

**M e m o r a n d u m****To:** CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS**CTC Meeting:** June 25, 2014**Reference No.:** 2.2c (6)  
Action**From:** ANDRE BOUTROS  
Executive Director**Subject:** **APPROVAL OF PROJECT FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING - MITIGATED  
NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE SANTA FE TRAIL/UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD  
GRADE SEPARATION PROJECT (RESOLUTION E-14-29)****ISSUE:**

Should the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Santa Fe Trail/Union Pacific Railroad Grade Separation Project (project) in Tulare County and approve the project for future consideration of funding?

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Commission accept the MND and approve the project for future consideration of funding.

**BACKGROUND:**

The City of Tulare (City) is the CEQA lead agency for the project. The project is located south of Cross Avenue between I Street and K Street in the City of Tulare in Tulare County. The project will construct a pedestrian bridge over the Union Pacific Railroad track to connect the Santa Fe Trail between I and K Streets. The pedestrian bridge will also span over J Street. The project will include various improvements including lighting, landscaping, and upgrading of two crosswalks to a ladder style configuration. On July 16, 2013 the City adopted the final MND for the project and found that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment after mitigation.

Impacts that require mitigation measures to be reduced to a less than significant level relate to Air Quality, Hydrology & Water Quality and Transportation & Traffic. Mitigation measures include, but are not limited to: measures to reduce dust and emissions from construction equipment and operations, compliance with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) requirements, preparation and implementation of a stormwater pollution prevention plan, and development and implementation of a traffic management plan.

On May 30, 2014 the City confirmed that the preferred alternative set forth in the final environmental document is consistent with the project scope of work programmed by the Commission.

The project is estimated to cost \$7,363,000 and is fully funded through construction with HRCSA (\$3,931,000) and Local (\$3,432,000) funds. Construction is estimated to begin in fiscal year 2014/15.

Attachments

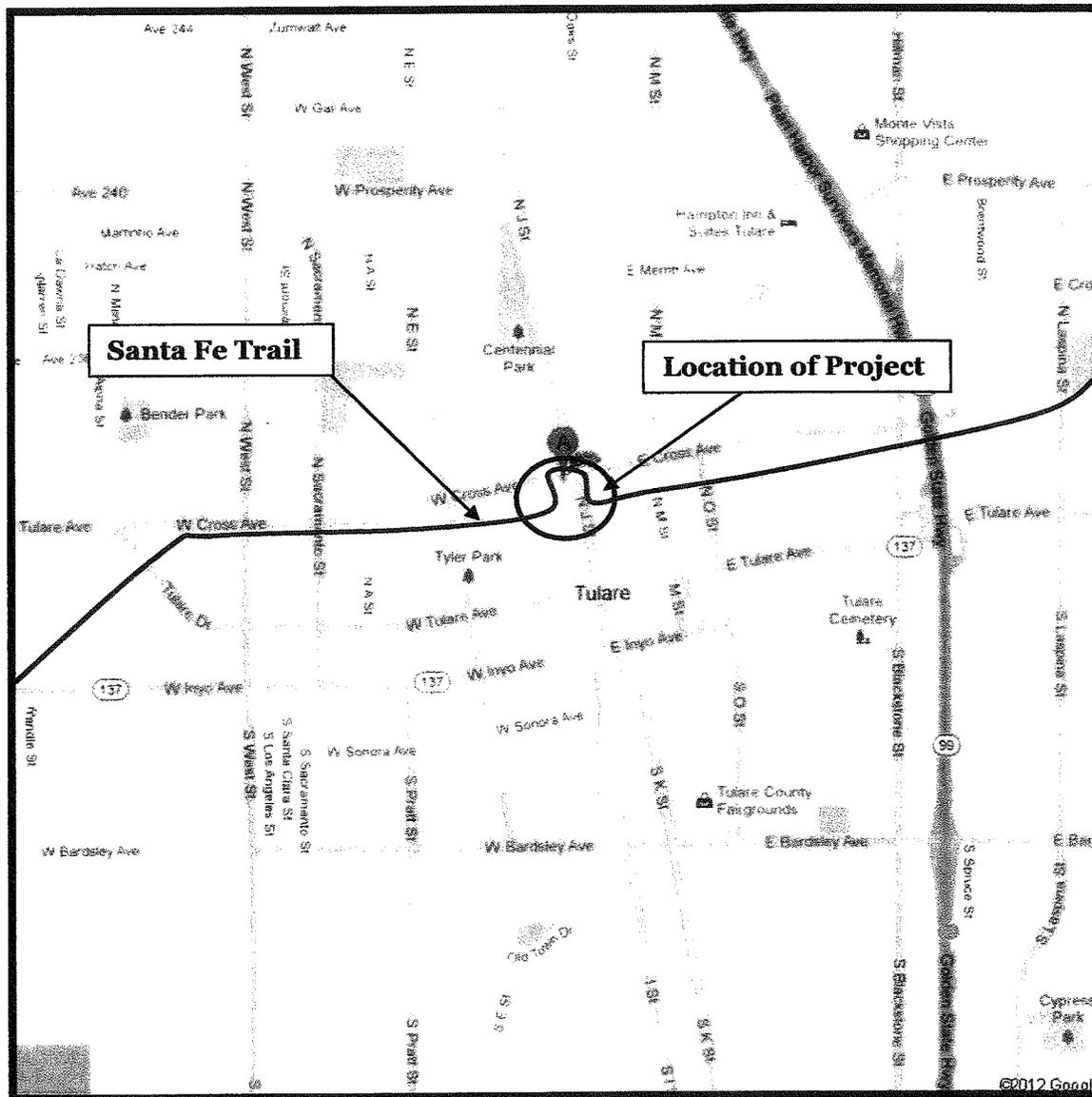
- Resolution E-14-29
- Project Location

# CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

## Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding 06 – Tulare County Resolution E-14-29

- 1.1 **WHEREAS**, the City of Tulare has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the following project:
  - Santa Fe Trail/Union Pacific Railroad Grade Separation Project
- 1.2 **WHEREAS**, the City of Tulare has certified that the Mitigated Negative Declaration has been completed pursuant to CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines for its implementation; and
- 1.3 **WHEREAS**, the project will construct a pedestrian bridge over the Union Pacific Railroad track to connect the Santa Fe Trail between I and K Streets. The pedestrian bridge will also span over J Street. The project will include various improvements including lighting, landscaping, and upgrading of two crosswalks to a ladder style configuration; and
- 1.4 **WHEREAS**, the California Transportation Commission, as a Responsible Agency, has considered the information contained in the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration; and
- 1.5 **WHEREAS**, the City of Tulare found that the proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment; and
- 1.6 **WHEREAS**, the City of Tulare approved the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration.
- 2.1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the California Transportation Commission does hereby accept the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration and approve the above referenced project to allow for future consideration of funding.

# FIGURE I



**Location Map**