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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Measure R leads to improvements to State Route 190, local roads, transit

PORTERVILLE – Thanks to Measure R, funding for much-needed improvements to State Route 190 has been secured, along with repairs to local roads and enhanced transit service.

State Route 190 will see new overlay, shoulder widening, left-turn lanes and relocation of utilities – a \$20 million project made possible because of the local investment of \$4 million through Measure R. Construction on the project is expected to begin in 2014.

The project, between State Route 99 and Road 184, will make the roadway safer and more efficient for goods movement trucks and travelers bound for Porterville and the Sequoia National Forest.

“Without the local investment of Measure R revenues, this huge improvement to our transportation network could not happen,” said Ted Smalley, executive director of the Tulare County Association of Governments. “Once Caltrans learned that we were willing to help support the cost, they jumped in and are making this project happen.”

In addition to significant regional projects such as State Route 190, in the first quarter of this fiscal year Measure R has generated nearly \$1 million to repair local roads and improve transit in Porterville.

Thanks to the local initiative passed by Tulare County voters in 2006, Porterville residents will see “micro-surfacing” improvements to Prospect, Main, Jaye and Orange streets, as well as Henderson Avenue. This process has become a very common method of improving the surface of roads, due to its cost-effectiveness and speed of application. The surface improvements are now under way.

Measure R funds also helped make possible improvements to Porterville Transit System’s routes 6, 7 and 8 in recent months. These routes now serve new areas, including previously under-served residential areas, and additional service to the Granite Hills High School area.

“With other sources of transit funding in jeopardy, and operating costs rising, we wouldn’t be able to make these improvements to our transit service without Measure R,” said Linda Clark, transit manager for the City of Porterville.

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, or to report a pothole, visit [www.tcmeasurer.com](http://www.tcmeasurer.com) or contact Tulare County Association of Governments at 624-7274.