



"Raising Expectations"

**Joint Meeting
Visalia Unified School District Board of Trustees/Visalia City Council**

Monday, January 12, 2009
Visalia Convention Center – 303 E. Acequia, Visalia, CA 93291

5:00 p.m. Dinner - (Elected officials and senior staff)
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Meeting

City of Visalia
Mayor: Jesus J. Gamboa
Vice Mayor: Bob Link
Council Member: Greg Collins
Council Member: Donald K. Landers
Council Member: Amy Shuklian

Visalia Unified School District
President: Juan Guerrero
Clerk: Jim L. Qualls
Board Member: William A. Fulmer
Board Member: Larry Jones
Board Member: Michael Lane
Board Member: Donna Martin
Board Member: Rodney Elder

AGENDA

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

INTRODUCTIONS/COMMENTS

CITIZENS REQUESTS - This is the time for members of the public to comment on any matter within the jurisdiction of the Visalia Unified School District Board/Visalia City Council. The Board Members and Council ask that you keep your comments brief and positive. The Board/Council members cannot legally discuss or take official action on citizen request items that are introduced tonight. In fairness to all who wish to speak tonight, each speaker from the public will be allowed three minutes. Please begin your comments by stating your name and providing your street name and city.

1. Mid-Year Facility Projects Update (PowerPoint Presentation) – Randy Groom, Administrative Services Director, VUSD
2. VUSD 9-12 Career Technical Education (CTE) & TCOVE/ROP Update - John Ramirez, Alternative Education/CTE/ROP Director, VUSD.
3. Budget Update (State/City/School) – Eric Frost, City of Visalia Administrative Services Director and Robert Groeber, VUSD Assistant Superintendent
4. City Development Update – Michael Olmos, Assistant City Manager City of Visalia
5. Foreclosure Update – Ricardo Noguera, Housing and Economic Development Director

6. Update on Annexation Timeline (Akers/Riggin) – Fred Brusuelas, Assistant Community Development Director City of Visalia
7. City Street Projects Update – Chris Young, Assistant Community Development Director, City of Visalia
 - Santa Fe Bridge
 - Ferguson Avenue Extension (Mooney Blvd. – Hall St)
 - Houston Avenue (Santa Fe St – Ben Maddox Way)
 - McAuliff at Mill Creek Overcrossing
 - Mooney Blvd at Goshen Avenue traffic signal
 - Tulare Avenue Extension (Lovers Lane – McAuliff St.)
 - Visalia Parkway (Dans Lane - County Center)

ADJOURNMENT

Upcoming Council Meetings:

- Tuesday, January 20, 2009, Work Session 4:00 p.m. Regular Session 7:00 p.m. Council Chambers, 707 W. Acequia, Visalia
- Friday, January 23, 2009, 12:30 – 9 p.m. Council Retreat, Convention Center, 303 E. Acequia, Visalia
- Saturday, January 24, 2009, 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Council Retreat, Convention Center, 303 E. Acequia, Visalia

In compliance with the American Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in meetings call (559) 713-4512 48-hours in advance of the meeting. For Hearing-Impaired - Call (559) 713-4900 (TDD) 48-hours in advance of the scheduled meeting time to request signing services.

Any written materials relating to an item on this agenda submitted to the Council after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Office of the City Clerk, 425 E. Oak Street, Visalia, CA 93291, during normal business hours.

VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Encl. No. 1

Board Meeting Date of January 12, 2009

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Stan A. Carrizosa, Superintendent

PREPARED BY: Randy Groom, Director, Administrative Services

APPROVED BY: Robert Gröeber, Assistant Superintendent Administrative Services

PRESENTED BY: Randy Groom, Director, Administrative Services

AGENDA TITLE: Mid-Year Facility Projects Update

AGENDA SECTION:

<input type="checkbox"/> Public Recognition/Proclamations/ Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Focus on Student Learning: Presentation/ Public Comment/Board Discussion/Action
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Comment/Public Interest Announcements/Status Reports/Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Routine Action
<input type="checkbox"/> General Agenda: Review/Public Hearing/Public Comment/Board Discussion/Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Panel Recommendations/ Action

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:

The Administrative Services Division has been involved in numerous facilities construction, repair, refurbishing, and upgrade projects over the past several months. At this point mid-way through the school year, we take this opportunity to update the Board on the status of the many projects recently completed or now underway.

CONTRACT CHANGES:

None

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Informational update only – no formal action required

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

None

VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Encl. No. 2

Board Meeting Date of January 12, 2009

TO: Board of Education
FROM: Stan A. Carrizosa, Superintendent
PREPARED BY: John Ramirez, Director – Alternative Education/CTE/ROP
APPROVED BY: Drew S. Sorensen, Area Administrator DSS
PRESENTED BY: John Ramirez, Director – Alternative Education/CTE/ROP

AGENDA TITLE: VUSD 9-12 Career Technical Education (CTE) & TCOVE/ROP Update

AGENDA SECTION:

<input type="checkbox"/> Public Recognition/Proclamations/ Action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Focus on Student Learning: Presentation/ Public Comment/Board Discussion/Action
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Comment/Public Interest Announcements/Status Reports/Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Routine Action
<input type="checkbox"/> General Agenda: Review/Public Hearing/Public Comment/Board Discussion/Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Panel Recommendations/ Action

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:

Career Technical Education is a viable part of our traditional high schools. This report will offer updates and trends in CTE.

CONTRACT CHANGES:

N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

N/A

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

N/A

**City of Visalia
Agenda Item Transmittal**

Meeting Date: January 12, 2008

Agenda Item Number (Assigned by City Clerk): 3

Agenda Item Wording: Budget Update

Deadline for Action: None

Submitting Department: Administrative Services

Contact Name and Phone Number: Eric Frost, Administrative Services Director x4474

Department Recommendation: That the City Council receives this interim budget report.

Summary/background: One half of the fiscal year has passed and the City remains in a fiscal fog about what will occur this year financially. The State has passed a budget, yet it now is facing the largest deficit it has ever faced without a plan to resolve its fiscal problems.

To make some sense out of this situation, consider the fiscal structure of the City. The City can be divided into roughly three equal parts:

1. General Fund Tax-supported Services;
2. City Business Operations such Solid Waste Collections; and,
3. Special Revenues Funds dedicated to specific purposes.

City business operations tend to remain fairly constant because they are utilities, services that people use about the same regardless of the state of the economy. The two exceptions to this generalization are the Convention Center and Valley Oak Golf.

Special Revenue Funds are typically used for either capital construction or limited operating budgets. The capital projects are usually fully funded before the project is budgeted. The operations funded by special revenues typically have reserves to weather the ups and downs of economic activity. For example, Measure T sales tax has an economic uncertainty fund to smooth out tax fluctuations.

As a result, Visalia's General Fund supported operations are the most vulnerable to the current economic and political (State Budget) conditions. Operational expenditures tend to come in

For action by:

City Council/VUSD
 Redev. Agency Bd.
 Cap. Impr. Corp.
 VPFA

For placement on which agenda:

Work Session
 Closed Session

Regular Session:

Consent Calendar
 Regular Item
 Public Hearing

Est. Time (Min.): _____

Review:

Dept. Head _____
(Initials & date required)

Finance _____
City Atty _____
(Initials & date required or N/A)

City Mgr _____
(Initials Required)

If report is being re-routed after revisions leave date of initials if no significant change has affected Finance or City Attorney Review.

within a few percentage points of budgeted costs. In contrast, budgeted revenues can fluctuate in the 10% range. The challenge is to keep revenues and expenditures balanced.

Consider three major threats to the City's General Fund:

- 1) **State Budget problems**
- 2) **Economic conditions influencing property and sales tax, 76% of the General Fund's revenues**
- 3) **Cost challenges**

State Budget Problems. The State's budget is a national disgrace. The State's inability to make a credible financial plan makes a bad situation worse. The State's adopted 2008/09 budget (signed just last September) took away from the City approximately \$600,000. However, the City now has to consider other effects of the State's inability to right its fiscal house, due to declining revenues at the State level, such as:

- **State Cash Flow Crisis.** The State has said it will run out of money by sometime in February. The failure of the State to manage its fiscal house has led to the following problems:
 - **Non-reimbursement of grants.** The voters of California approved Prop 1B for roads. Visalia has put that money to work and presented to the State a \$1.6 million reimbursement request in December. The City was reimbursed. However, two days later, the State closed the reimbursement window and has told cities they will now have to wait for their money. If Visalia had presented its reimbursement request 3 days later, the City would be losing about \$5,000 a month in lost interest earnings because the State has not followed through on its commitments. **The City now must be careful about relying on State grant reimbursements and is reviewing all its projects for that potential liability.**
 - **Problems with potential debt issues.** The general debt issuance market is troubled by world events; however, California's debt is further tainted by the State's inactions. Visalia is considering a small special assessment debt issue. The current environment is raising interest costs from what should be about 6% to at least 9%, a 50% cost increase.
 - **Demobilization of all current CalTrans projects.** CalTrans has instructed all its road contractors to demobilize and wait for further instructions. This will raise the cost of all these projects as remobilization will add new costs as well as leaving needed projects in a state of disarray, ie Mooney Blvd.
 - **Measure R Reimbursement for Regional Road projects.** Because the State is not funding capital projects, regional projects important to Tulare County may be put on hold. Local officials, however, are scrambling to keep projects funded. This may put pressure on the local funding process, potentially stressing the Measure R funds which are scheduled to reimburse Visalia as it constructs Measure R regional projects within Visalia, ie Santa Fe Overcrossing.
- **Eventual Budget Solution may take more money from Visalia.** Eventually, the State must resolve the budget solution or slip into anarchy. As a result, the City can probably

expect to lose some additional monies. The various proposals suggested by the legislature tend to have additional City revenues losses in the \$500,000 range.

