

# 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 c/o Resource Management Agency  
5961 South Mooney Blvd.  
Visalia, CA 93277 (559) 624-7000

Attn: [gmills@tularecounty.ca.gov](mailto:gmills@tularecounty.ca.gov) and [jwillis@tularecounty.ca.gov](mailto:jwillis@tularecounty.ca.gov)

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING AT TULARE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

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

Project Title: Vacation of Ranch Acres Road and Cross Avenue between Morrison Street and Ranch Acres Road, near the City of Tulare

Project Location - Specific: Ranch Acres Road and Cross Avenue between Morrison Street and Ranch Acres Road, east of the City of Tulare.

Project Location- Section, Township, Range: Southeast quarter of Section 6, Township 20 South, Range 25 East, M.D.M.

Project Location - City: East of the City of Tulare Project Location - County: Tulare

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** This activity will vacate the public right-of-way interest in Ranch Acres Road and Cross Avenue between Morrison Street and Ranch Acres Road. The County currently maintains these roads for public use and holds an easement interest over these segments of roadway. The vacation would extinguish the public easement, reserving the continued rights for any public utilities in place. Once the Board of Supervisors Resolution approving the vacation is recorded, the easement rights will revert to the underlying fee owners, and the County's maintenance rights and obligation will cease.

The proceeding to vacate was initiated by a petition by the residents fronting these two roads, who intended to privatize the roads by gating the entrances at Morrison Street and State Route 137 after the vacation is approved. The owners would assume maintenance responsibility and execute easements and agreements for shared access and maintenance. The vacation itself will not permit any construction or other improvements. The beneficiaries of the Project include the private property owners.

### Exempt Status: (check one)

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Common Sense Exemption: CEQA guidelines 15061(b)(3)
- Statutory Exemptions:

**Reasons why project is exempt:** The activity is covered by Section 15061 (b)(3), the Common Sense exemption on the grounds that 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. This exemption is appropriate because the activity is a right of way being vacated by the County in favor of the adjacent owners. Since the activity itself is only a change in title, this activity will not create significant traffic or vehicle miles traveled, nor will it create any significant effects regarding cumulative impacts, hazardous materials, cultural or biological resources, and no more so than had it remained a County road. Therefore, the County as lead agency can say with certainty there is sufficient evidence, logically and by the mere nature of the activity, to conclude that there will not be a significant effect on the environment as defined under State CEQA Guidelines § 15061(b)(3).

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

**Project Planner/Representative:** Robert Abrahamian, County Surveyor

**Telephone:** 559-624-7150

Signature:   
Gary A. Mills

Date: 10/7/2024

Title: Chief Environmental Planner

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reed Schenke, P.E.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: Environmental Assessment Officer  
RMA Director

Signed by Lead Agency

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