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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Groundbreaking Set for Measure R-funded Road 108 Widening

VISALIA – The widening of Road 108 between Visalia and Tulare will be celebrated with a ceremonial groundbreaking at 9 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 6.

Road 108 (known as Demaree Avenue in Visalia and Hillman Avenue in Tulare), will be widened from two lanes to four lanes between Caldwell Avenue in Visalia and Leland Avenue in Tulare.

The road improvements are funded through Measure R, the local sales tax initiative passed by Tulare County voters in 2006. The project is led by Tulare County Resource Management Agency staff.

The estimated total project cost is \$30.5 million, with \$25.8 million coming from Measure R funds. The remainder of the funding is from the State of California. Work actually began behind the scenes in 2007 to develop initial environmental and project plans, and construction is expected to be complete in mid-2012.

“Road 108 is a heavily traveled corridor that connects Tulare and Visalia and this widening is much-needed,” noted Jake Raper, Assistant Director of Planning with Tulare County RMA. “This project has been in the Measure R Expenditure Plan since the beginning because of the traffic volume and need for improvements.”

The groundbreaking ceremony will feature speakers from the cities of Tulare and Visalia, the Board of Supervisors, Tulare County RMA and the Citizens Oversight Committee.

Measure R has already generated nearly \$80 million for transportation improvements and, by using local funds to match state and federal funds, Tulare County has seen over \$200 million in projects to date – exceeding expectations by 400 percent.

For more information on Measure R, visit www.tcmeasurer.com. For information on the groundbreaking ceremony, contact Tulare County Association of Governments at 624-7274.