The end result is that the City needs to encourage our State legislators to solve the budget problem. Inaction is leading to additional costs beyond the pain of balancing the budget.

Economic Conditions affecting Property and Sales Tax. Property and Sales taxes make up \$41.6 million of the General Fund's \$54.5 million in budgeted revenues. These two revenues then represent 76% of the General Fund's resources. Historically, these revenues have grown around 4% a year or better. The forecast for FY 2008/09, however, is different.

Sales Tax is flat but is expected to decline. Sales tax is remitted by the State to Visalia monthly. However, the remittances are advances which are reconciled quarterly. As a result, we do not have new information until the end of each quarter. To date, we know that sales tax payments through November 15, 2008 are \$8.6 million. The same period last year totaled \$8.5 million. If past trends continued, the City might estimate this year's sales tax now to be \$200,000 more than last year. However, the next six months are not expected to be like the last six months.

Last year, sales tax was propped up by increased gasoline costs. From increased energy sales, the City collected an additional \$500,000 last fiscal year. Because fuel prices have plummeted, the City expects energy sales taxes to drop by \$250,000 this year and a full \$500,000 next year. All this leads to the conclusion that the best the City can expect is to have sales tax this year be equal to last year, which is \$500,000 off from the 2008/09 budget.

Property Tax is set, except for major property revaluations. The County distributes property tax on what is called the Teeter plan. The Teeter plan provides that the County pays the City of Visalia its tax levy. In exchange, the County keeps all penalties and interest charges levied in the collections process. As a result, the City will receive its base property tax revenues. In fact, the City's budgeted amount is slightly less than the County's Final Teeter budget by \$300,000.

In contrast, this year's activity may reduce the assessed value roll, leading to an actual property tax decline next year. This is difficult because assessed substantially lag market values due to the 2% assessed value increase cap on property. But a broad and sustained property value decline could lead to reduced property taxes.

Finance expects that the City's budgeted revenues will be off for fiscal year 2008/09, but maybe less than a \$1 million from budget. The impact may be even greater after the effects on development revenues are considered. When the City prepares its mid-year financial review, this assumption will be evaluated. However, many cities are facing much worse.

Cost Challenges, not all bad news. Last year, the City was bemoaning rising energy costs. Gasoline costs had risen by \$1 million over two years. The City is benefiting from the steep energy cost decline and expects to see a \$250,000 budgetary savings in fuel costs this fiscal year.

The City has also taken an aggressive approach to holding open positions. The anticipated budgetary savings this year is about \$2 million. In addition, the City has taken actions to control overtime, reduce training expenses and restructure the delivery of services such as Senior Meals.

Finally, the City Council has wisely set-aside an emergency cash reserve equal to 25% of its operating General Fund expenditures. The City has also taken actions to hold open \$2 million in vacant positions this year. Despite such actions, some cities are having to make further cuts. It is possible that Visalia might escape the 2008/09 fiscal year without further budgetary changes. However, this proposition will be intensely examined as the City prepares its mid-year financial report due at the end of February or early March. But the greater question might be, "What about next year, Fiscal 2009/10 ?"

Fiscal Year 2009/2010

The City has a challenge each year to assure that revenues and expenditures are balanced. Expenditures tend to increase each year. If revenues falter, budgets quickly become unbalanced. The most probable scenario is that next year's major revenues will be flat or decline. If expenditures were also going to be flat or declining, then the City would have a balanced budget. However, a number of costs are expected to increase, namely:

- ***Increased Pension Costs*** are expected to rise due CalPERS stock market and real estate losses. The City's preliminary estimate is that contributions will increase eventually by \$750,000 more a year from the current \$6.2 million annually, a 12% increase.
- ***Increased retiree health contributions*** need to be made. In the 07/08 fiscal year the City suspended a \$500,000 contribution to its retiree health care fund. The City needs to make that contribution and increase it several fold to reduce the unfunded liability.
- ***Operating contracts*** are estimated to cost the City next year \$1 million more than this year.
- ***Increased capital costs***, such as cost related to a new animal shelter, will place new demands upon the City. Although the eventual cost of the animal shelter is yet to be determined, it will certainly cost more than what the City now is paying and the City may also have to take on new debt service for the new facility.

Additionally, the City will need to consider cash flow issues such as: Will the State pay on its grants? All these factors underscore the fact that Visalia needs to develop plans to weather the fiscal challenges it will face. Actions to date have helped Visalia avoid more drastic actions. But additional steps will need to be taken and, even with our very best efforts, the City will probably face painful and difficult choices.

Prior Council/Board Actions:

Committee/Commission Review and Actions:

Alternatives:

Attachments:

Recommended Motion (and Alternative Motions if expected): Receive the budget report.

Environmental Assessment Status

CEQA Review:

NEPA Review:

Tracking Information: *(Staff must list/include appropriate review, assessment, appointment and contract dates and other information that needs to be followed up on at a future date)*

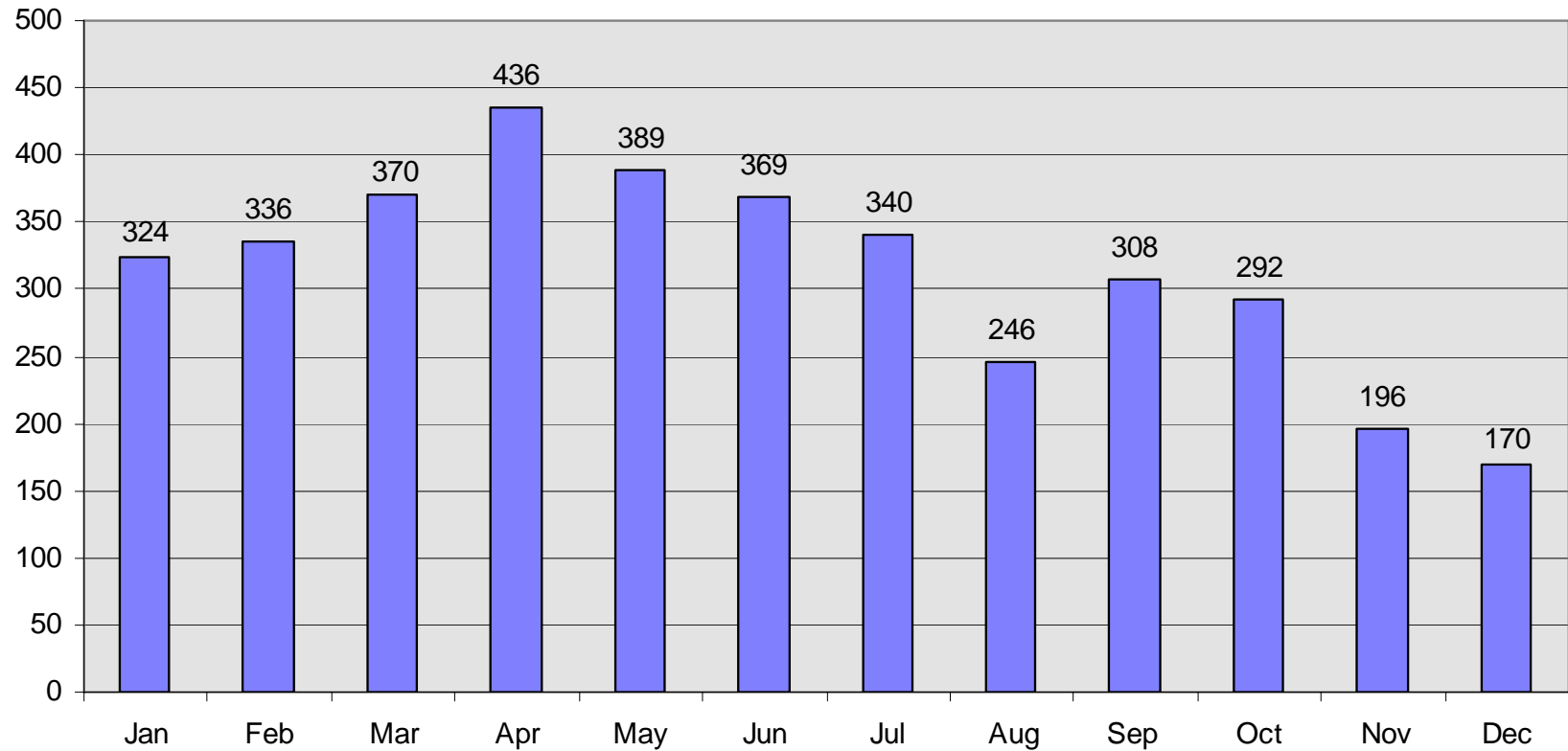
Copies of this report have been provided to:



