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COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

TRANSPORTATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

August 12, 2024

PROJECT TITLE: Adoption of amendment to Ordinance No. 673 to reflect changes in the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF) Program

Work Order# ZTR1100 Task Code #ZADM

PROJECT SPONSOR: County of Riverside Transportation Department

PROJECT LOCATION: Coachella Valley

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The County of Riverside is a Member of the CVAG, a joint powers agency consisting of public agencies situated in the Coachella Valley. Acting in concert, Member Agencies developed a plan whereby the shortfall in funds needed to enlarge the capacity of the Regional System of Highways and Arterials within CVAG's jurisdiction could be made up in part by a TUMF on future residential, commercial and industrial development. As a Member Agency of CVAG, the County will prepare a resolution to adopt changes in CVAG TUMF Program.

Pursuant to the Mitigation Fee Act (Gov. Code §§ 66000 et seq.), CVAG prepared a new nexus study to update fees for the TUMF Program. On April 30, 2018, the CVAG Executive Committee reviewed and approved the 2018 TUMF Nexus Study to reflect changes in the TUMF Program based on changes in the TUMF network and costs of construction. The TUMF Nexus Study also included analysis of an annual inflation factor based on the Consumer Price Index for the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario metropolitan area. CVAG reviews the CPI annually to determine whether to apply the inflation factor to ensure that the TUMF is a fair and equitable method of distributing the costs of the improvements necessary to accommodate traffic volumes on the Regional System generated by future growth. On April 29, 2024, the CVAG Executive Committee approved a 3.6 percent annual increase to the TUMF based on the increase to the Consumer Price Index for Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario metropolitan area in 2024. The increased TUMF is set to take effect on January 1, 2025. The CVAG Executive Committee recommends the member agencies prepare amendments to their respective ordinances to adopt and implement the increased TUMF.

Based on the recommendations of the CVAG Executive Committee on April 29, 2024, subsection a. of Section 7 of Riverside County Ordinance No. 673.8 will be amended, and the proposed ordinance amendment will establish the new fee schedule for TUMF, effective January 1, 2025

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ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

The Riverside County Transportation Department has found that the above-described Ordinance amendment is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), based on the following:

California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines:

Section 15061(b)(3) – General Rule Exemption – The activity is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA.

By: Don Copeland, Senior Transportation Planner

Signed: *Jan Bulinski*
Jan Bulinski, Environmental Project Manager