## **Notice of Exemption**

Fee Exempt per Government Code Section 6103

To: X Office of Planning and Research

1400 Tenth Street, Room 121 Sacramento, CA 95814

X Tulare County Clerk

Room 105, Courthouse 221 South Mooney Boulevard Visalia, California 93291

Lead Agency: Tulare County c/o Resource Management Agency

5961 South Mooney Blvd.

Visalia, Ca 93277 Ph: (559) 624-7000

Attn:gmills@tularecounty.ca.gov and jwillis@tularecounty.ca.gov

Applicant(s): Tulare County General Services Agency

2637 W. Burrell Avenue, Suite 200

Visalia, CA 93291 Ph: (559) 205-1100

Project Title: Laboratory Addition Hillman Center

Project Location - Specific: 1062 S. K St., Tulare, CA 93274

Project Location- Section, Township, Range: S. 14, T. 20S, R. 24E, MDBM

Project Location - City: <u>Tulare</u>, <u>CA</u>

Project Location - County: <u>Tulare</u>

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Activity/Project: The Laboratory Addition Hillan Center Project consists of adding an additional 2,250 square feet to an existing facility which is currently 6,740 square feet. The new total building square footage will be 8,990 square feet. The additional laboratory space construction will provide biologic safety level 3 standard laboratory space, biologic safety level 2 standard laboratory space, additional office space, a new restroom, and a room for microscopy lab work. The construction methods will match the existing building and will include site work, modification of existing parking to provide updated ADA parking and ADA path of travel, relocation of an existing transformer, concrete, framing, masonry, Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning (HVAC), plumbing, electrical, roofing, and other construction finishes. The project is funded by the California Department of Public Health to provide improved and expanded facilities for Advanced Molecular Detection related to providing public health services to the community. The existing Laboratory is located on the Hillman Center campus in Tulare, California. The Hillman Center campus has multiple government buildings that provide services to the public for public benefit. The services provided by the Laboratory Addition will be consistent with existing services currently being provided on the campus.

Exempt Status: (check one)

☐ Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268)

- ☐ General Rule: CEQA guidelines 15061(b)(3)
- X Categorical Exemption: CEQA Guidelines Class 1 Section 15301 Existing Facilities (e)
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions:

Reasons why project is exempt: This action is consistent with Section 15301 Class 1, Existing Facilities (e) Additions to existing structures. Tulare County General Services will be constructing the Laboratory Addition to provide an improved and expanded facility for Public Health laboratory work at the Tulare County Public Health Laboratory Hillman Center. The addition to the existing laboratory is less than 2,500 square feet. The project is located within the City of Tulare at an existing facility, is not located on a hazardous waste site, and will not have a significant or cumulatively significant impact on scenic highways, historical resources, or the environment. As such, Sections 15301(e) is applicable and appropriate for this project.

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

FILED TULARE COUNTY

MAY 7 2024

ASSESSOR / CLERK-RECORDER BY:

Date filed at Tulare County Clerk

Project Planner/Representative: Mark Van Fossen, Capital Projects Coordinator III Area Code/Telephone: 559-205-1140		
Signature: _ Han a Mills	Date: 5/7/2024	Title: Chief Environmental Planner
Gary A. Mills		
Signature: 14 A Reed Schenke, P.E.	Date:5/7/24	Title: Environmental Assessment Officer RMA Director
➤ Signed by Lead Agency	Date received for filing at OPR:	

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