

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: June 25-26, 2026

From: TANISHA TAYLOR, Executive Director

Reference Number: 2.2c.(7), Action

Prepared By: Cherry Zamora
Associate Deputy Director

Published Date: June 12, 2026

Subject: Approval of Project for Future Consideration of Funding – Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Tule River Tribe Complete Streets and Two Pedestrian Bridges Project, Resolution E-26-41

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the California Transportation Commission (Commission), as a Responsible Agency, accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Tule River Tribe Complete Streets and Two Pedestrian Bridges Project (Project) on the Tule River Reservation in Tulare County and approve the Project for future consideration of funding.

Issue:

The City of Porterville (City) is the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) lead agency for the Project. The Project is located along North Reservation Road between Cow Mountain Road and Million Dollar Bridge on the Tule River Indian Reservation, approximately 20 miles southeast of Porterville in Tulare County. The Project includes construction of two pedestrian bridges, 484 feet of sidewalk, two new crosswalks, four new rectangular rapid flashing beacon signals, a new pedestrian refuge, lighting at two intersections, and shade trees.

For all projects that are seeking funding through a program under the purview of the Commission, full compliance with CEQA is required. The Commission will not allocate funds to projects for design, right-of-way, or construction until the environmental document is complete, and the Commission has approved the environmentally cleared project for future funding consideration.

Background:

On June 2, 2026, the City adopted the Mitigated Negative Declaration and found that the Project would not have a significant impact on the environment with the implementation of mitigation measures. On June 3, 2026, the City confirmed that the environmental document remains valid, there are no newly identified impacts or substantial increase in the severity of an impact requiring mitigation, and the environmental document is consistent with the Project scope of work programmed by the Commission.

Impacts that require mitigation measures in order to be reduced to less than significant levels relate to biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hydrology and water quality, and tribal cultural resources, and certain measures were adopted to address these impacts.

Mitigation includes biological measures such as preconstruction surveys; avoidance techniques, relocation, or construction timing for various plant and animal species, including Rose-Flowered Larkspur, Calico Monkeyflower, Munz's Iris, Monarch Butterfly, Crotch's Bumble Bee, Western Pond Turtle, Northern California Legless Lizard, Foothill Yellow-Legged Frog, nesting birds, raptors, and tree roosting bats; consultation with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife if, during pre-construction surveys, Crotch's Bumble Bee and Foothill Yellow-Legged Frog are found; plant surveys; humane eviction of non-breeding bats; tree surveys; replacement tree plantings; cultural awareness training for construction personnel; halting work if an inadvertent cultural resources or human remains discovery is made and subsequently contacting a qualified archaeologist; halting work if potential paleontological resources are discovered and subsequently contacting a qualified paleontologist; following application procedures for issuance of a construction/grading permit; and preparation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan.

The Project is estimated to cost \$2,941,000 and is fully funded through construction with Active Transportation Program (\$2,941,000) funds.

Construction is estimated to begin in Fiscal Year 2027-28.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Resolution E-26-41
- Attachment B: Notice of Determination
- Attachment C: Project Location Map

**CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding**

**6 – Tulare County
Resolution E-26-41**

- 1.1 WHEREAS, the City of Porterville (City) has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the Tule River Tribe Complete Streets and Two Pedestrian Bridges Project (Project); and
- 1.2 WHEREAS, the City has certified that the Mitigated Negative Declaration has been completed pursuant to CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines; and
- 1.3 WHEREAS, the Project is located along North Reservation Road between Cow Mountain Road and Million Dollar Bridge on the Tule River Reservation in Tulare County; and
- 1.4 WHEREAS, the Project includes construction of two pedestrian bridges, 484 feet of sidewalk, two new crosswalks, four new rectangular rapid flashing beacon signals, a new pedestrian refuge, lighting at two intersections, and shade trees; and
- 1.5 WHEREAS, the California Transportation Commission (Commission), as a Responsible Agency, has considered the information contained in the Mitigated Negative Declaration; and
- 1.6 WHEREAS, impacts that require mitigation measures in order to be reduced to less than significant levels relate to biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hydrology and water quality, and tribal cultural resources, and certain measures were adopted to address these impacts; and
- 1.7 WHEREAS, on June 2, 2026, the City adopted the Mitigated Negative Declaration and found that the Project would not have a significant effect on the environment with implementation of mitigation measures; and
- 1.8 WHEREAS, on June 3, 2026, the City confirmed that the Mitigated Negative Declaration remains valid, there are no newly identified impacts or substantial increase in the severity of an impact requiring mitigation, and the environmental document is consistent with the Project scope of work programmed by the Commission; and
- 1.9 WHEREAS, the Commission, as a Responsible Agency, has considered the information contained in the Mitigated Negative Declaration.
- 2.1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission does hereby accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration and approves the above-referenced Project for future consideration of funding.

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

To: Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: California Transportation Commission
Attn: Cherry Zamora
1120 N Street, MS 52
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 654-4245

Subject: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 of the Public Resources Code.

Project Title: Tule River Tribe Complete Streets and Two Pedestrian Bridges Project

2026041305

Daniel Cervantez

(559) 782-7462

State Clearinghouse Number

Lead Agency Contact Person

Area Code/Telephone

Project Location (include county): The project is located along North Reservation Road between Cow Mountain Road and Million Dollar Bridge on the Tule River Reservation in Tulare County.

