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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Groundbreaking Set for Measure R-funded Betty Drive Improvements

TULARE – The grade separation improvements on Betty Drive will be celebrated with a ceremonial groundbreaking at 10 a.m. on Friday, March 18.

The improvements are funded through the Regional Projects portion of Measure R as well as the State’s Highway Rail Crossing Safety Account, the City of Visalia and the Tulare County Redevelopment Agency.

The estimated total project cost is \$8,511,479, with \$3,180,479 coming from Measure R funds. The grade separation project complements the widening of Road 312 (known as Riggin Avenue in Visalia), which will greatly enhance access to the Visalia Industrial Park from State Route 99.

“This grade separation project is part of a multi-pronged plan to improve the entire interchange for the community of Goshen, businesses in the Visalia Industrial Park and the city of Visalia as a whole,” noted Jake Raper, Assistant Director of Planning with Tulare County RMA. “This project has been in the Measure R Expenditure Plan because of the need for improvements and the economic development opportunities.”

The groundbreaking ceremony will feature speakers from the Board of Supervisors, Tulare County RMA, the City of Visalia and the Measure R Citizens Oversight Committee. The event will be held near the intersection of Effie Road and Betty Drive, between State Route 99 and Camp Drive (Road 312).

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 regional 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.