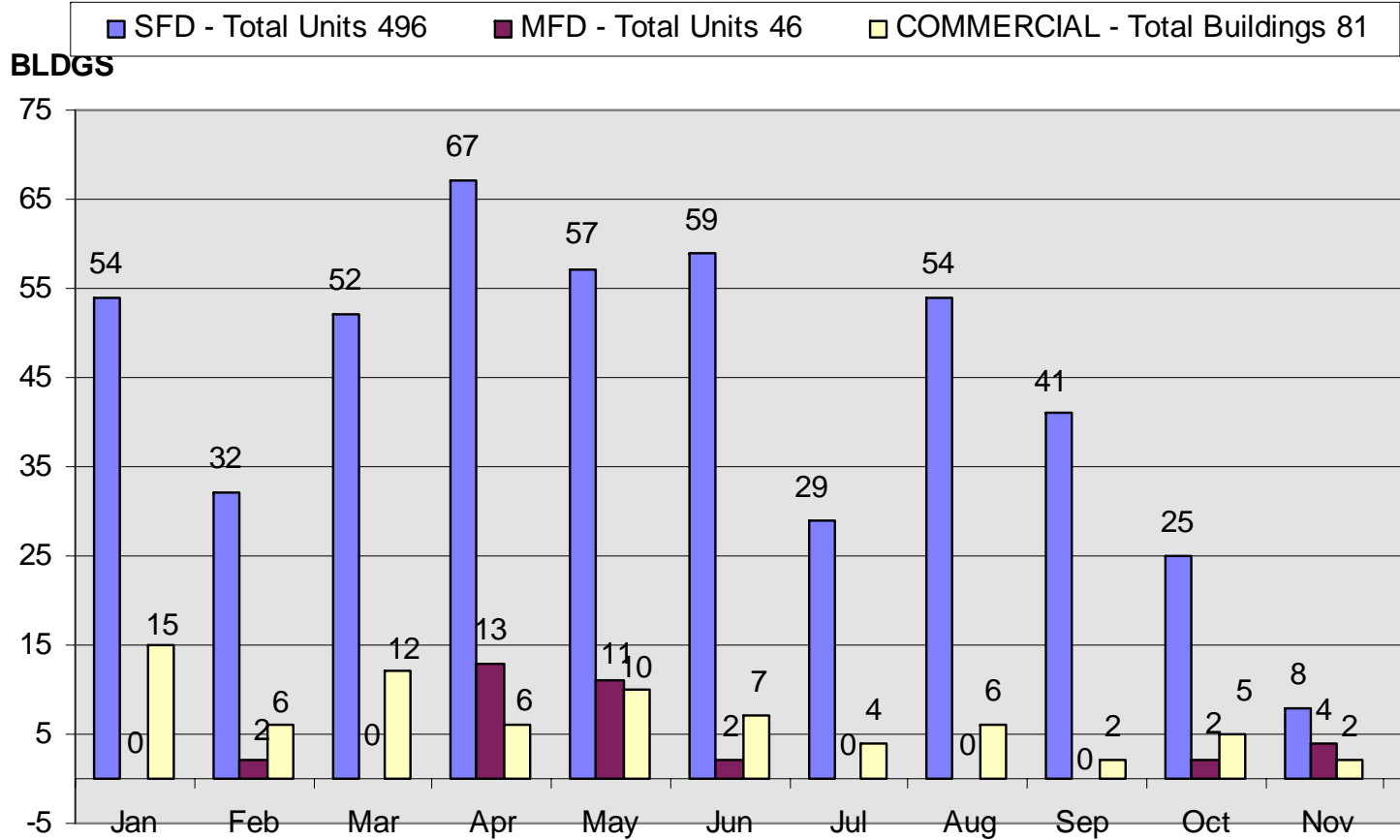
CITY OF VISALIA BUILDING PERMIT STATISTICS

