

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@tularecountv.ca.gov and jwillis@tularecountv.ca.gov

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

Project Title: HSIP Cycle 10 Guardrail Upgrades Safety Improvement Project HSIPSL-5946(195)

Project Location - Specific: Location 1 – Avenue 144 and State Route 43;
Location 2 – Burnett Road and Avenue 152;
Location 3 – Road 12 and State Route 99;
Location 4 – Road 140 and Avenue 272;
Location 5 – Road 196 North of Lort Drive;
Location 6 – Road 196 South of Lort Drive;
Location 7 – Road 228 and Yokohl Drive; and
Location 8 – Road 236 and Avenue 104

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

Project Location - City: within or in proximity of Tipton, Kingsburg, Visalia, Exeter, Terra Bella, and Corcoran, CA
Project Location - County: Tulare

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The purpose and need of the project are to improve the safety of the traveling public on rural segments of County roads by implementing countermeasures identified in the Caltrans Highway Safety Manual, consistent with the goals of the Highway Safety Improvement Program. The Project consists of upgrade improvements to existing, damaged, outdated, and destroyed guardrails to meet current standards at eight (8) locations. The Project also includes permanent right of way acquisition to accommodate the proposed guardrail lengths at some locations, as well as corrective work on the shoulders for all locations. Construction is anticipated to begin in the Spring of 2026.

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)
- Statutory Exemptions:


<p>FILED TULARE COUNTY OCT 19 2023 ASSESSOR/CLERK RECORDER BY:</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. 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 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: 10/18/23 Title: Chief Environmental Planner
Hector Guerra

Signature:  _____ Date: 10/19/23 Title: Environmental Assessment Officer
Reed Schenke, P.E. RMA Director

Signed by Lead Agency **Date submitted to OPR:** _____