

# 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 Blvd.  
Visalia, CA 93291

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

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

Project Title: Rocky Hill Drive Reconstruction Project

Project Location - Specific: Rocky Hill Drive (Avenue 280) between State Route 65 and Spruce Road (Road 204)

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

Project Location - City: Exeter

Project Location -County: Tulare

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** The purpose of this project is to reconstruct the existing two-lane undivided, 40-foot-wide pavement section of Rocky Hill Drive (Avenue 280) between State Route 65 and Exeter's city limits. The activity would involve pulverizing the existing two-lane, 24-foot-wide pavement section, and overlaying a two-lane undivided, 28-foot-wide pavement section between Exeter's City Limits and Spruce Road. All newly reconstructed roadway will receive new traffic stripes, pavement markings and pedestrian crossings. Additional improvements include the construction of curb and gutter, sidewalks, accessible curb ramps, drive approaches, rectangular rapid flashing beacon system, advance warning flashing beacons, related striping/signing, parking lot and drainage facility improvements. Improvements to the pedestrian path of travel will result in improved visibility for motorists approaching pedestrian crossings, accommodate persons with disabilities, and increase safety for pedestrians using the facilities. The project also includes railroad improvements including but not limited to a safe pedestrian path of travel across the tracks and updated railroad crossings signs. In addition, a storm water basin will be proposed to retained storm water run-off and water line stub-outs will be installed for future water improvements. The project will not result in an increase to the roadway's vehicular capacity. Efficient and responsive improvements of the City of Exeter and County road networks will enhance the safety and security of the public by improving the access of the pedestrians throughout the region. Construction is anticipated to begin in spring of 2024 and is expected to be completed Fall of 2024.

### Exempt Status: (check one)

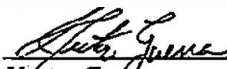
- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Common Sense Rule: CEQA guidelines 15061(b)(3)
- Categorical Exemption: CEQA Guidelines Class 1 Section 15301 Existing Facilities (c) and Class 3 Section 15303 New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures**
- Statutory Exemptions:

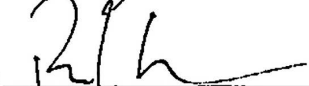
<p>FILED TULARE COUNTY AUG 30 2022 ASSESSOR/CLERK RECORDER BY: JR</p>
<p>DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING AT TULARE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE</p>

**Reasons why project is exempt:** This action is consistent with Class 1 Section 15301, Existing Facilities (c) Existing highways and streets, sidewalks, gutters, bicycle and pedestrian trails, and similar facilities, as activities associated with the project will include replacement of existing facilities with negligible or no expansion of capacity. Class 3 Section 15303 applies as a new storm water retention basin and stub-outs will also be constructed over time. 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: Existing Facilities (c). As such, Sections 15301, 15303, and 15300.4 are applicable and appropriate for this project.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Tulare County Board of Supervisors

**Project Planner/Representative:** Reed Schenke, Director **Telephone:** 559-624-7142

Signature:  **Date:** 08/30/22 **Title:** Chief Environmental Planner  
Hector Guerra

Signature:  **Date:** 8/30/22 **Title:** Environmental Assessment Officer  
Reed Schenke, P.E. RMA Director

Signed by Lead Agency

**Date submitted to OPR:** \_\_\_\_\_