2008 BUILDING PERMITS

Total Issued 3,776

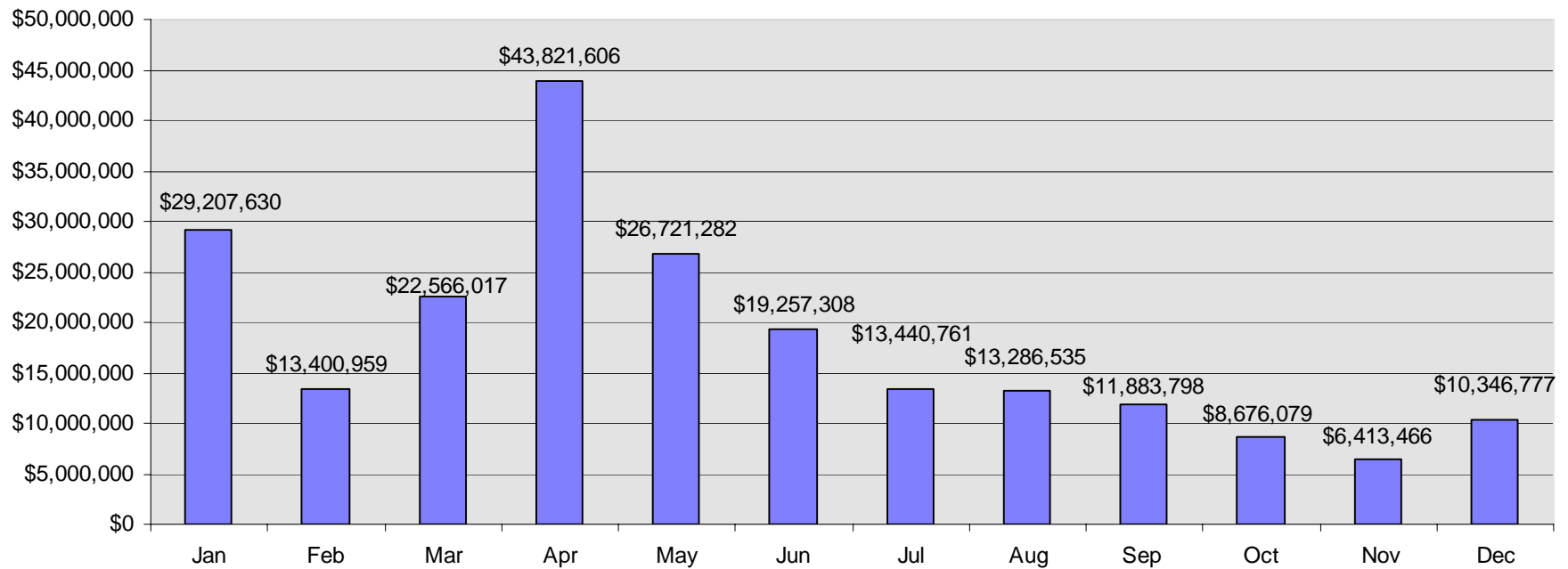


2008 NEW CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

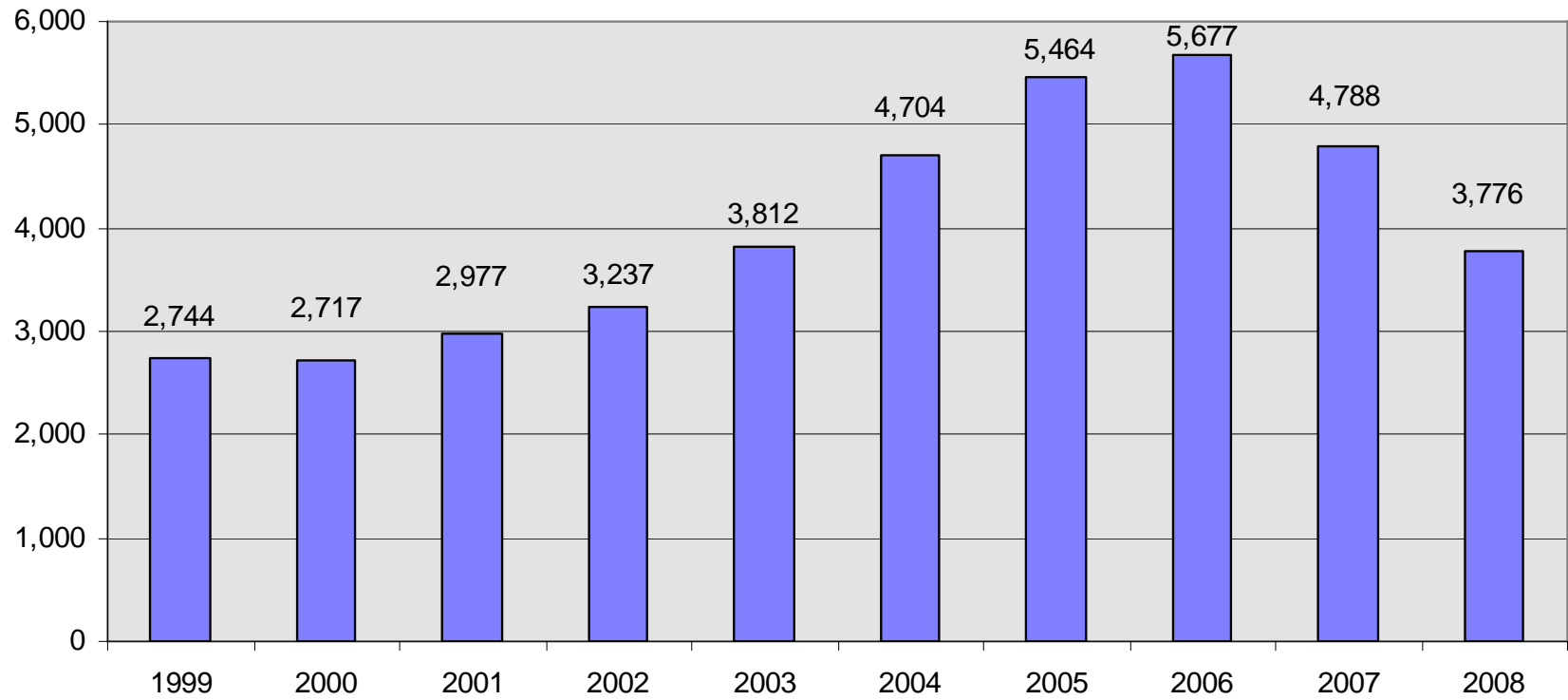


2008 PERMIT VALUATION

Total \$ 219,022,219



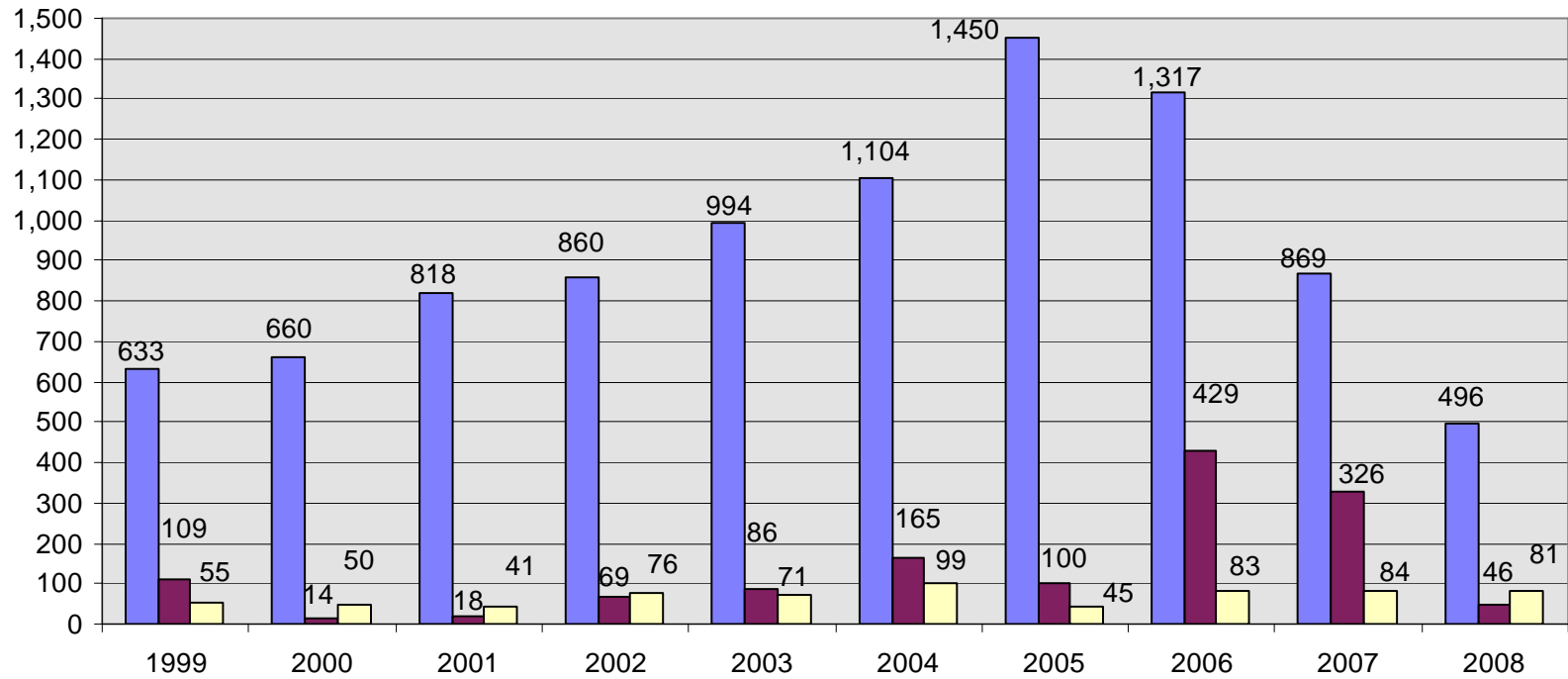
TOTAL BUILDING PERMITS BY YEAR 1999 TO 2008



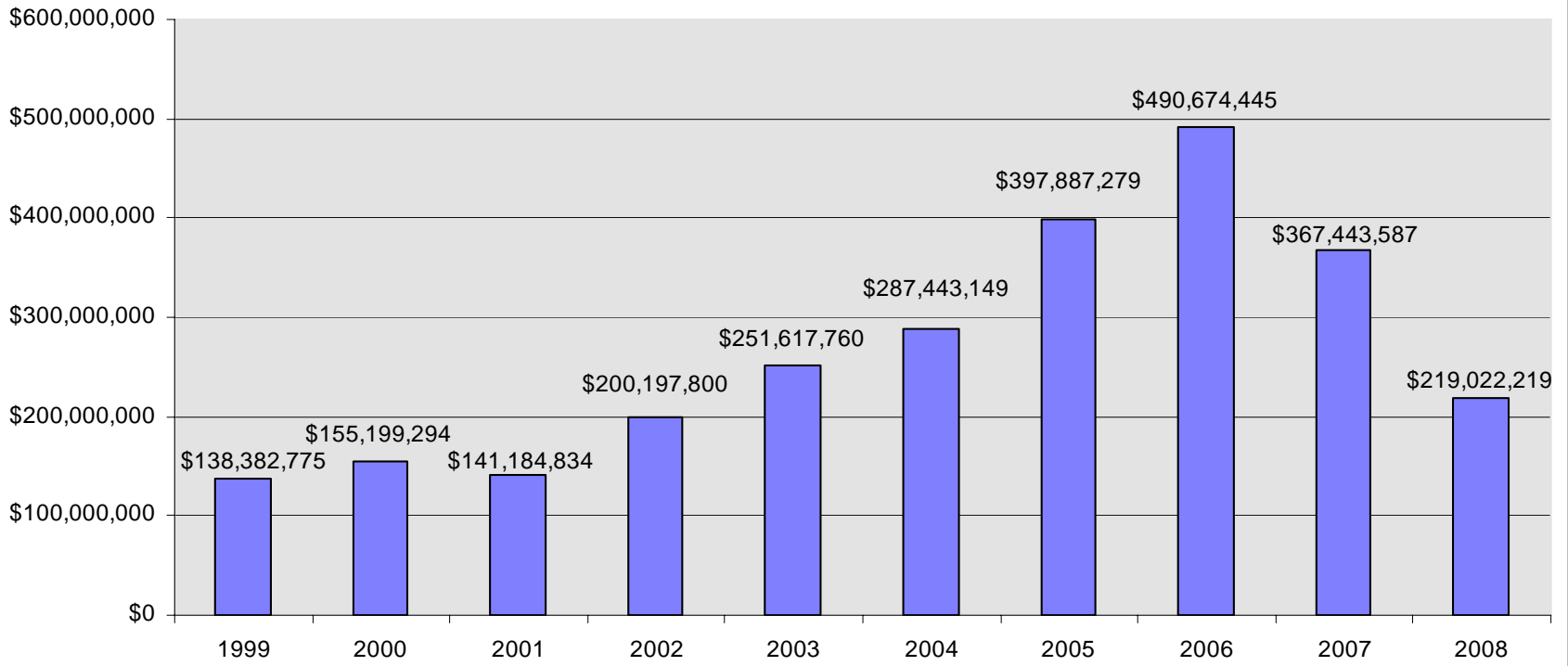
NEW CONSTRUCTION PERMITS BY YEAR 1999 TO 2008

■ SFD UNITS ■ MFD UNITS ■ COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

BLDGS



**TOTAL PERMIT VALUATION BY YEAR
1999 TO 2008**



City of Visalia Agenda Item Transmittal

Meeting Date: January 12, 2009

Agenda Item Number (Assigned by City Clerk): 5

Agenda Item Wording: Foreclosure Update in the City of Visalia

Deadline for Action: None

Submitting Department: Housing and Economic Development

Contact Name and Phone Number:

Ricardo Noguera, Housing & Economic Dev Director 713-4190

Department Recommendation: Receive and accept this status report on foreclosures in the City of Visalia.

Summary/background:

The Year 2008, was a difficult year indeed and 2009 is projected to be a challenging year as well as it relates to foreclosures both locally and nationally. The impact that subprime loans (financing with accelerated adjustable interest rates) is having on existing homeowners has been significant and projections call for several more mortgages to increase within the next few months. This will undoubtedly lead to an increase in defaults and eventual foreclosures. Defaults occur when homeowners fall three months behind in payments and foreclosures arise once the bank/lender moves in to seize the property.

Based on statistics gathered by staff, Visalia has approximately 1,700 pre-foreclosed, auctioned and foreclosed properties as of December 31, 2008. It is important to note that this figure does not mean that the 1,700 units have reverted to the banks yet. These terms: defaulted, pre-foreclosed, auctioned properties and foreclosed properties have the following definitions: pre-foreclosure process enables a prospective buyer to approach the owner and purchase the property without adversely impacting the seller's credit history. The auction process occurs when a loan is not reinstated at the end of the pre-foreclosure process enabling a buyer to purchase the property at a public auction. Bank-owned or real estate owned properties (REOs) occur when the lender has reclaimed the property from the borrower. The average price of foreclosed properties is \$163,690. (Source: Realty Trac.) The reduced value of the properties make it extremely difficult to refinance since the loan amount is significantly higher than the new value. If owners were able to refinance then they could potentially secure fixed rate interest loans which would more likely reduce the likelihood of being foreclosed. Typically, as adjustable rate mortgages increase it creates an added burden on the homeowner to pay a higher mortgage and leads to them falling behind and eventual default. Over the past twelve months, August represented the highest rate of foreclosure filings.

