



# County of Fresno

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING  
STEVEN E. WHITE, DIRECTOR

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

- TO:  Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814
- County Clerk, County of Fresno  
2221 Kern Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

For County Clerk's Stamp

FROM: Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning  
Development Services and Capital Projects Division  
2220 Tulare Street (corner of Tulare and "M") Suite "A", Fresno, CA 93721

PROJECT TITLE: Environmental Review Application No. 7711

PROJECT APPLICANT/SPONSOR: Diana Nuttman, Design Division

PROJECT LOCATION – COUNTY: The project extends along each side of American Avenue from Placer Avenue to Madera Avenue (approximately 5.9 miles) in Fresno County. The drainage ditch is proposed between Plumas Avenue and Humboldt Avenue and the storage lane is proposed from the entrance to American Avenue Landfill to approximately 1,400 feet east of the entrance.

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: The proposed project consists of constructing a 4-foot wide paved shoulder with shoulder backing on each side of American Avenue. The shoulder would be paved with asphalt concrete over aggregate base and compacted native soil. Existing cross section slopes, profile grades and drainage patterns would not be affected. At road intersections, the shoulder improvements would be paved to match existing intersecting road pavement while affected parts of access roads and driveways would be removed and replaced with the same structural section as the shoulder widening. In addition, the applicant proposes to construct an approximately 10-foot wide V-ditch with a 2:1 slope on the north side of American Avenue and an 1,400-foot long storage lane at the entrance to the American Avenue Landfill. Three power poles may be relocated in order to accommodate the turn-lane.

NAME OF PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING PROJECT: Fresno County Board of Supervisors

NAME OF PERSON OR AGENCY CARRYING OUT PROJECT: Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning, Development Services and Capital Projects Division, Contact: Diana Nuttman, Planner (559) 600-4297.

EXEMPT STATUS: Categorical exemption: Section 15301 and 15302

REASONS WHY THE PROJECT IS EXEMPT: No increase to the amount of through lanes on American Avenue is proposed; the proposed turn-lane will provide vehicle storage for vehicles queuing for entrance into the American Avenue Landfill site. Removed soil will be tested for lead content. If lead is detected and disposal of excess soil is required, the developer will adhere to Caltrans 2015 Special Standard Provisions (SSP) 14-11.8 in addition to Caltrans 2015 Standard Specifications. Construction noise associated with this project would be short term and intermittent and the Fresno County Noise Ordinance specifically exempts construction-related noise impacts associated with the maintenance of public utilities conducted between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. There are no bridge crossings within the project limits and this project does not include provisions for a septic system or a well. This length of American Avenue is not in a special flood hazard area and does not provide habitat for special status species. The proposed drainage ditch is required to ensure the safety of drivers along this section of American Avenue,

where flooding is a concern. The three power poles which are proposed to be removed will be replaced in generally the same position, especially when considered relative to the edge of the roadway. The replacement towers may be of greater height than existing, but this does not relate to any increase in use or service. Increased height may be necessary due to topography of the landscaping beneath the wires.

**LEAD AGENCY**

**CONTACT PERSON:** Chrissy Monfette

**AREA CODE/TELEPHONE:** (559) 600-4245

**If filed by the applicant:**

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project?  
 Yes     No

Signature: M. Mollring  
Marianne Mollring, Senior Planner

Date: 9-24-19

- Signed by Lead Agency    Date received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signed by Applicant

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