

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: ___ Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

FROM: City of Ridgecrest
Department of Public Works
100 W. California Avenue
Ridgecrest, California 93555

X County Clerk
County of Kern California
1115 Truxtun Avenue, 1st Floor
Bakersfield, CA 93301-4639

Project Title: West Ward Avenue Improvements Phase 2

Project Location: West Ward Avenue between N. Norma St. and N. Downs St., Ridgecrest

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries: See attached project description

Public Agency Approving Project: City of Ridgecrest Public Works Department

Name of Agency Carrying Out Project: City of Ridgecrest

This is to advise that the City of Ridgecrest Public Works Department has approved the above described project on _____ and has made the determination that the project is exempt due to the following:

Exempt Status (check one):

- Ministerial (§ 21080 (b) (1); § 15268)
- Declared Emergency (§ 21080 (b) (3); § 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (§ 21080 (B) (4); § 15269(b) (c))
- Categorical Exemption: Class 1: Repair/Maintenance of Existing Streets and Highways (§ 15301(c))
- Statutory Exemption (§ _____)

Reason(s) why project is exempt: The project is limited to re-surfacing the existing street, installing ADA-compliant curb ramps, repairing existing sidewalk segments, placing signage and striping, and replacing existing storm drain piping. See Project Description on following page.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Travis Reed, Public Works Director, Department of Public Works

Signature: 

Date: 04/20/2023

Project Description:

The proposed project is within the City of Ridgecrest (Kern County) and includes resurfacing approximately 2,600 linear feet of West Ward Avenue between North Norma Street and North Downs Street with localized repairs, installing ADA-compliant curb ramps and commercial driveways, minor repairs to broken curb and gutter, and signing & striping. Ward Avenue is a 4-lane roadway with a striped median designated as a major east-west travel corridor (secondary street) by the Circulation Element of the City of Ridgecrest General Plan. The resurfacing is anticipated to consist of 1.75-inch Cold Mill, a 0.5-inch leveling course, GlasGrid in the travel lanes, and a layer of 1.25-inch Hot Mix Asphalt.

In addition to the pavement resurfacing, the project includes re-excavating/backfilling an approximately 67'L x 6'W x 8'D trench across W. Ward Ave. on the west side of Downs St., and an approximately 20'L x 4'W x 8'D trench at the southwest corner of W. Ward Ave. and Sierra View St. for replacement storm drain pipes.

The project has independent utility and will not require future construction to function. The project does not require new right-of-way for construction. The project does not involve landscaping activities that use known invasive plant species. All work is within operational right-of-way.

Setting: West Ward Avenue is bordered by residential, commercial and institutional land uses. There is no natural habitat within or immediately adjacent to the project boundaries. See Project Location aerial view (Figure 2) below.

Beneficiaries: The general public will benefit from an improved road surface and ride quality for vehicles and bicycles. Residents and visitors to the City will benefit from the improved ride quality. Persons using wheelchairs or other mobility devices will benefit from new ADA-compliant ramps at West Ward's intersections.