City's Strategy to Combat Foreclosures

For action by:

City Council/VUSD
 Redev. Agency Bd.
 Cap. Impr. Corp.
 VPFA

For placement on which agenda:

Work Session
 Closed Session

Regular Session:

Consent Calendar
 Regular Item
 Public Hearing

Est. Time (Min.): _____

Review :

Dept. Head _____
(Initials & date required)

Finance _____
City Atty _____
(Initials & date required or N/A)

City Mgr _____
(Initials Required)

If report is being re-routed after revisions leave date of initials if no significant change has affected Finance or City Attorney Review.

The City Council plans to combine both local and national funds to acquire foreclosed properties and resell them. A total of \$2.88 million will be made available to acquire, rehabilitate and resell foreclosed properties. The City's desire is to purchase and then resell homes and use the proceeds from the sale to purchase more homes. Ultimately, the goal is to purchase and resell between 30-50 homes throughout Visalia.

The funding has been made available through a combination of CDBG (\$2.38 million) and Redevelopment Low/mod funds (\$500,000) funds. Beginning in September 2008, Congress set aside \$3.9 billion to assist communities across the country to acquire foreclosed properties in targeted neighborhoods. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) established the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) in response to the foreclosure crisis and to combat the abandoned and boarded up properties. Visalia received a total of \$2.38 million as part of a Substantial Amended Action Plan through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. In November 2008, Council authorized the submittal of the Action Plan to HUD. The Plan calls for approximately \$1.55 million to be reserved to acquire and resell foreclosed homes for prospective homeowners earning between 80-120 percent of the area median income. Another \$600,000 would be reserved for prospective homebuyers earning less than 50 percent of the area median (as required by HUD). This would enable the City to purchase homes in targeted neighborhoods (see attached map) and then resell to buyers at cost. The City will complete appraisals on all properties prior to placing offers and not offer more than 85 percent of the appraised value. The City will also take into consideration any required repairs or improvements and such costs would be negotiated as part of the eventual purchase price.

On January 5, 2009, the Council took its' first step toward the implementation of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) by setting aside a one-time allocation of \$500,000 in Redevelopment Low/mod funds to acquire and resell foreclosed homes. This will bring the City's total toward acquiring and reselling foreclosed homes to \$2.8 million. Additionally, the City has been partnering with Habitat for Humanity for the past twelve years to acquire vacant lots and construct new homes for very low income buyers. However, with the onslaught of foreclosures, Habitat has begun acquiring and rehabilitating foreclosed homes and financing low-income buyers in these homes with the use of the City's RDA Low/mod funds.

The City will be working with local appraisers, realtors and lenders to acquire and resell homes. The ultimate goal is to recycle both CDBG and RDA funds so that the City will be able to purchase between 30-50 homes and offer homeownership opportunities for area residents.

Neighborhood Preservation's Role

While the City takes an assertive role in re-occupying foreclosed homes, it is also aggressively pursuing those homes which are abandoned and have been neglected. On December 15, 2008, city staff presented three new programs which will result in positive impacts in neighborhoods throughout the City. The first is a new Receivership Program which allows the City to utilize the services of a court appointed receiver to pursue abandoned properties where the owner has demonstrated lack of cooperation to address blighted and deteriorated conditions. This program can be effectively implemented without impacting city resources because the courts appoint a receiver who then utilizes their funds to either demolish or rehabilitate such properties and then return them to a habitable use. The receiver is reimbursed through the sale of the property.

The City has established a program to combat new homes which have been partially constructed and where the developer has abandoned the subdivision or individual units. The Subdivision Monitoring Committee is comprised of city staff representing the Engineering, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Neighborhood Preservation divisions. The Committee has worked aggressively over the past several months to enforce city codes and require cooperation from homebuilders and/or lenders to either demolish or complete the construction of such homes.

Lastly, the State has recently passed Senate Bill 1137 (Foreclosure Maintenance) which requires banks or lien holders to maintain the exterior of properties and secure access to abandoned properties. It allows cities to fine up to \$1,000 per day for non-compliance by owners. The City will soon consider implementing SB 1137 which will require compliance from banks or lien holders to maintain the exterior of

such properties. The City is also considering establishing a Foreclosure Registration Maintenance Program which would enable the City to track properties which have gone through the foreclosure process.

Conclusion

There's no sure way to know when the foreclosure crisis will end and what impact it will have on the City of Visalia. However, the City will continue to consider new and existing resources to ensure that Visalia remains a quality community to live, work and play for years to come.

Committee/Commission Review and Actions: None

Alternatives: None

Attachments:

- None

Recommended Motion (and Alternative Motions if expected):

Receive and accept this status report on foreclosures in the City of Visalia.

Environmental Assessment Status

CEQA Review: N/A

NEPA Review:

Tracking Information: *(Staff must list/include appropriate review, assessment, appointment and contract dates and other information that needs to be followed up on at a future date)*

Copies of this report have been provided to:

City of Visalia

Memo



Item 6

To: Visalia City Council
Visalia Unified School District Board of Trustees

From: Brandon Smith, AICP, Senior Planner

Date: January 7, 2009

Re: Tentative Schedule for Processing School District Annexation

This memorandum pertains to Annexation and General Plan Amendment (Project) filed for the 160-acre Visalia Unified School District's property, located at the Northwest corner of Akers Street and Riggan Avenue (APN: 077-100-097, 098).

The Project is described as an annexation of land into the City limits, a change in the General Plan land use designation from Urban Reserve to Public Institutional, and an amendment to the 129,000 Urban Development Boundary to include the property. The purpose of the Project is to prepare land for the District's future needs of a high school, middle school, elementary school, and related school facilities in the Northwest region of Visalia.

The following timeline lists action items involved in processing the Project, as well as estimated dates each action will take place. An asterisk (*) indicates a specific date that the respective decision-making body meets.

Notwithstanding any unforeseen circumstances that may significantly delay or postpone action dates, the City of Visalia will strive to achieve each action on or near the date specified.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Action</u>
November 12, 2008	Application deemed complete; City and the School District begin discussion to terms of pre-annexation agreement
January 2, 2009	Consultation notices sent to responsible agencies
January 26, 2009*	<u>Planning Commission</u> considers Annexation & <u>General Plan Amendment</u> as a public hearing item; recommendation is made to City Council
February 16, 2008*	<u>City Council</u> holds public hearing on Annexation & General Plan Amendment
February 23, 2009	Signed Pre-Annexation Agreement returned to City; Annexation application filed to Tulare County LAFCo Pre-meeting held between City & County staff to discuss annexation application
May 13, 2009*	<u>Tulare County LAFCo</u> holds public hearing on Annexation
<u>June 30, 2009</u>	Assuming approval by LAFCo on May 13, Certificate of Completion recorded with County, officially bringing property into City limits

**City of Visalia
Agenda Item Transmittal**

Meeting Date: January 12, 2009 Joint City Council/VUSD Board meeting

Agenda Item Number (Assigned by City Clerk): 7

Agenda Item Wording: City's street projects update including:

- Santa Fe Bridge
- Ferguson Ave. Extension (Mooney Blvd. – Hall St.)
- Houston Ave. (Santa Fe St. – Ben Maddox Way)
- McAuliff St. at Mill Creek Overcrossing
- Mooney Blvd. at Goshen Ave. traffic signal
- Tulare Ave. Extension (Lovers Ln. – McAuliff St.)
- Visalia Pkwy. (Dans Ln. – County Center)

Deadline for Action: None

Submitting Department: Community Development Dept.
Engineering Division

Contact Name and Phone Number:

Chris Young – Assistant Community Dev. Director, 713-4392

Department Recommendation: That City Council receives this street projects update.

Summary/Background: Engineering staff has prepared the following street projects update. These projects are funded by varying combinations of revenue sources including Measure R (local and regional), Proposition 1B, Impact Fees, Gas Tax, etc. These project schedules may be impacted by the future availability of these funds or a potential decline in revenue (based on future economic conditions).

Santa Fe Bridge - Exhibit #1: The Highway 198 overcrossing at Santa Fe Street is a project that is identified in the Circulation Element of the City of Visalia General Plan. The bridge will connect south Santa Fe Street to downtown Visalia enhancing traffic circulation and improving bus, bicycle, and pedestrian access to the proposed Civic Center Complex, the existing Transit Center, and businesses in the east downtown area.

The project includes removal of the abandoned railroad bridge at Santa Fe Street, and construction of a new five-lane vehicular overcrossing in its place. The project will widen Santa Fe Street for one-half block north of Mineral King Avenue and one-half block south of Noble Avenue to match the width of the proposed five-lane structure. Two new traffic signals will be installed and interconnected to, and synchronized with, the City's downtown signal timing system. Work will be done within the State Highway 198 right-of-way pursuant to Caltrans

For action by:

- City Council/VUSD
- Redev. Agency Bd.
- Cap. Impr. Corp.
- VPFA

For placement on which agenda:

- Work Session
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Regular Session:

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- Public Hearing

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encroachment permits and a cooperative agreement between Caltrans and the City of Visalia. This project has been awarded to Agee Construction Corporation and construction is scheduled to begin in February of 2009. Construction is expected to be completed within eighteen months. This project is fully funded by Measure R.

