Avenue 328 corridor at the intersections of Road 112, Road 138 and Road 156.

Project Location- Section, Township, Range: Sections 1 & 12, T18S, R24E, & Sections 2 thru 6, T18S, R25E, MDBM

Project Location - City: Near the unincorporated community of Ivanhoe

Project Location - County: Tulare

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The purpose of the Avenue 328 Safety Improvements Project is to improve the safety and traffic operations along the Avenue 328 corridor by constructing left-turn pockets at its intersections with Road 112, Road 138 and Road 156. More specifically, the Avenue 328 and Road 112 intersection will consist of an eastbound left-turn lane, the Avenue 328 and Road 138 intersection will consist of a westbound left-turn lane, and the Avenue 328 and Road 156 intersection will consist of left-turn lanes in both directions. The project includes right-of-way acquisitions to accommodate intersection widening associated with the installation of the left turn lanes. Construction activities will include roadway excavation, placement of aggregate base and pavement, construction of roadside drainage, and signing/stripping installations. The Avenue 328 Safety Improvements Project will enhance the safety and the security of the public by improving the transportation infrastructure for the general population throughout the region. Construction is anticipated to begin during the Summer of 2022.

Exempt Status: (check one)


- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
 Common Sense: CEQA guidelines 15061(b)(3)
 Categorical Exemption: **CEQA Guidelines Class 1 Section 15301 Existing Facilities (c) and 15300.4, Application by Public Agencies**
 Statutory Exemptions:

Reasons why project is exempt: This action is intended to provide improved safety and security of the existing roadway. This action is consistent with Class 1 Section 15301, Existing Structures (c), as activities associated with the project will include minor alterations of the existing facilities with negligible or no expansion of capacity. Also, this action is 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: Existing Facilities (c). As such, Sections 15301 and 15300.4 are applicable and appropriate for this project.

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

Project Planner/Representative: Reed Schenke, Director

Area Code/Telephone: 559-624-7142

By:  Date: 02/01/22 Title: Chief Environmental Planner
Hector Guerra

By:  Date: 2/1/22 Title: Environmental Assessment Officer
Reed Schenke, P.E. RMA Director

Signed by Lead Agency