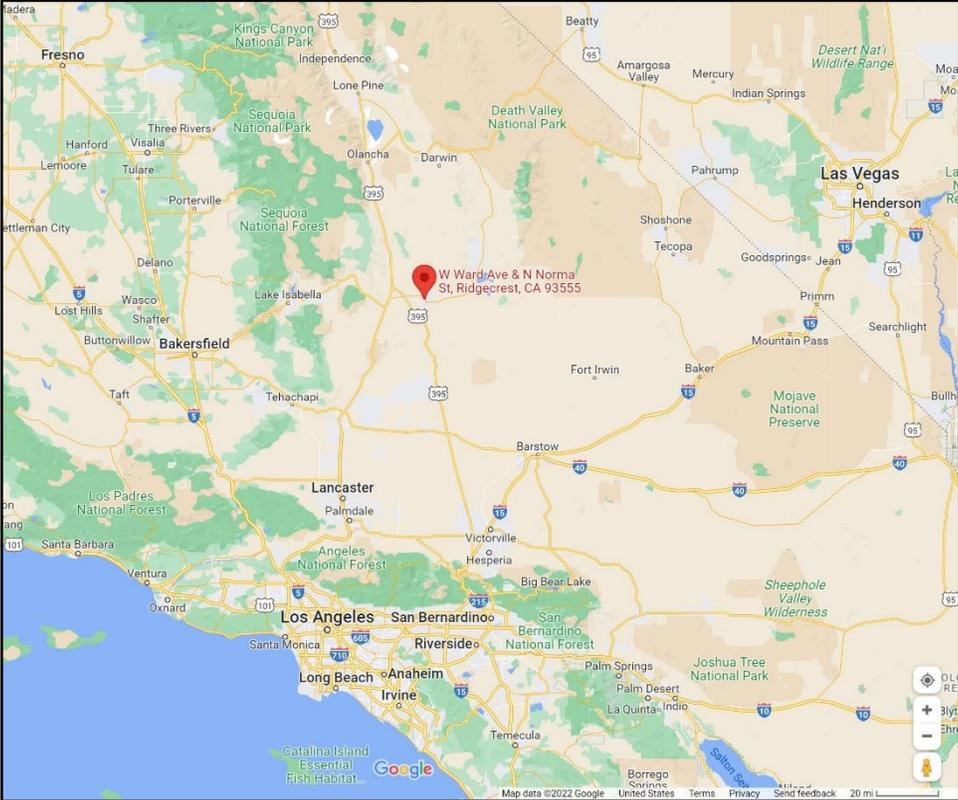


Figure 2 -Regional Location

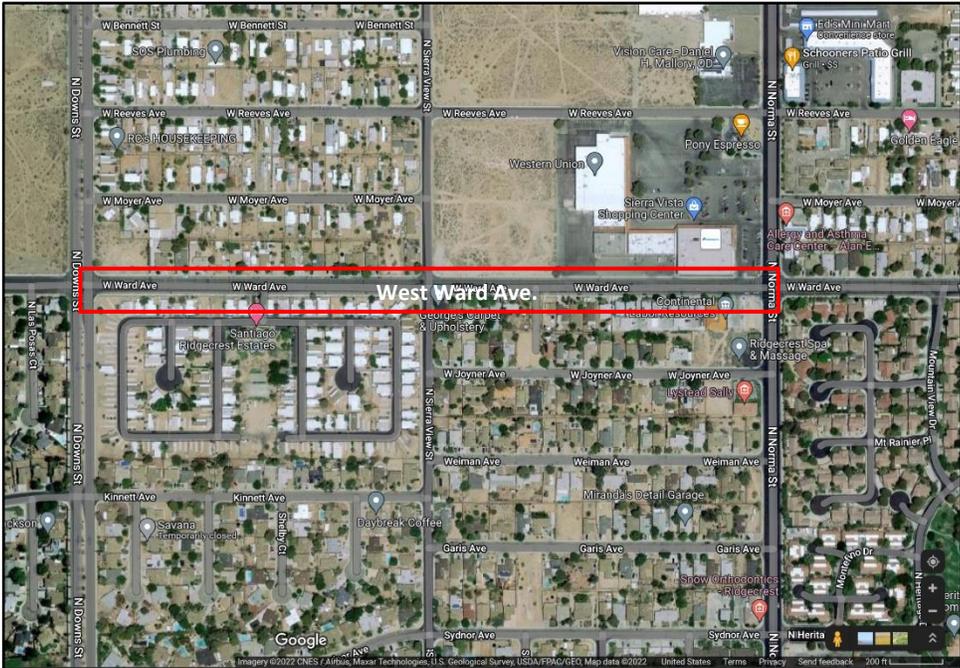


Figure 2 – Project Location