Ferguson Avenue Extension (Mooney Boulevard – West of Giddings Street) – Exhibit #2:

This project will provide street improvements starting at the intersection of Ferguson and Mooney extending to the east and connecting with the existing improvements just west of Giddings Street. A four-way stop and crosswalks will be provided at Mooney Boulevard. The design has been completed and the start of construction is scheduled for March of 2009.

Houston Avenue (Santa Fe Street – Ben Maddox Way) – Exhibit #3:

This project's improvements will include street improvements from Santa Fe to Ben Maddox, a roundabout at Santa Fe, and signal modifications at Burke and Ben Maddox. Also included will be a storm drain line extension to the south. This project is at 95% design and start of construction is scheduled for April of 2009.

McAuliff Street Overcrossing – Exhibit #4:

The McAuliff Street Overcrossing Project (at Mill Creek and Evans Ditch) consists of providing a roadway connection from the existing north end of McAuliff Street south of Evan's Ditch and the existing south end of McAuliff Street on the north side of Mill Creek. This project will connect McAuliff Street from Houston Avenue to Mineral King Avenue, thereby improving access to the Golden West School complex. The project includes installing a cast-in-place concrete culvert at Mill Creek and a pipe culvert at Evan's Ditch. The project also includes removing an existing flume in Mill Creek and flow control devices and associated equipment in both channels and reconstructing them in alternate locations. Design of project has been completed. All additional right-of-way has either been obtained or is in escrow. Because structures must be built in the bottom of the channels, this part of the construction project must be scheduled when the channels are in their dry season, usually beginning in July to mid September (depending on the yearly rainfall amounts). The project will be bid in April of 2009 and construction will begin in May of 2009. This will allow the contractor to mobilize and perform the necessary preliminary construction prior to the 2009 dry channel season.

Mooney Boulevard at Goshen Avenue Traffic Signal – Exhibit #5:

This project will provide a signal at the intersection along with railroad crossing improvements and related roadway improvements. The initial topographic survey has been completed and initial coordination meetings with the railroad have been scheduled. Construction could be completed as early as November of 2009 depending on the requirements/review of the railroad and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC).

Tulare Avenue Extension (Lovers Lane – McAuliff Street) – Exhibit #6:

This project will extend street improvements from Lovers Lane to McAuliff Street on Tulare Avenue and provide a traffic signal at Tulare and Lovers Lane. The centerline alignment has been established for this project, legal descriptions for right-of-way acquisition have been prepared and detailed appraisal reports have been completed. The necessary property (right-of-way) acquisition is underway. The design of the project will be completed in the spring of 2010 and the start of construction is scheduled for the summer of 2010.

Visalia Parkway Overcrossing – Exhibit #7:

The Visalia Parkway Overcrossing (at Packwood Creek) consists of providing a roadway connection from the east end of Visalia Parkway on the west side of Packwood Creek to the intersection of Visalia Parkway and County Center Drive on the east side of Packwood Creek. This project will improve traffic circulation in the vicinity of

Cottonwood Creek Elementary School. The project will include a culvert crossing on Packwood creek, construction of the roadway and the improvement of the Visalia Parkway and County Center intersection including a traffic signal. It is anticipated that the culvert will be constructed for the ultimate build-out of the street but the roadway on the culvert will be constructed to match the northern half of the existing street on each side of Packwood Creek until development occurs to the south. Staff will be working on design, right-of-way acquisition, and permitting in 2009-2010 in preparation for construction upon receipt of funding in 2013. Project may be constructed earlier if alternative funding becomes available.

Prior Council/Board Actions: None

Committee/Commission Review and Actions: None

Alternatives: None

Attachments: Exhibit #1 – Location Map of McAuliff St. Overcrossing Project at Mill Creek
Exhibit #2 - Location Map of Visalia Parkway Overcrossing at Packwood
Exhibit #3 – Location map for Mooney at Goshen Traffic Signal
Exhibit #4 – Location map for Ferguson Ave. Extension
Exhibit #5 - Location map for Santa Fe Bridge
Exhibit #6 - Location map for Tulare Avenue Extension
Exhibit #7 - Location Map for Houston Ave. Improvements

Recommended Motion (and Alternative Motions if expected): Receive the street projects update

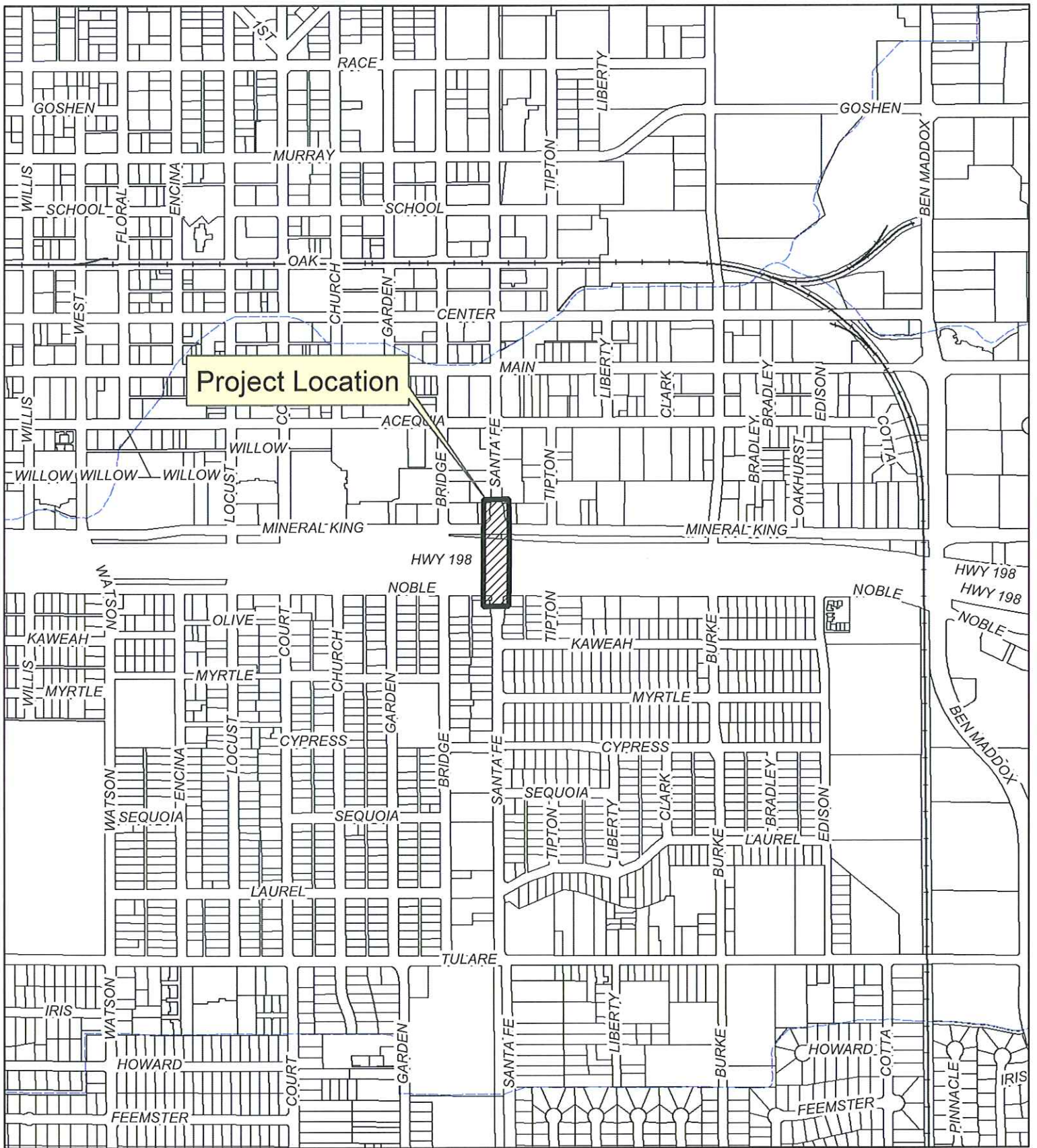
Environmental Assessment Status

CEQA Review: N/A

NEPA Review: N/A

Tracking Information: *(Staff must list/include appropriate review, assessment, appointment and contract dates and other information that needs to be followed up on at a future date)*