Project Description: The Project includes construction of two pedestrian bridges, four hundred eighty-four feet of sidewalk, two new crosswalks, four new rectangular rapid flashing beacon signals, a new pedestrian refuge, lighting at two intersections, and shade trees

This is to advise that the California Transportation Commission has approved the above-described

(Lead Agency / Responsible Agency)

project on June 25-26, 2026, and has made the following determinations regarding the above-described project:

1. The project (will / will not) have a significant effect on the environment.
2. A Final Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
 A Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures (were / were not) made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. Mitigation reporting or monitoring plan (was / was not) adopted for this project.
5. A Statement of Overriding Considerations (was / was not) adopted for this project.
6. Findings (were/ were not) made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

The above-identified document with comments and responses and record of project approval is available to the General Public at: 291 North Main Street, Porterville, CA 93274

TANISHA TAYLOR

Signature (Public Agency)

Date

Executive Director

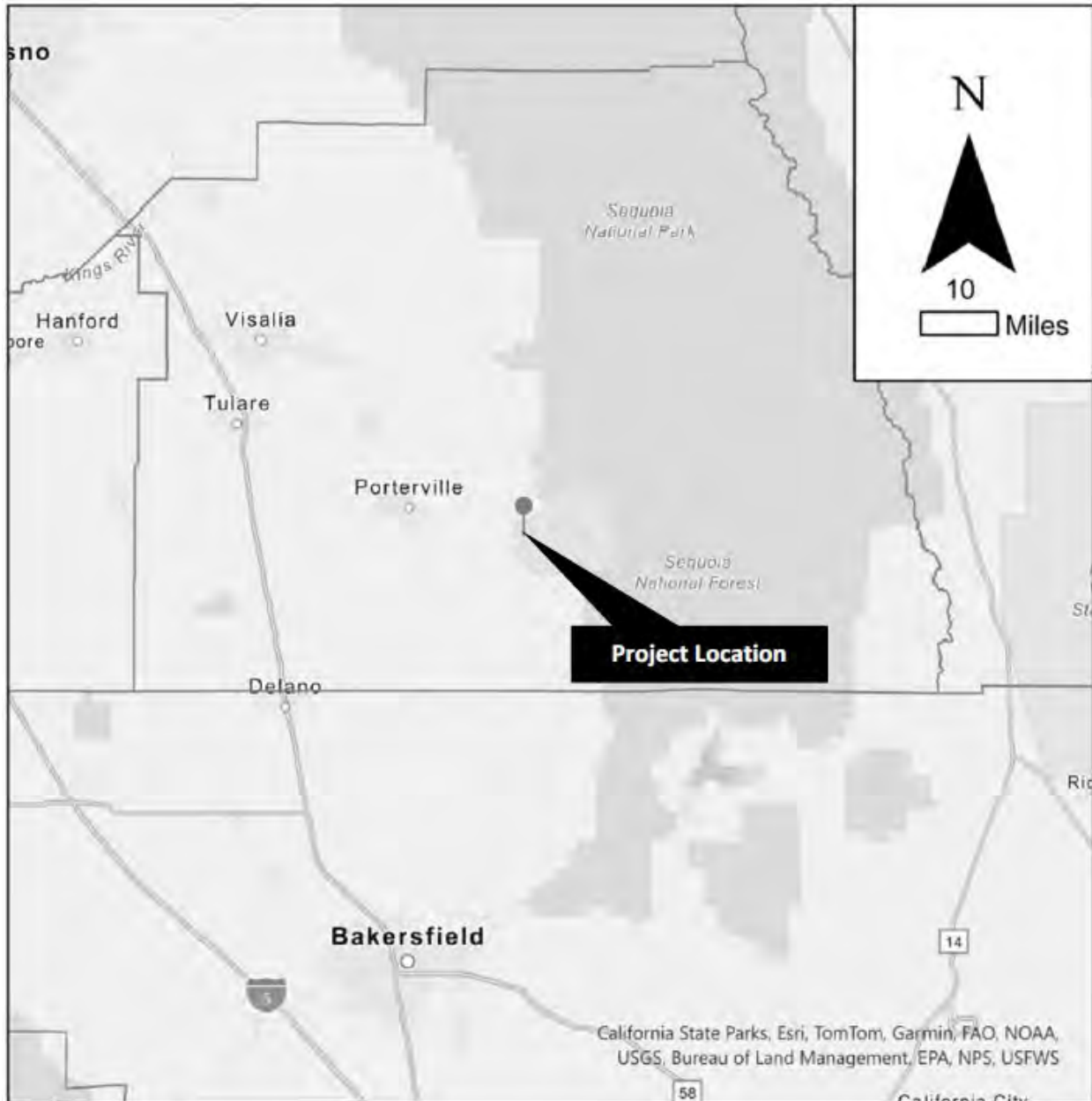
California Transportation Commission

Title

Date received for filing at OPR:

Project Location Map

Tule River Tribe Complete Streets and Two Pedestrian Bridges Project,
Tule River Reservation, Tulare County



Project Location Map (continued)

Tule River Tribe Complete Streets and Two Pedestrian Bridges Project,
Tule River Reservation, Tulare County