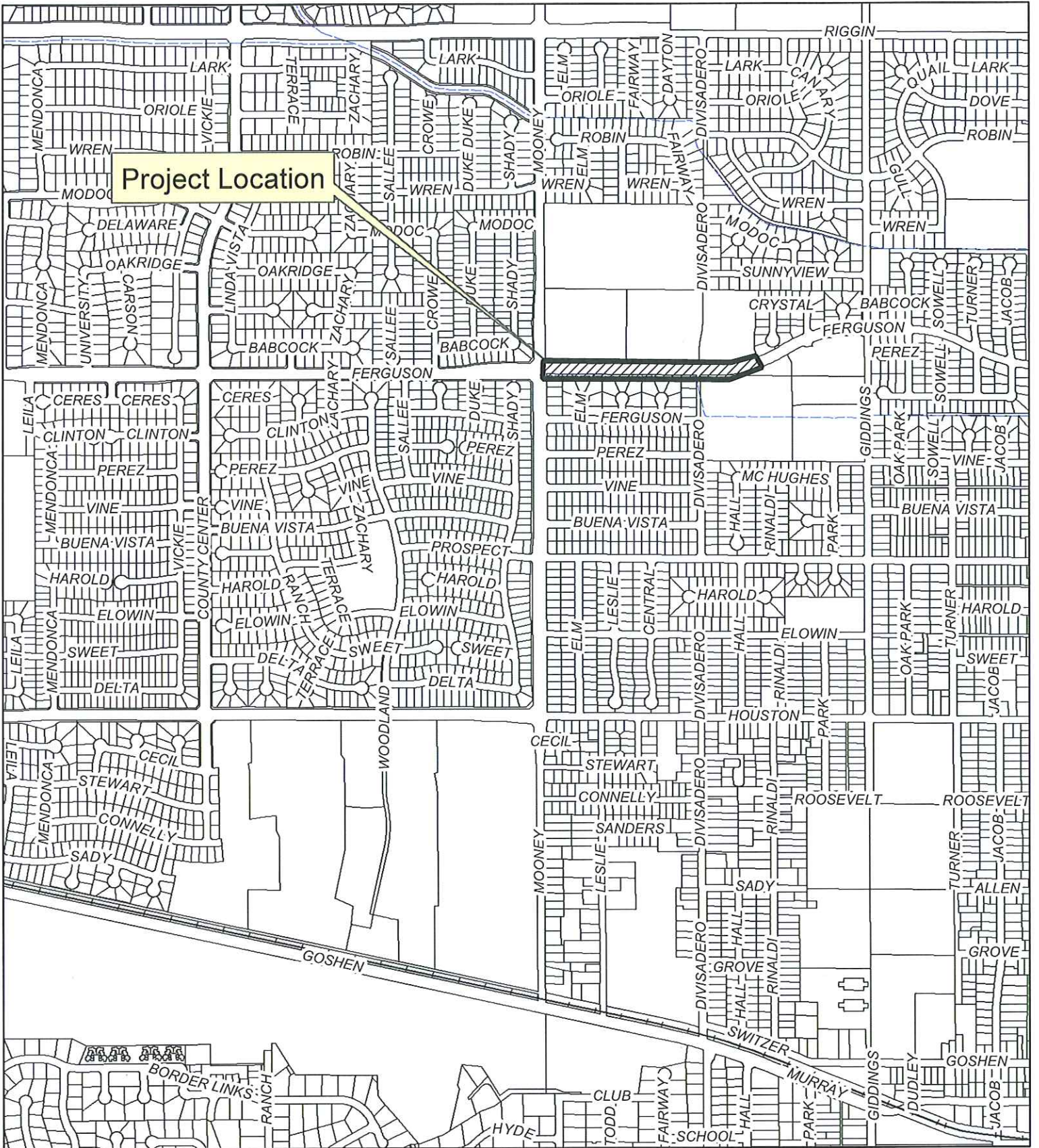
Copies of this report have been provided to:



Santa Fe Bridge



Scale: 1"=800'

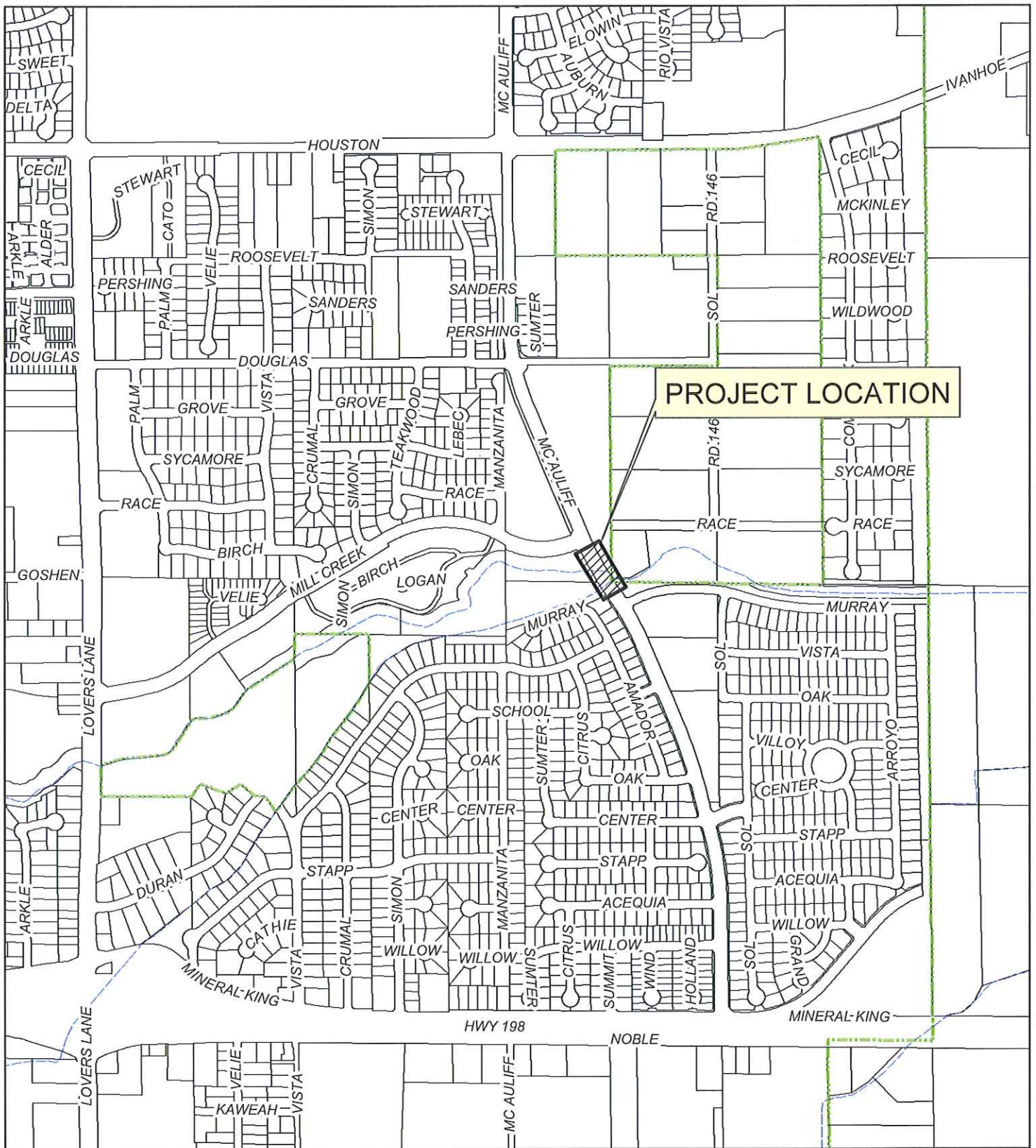


Ferguson Ave. Extension to Mooney Blvd.

Vicinity Map



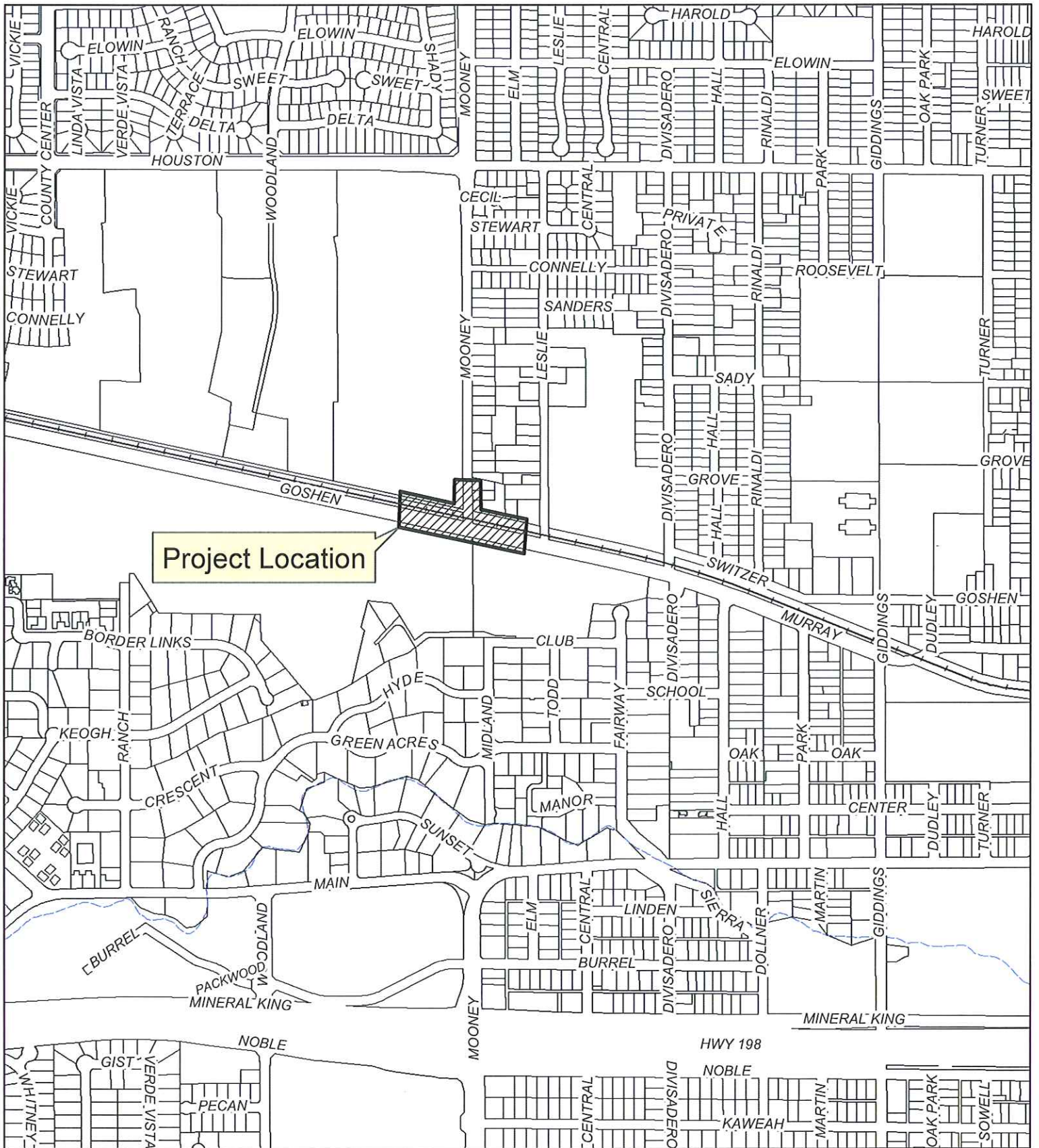
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McAuliff Street at Mill Creek Overcrossing



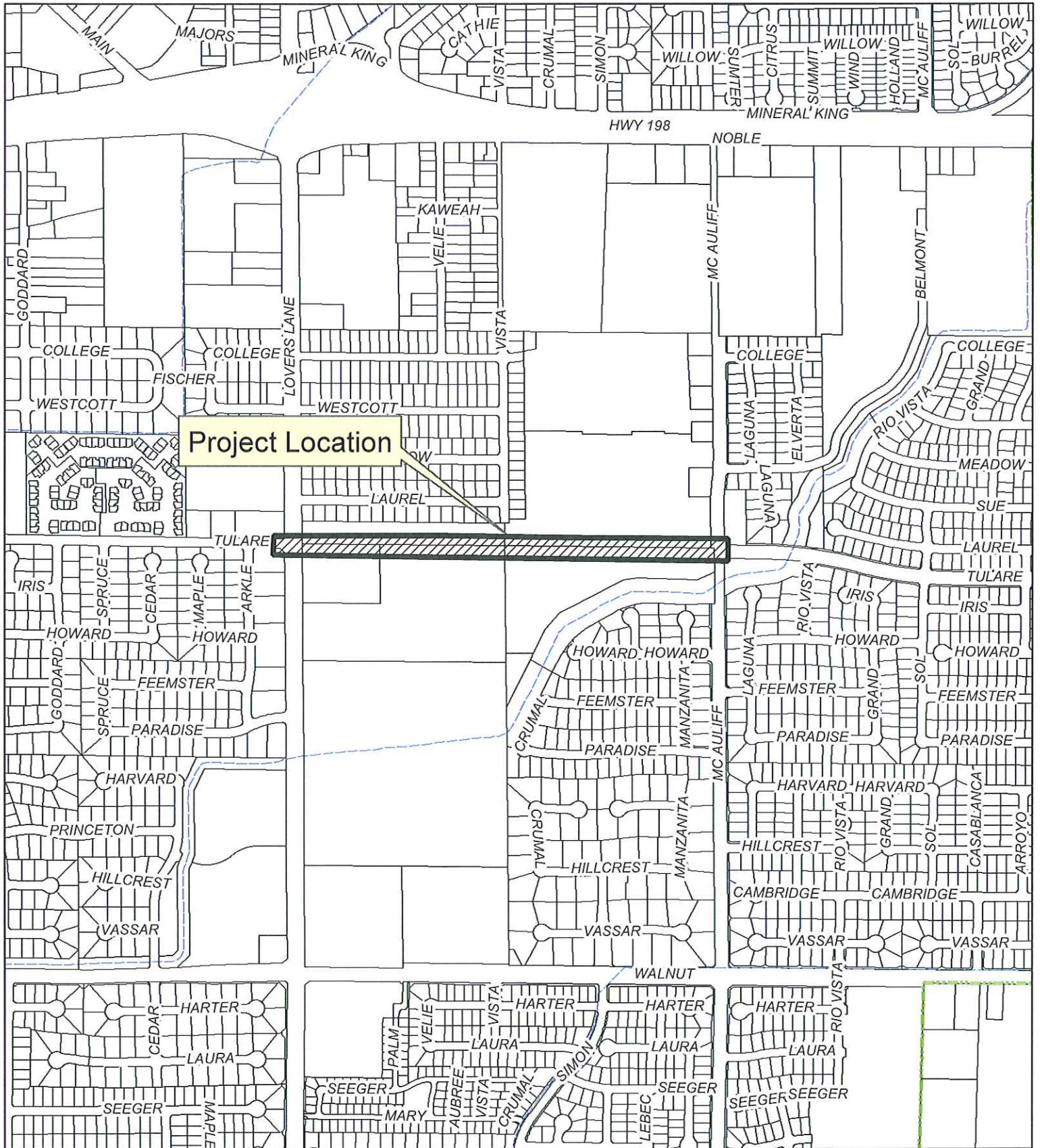
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Mooney Blvd. at Goshen Ave. Traffic Signal

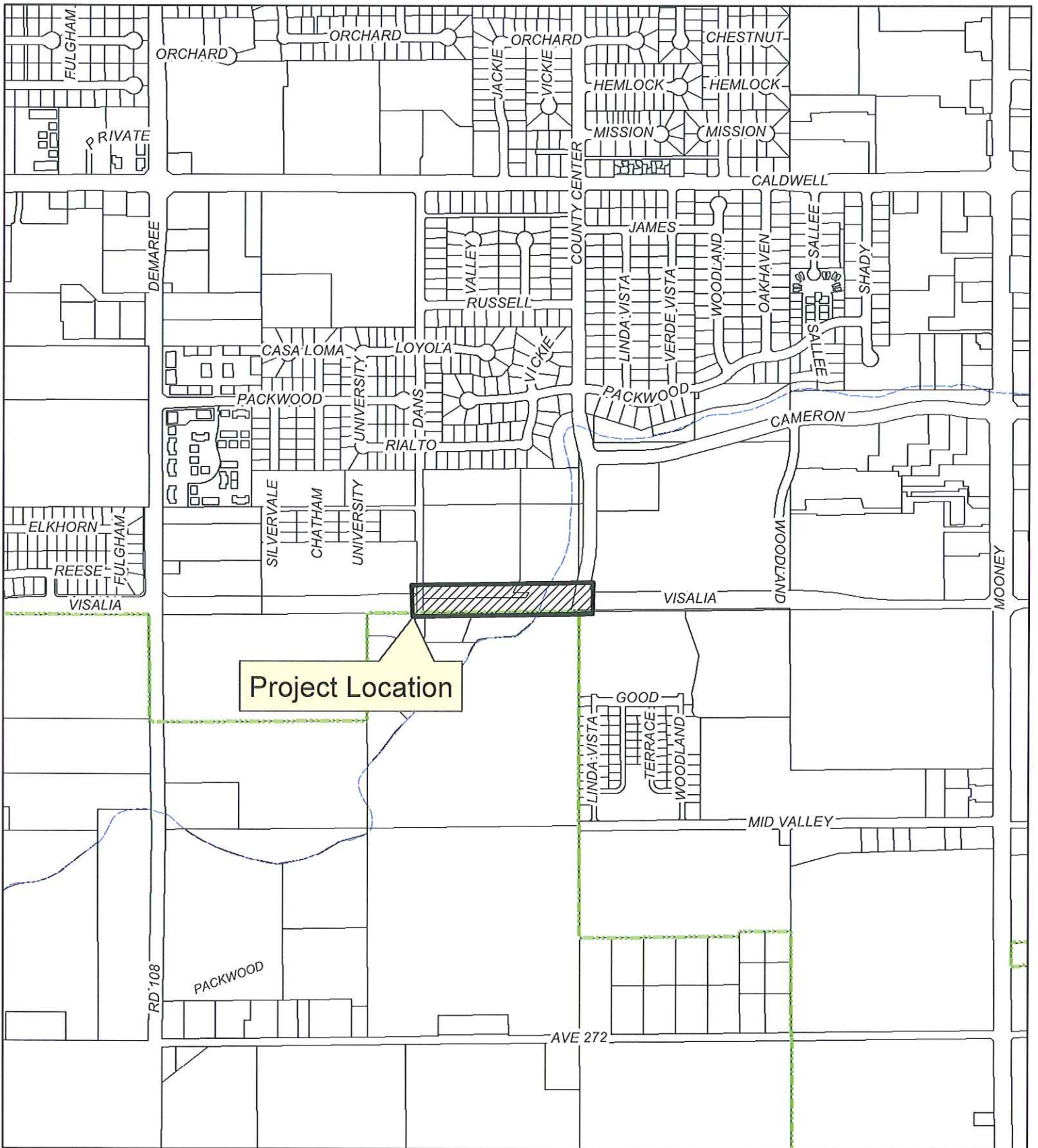


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Tulare Ave. Extension





Visalia Pkwy. - Dans Lane to County Center



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