



2024-25 Fresno COG One Voice Advocacy Trip

Regional Priorities Submittal Form

Submittal Deadline: Jan. 6, 2025

Keep your regional priority content to less than three pages long. Do not change the font (*Arial*). Contact Brenda Thomas at bthomas@fresnocog with questions.

One Voice Proposed Priority title:

Millerton Road Widening and Safety Improvements

Sponsoring agency/business:

County of Fresno

1. Request summary – provide specific priority “ask(s)”:

The requested funding would help construct the Millerton Road Widening Project, to include additional safety features, with remaining project costs estimated at \$76 million. The proposed project widens a 4.7-mile stretch of Millerton Road from a two-lane rural roadway to a four-lane divided arterial roadway. It spans from North Fork Road in the community of Friant to one mile west of Auberry Road. The project also includes constructing two roundabouts; one at Marina Drive/Winchell Cove Road and one at Morningside Drive/Saubrice Ave.

2. About the Priority: (Provide specific information about your proposed priority. Include information you want included in the trip materials.)

The project has been ongoing for a number of years and has experienced delays due to environmental, right of way, and utility concerns. The project is now ready for construction; however, funding for the project is insufficient due to rising construction costs and unexpected issues. During the time the County was working through the delays, Table Mountain Rancheria, the Chukchansi band of Yokut and Monache tribes of Indigenous Americans, widened a 0.8 mile section of the roadway in front of their newly built casino on Millerton Road from 2-lane to 4-lane, which starts at the casino entrance and ends at Marina Drive/Winchell Cove Drive. The change from 4-lane to 2-lane traveling west on Millerton Road creates a bottleneck which is very abrupt and has resulted in a number of severe crashes, some fatal. Between 2012 and May 2023 there were 44 collisions; 9 people were killed and 26 were injured within 900 feet of the intersection. The County has proposed a roundabout at this intersection, which adds approximately \$4 million to the project. The roundabout should significantly reduce the number of crashes and deaths that have happened in that location. Additionally, widening the remainder of the road will improve the bottleneck at the intersection. A second roundabout at Morningside Drive/Saubrice Ave will offer further safety for motorists and reduce the number of crashes on the stretch of roadway.

3. Priority background – (Include the priority issues, history and an explanation of the regional significance if not provided in question 1)

Millerton Road is the primary corridor that Table Mountain Rancheria tribe members rely on to access their lands and governmental operation. It is used by more than 1,300 employees of Table Mountain Rancheria and thousands of patrons and is integral to their economic success.

The widening and improvements to be constructed as a part of this project will tie the foothill area to the Fresno/Clovis metropolitan area. By supporting regional development and economic growth, property values can be improved and related construction and service industries will be sustained. Additionally, the residual impacts and job creation caused by such investment will reverberate throughout the region.

The County's objectives for the project are:

- Accommodate a higher level of projected traffic demand, and promote improved traffic operations, as well as bike and motorist safety
- Increase community safety by decreasing the California Fire Department's response times to fires in the region
- Bolster regional tourism by better accommodating seasonal traffic to the scenic Millerton Lake State Park
- Improve access to Table Mountain Rancheria tribal lands (the project has been preliminarily designed by Table Mountain Rancheria's consultant group, AECOM).

The project will achieve these objectives by transforming the current two-lane rural roadway into a four-lane divided arterial roadway with paved shoulders, including signed and striped bicycle lanes. Several public road intersections, private road intersections, and driveway intersections would be improved to accommodate the widening of the road and median improvements. Two roundabouts would be constructed where Millerton Road intersects Marina Drive/Winchell Cove Drive and Morningside Drive/Saubrice Ave to slow traffic, reduce crashes, and promote safer driving practices. Additionally, the project will include new, pocketed, left-turn lanes, and a new, two-lane, pre-stressed I-girder bridge to complement the already existing bridge and to accommodate the additional two lanes. These alterations will contribute to a higher level of

safety and utility for motorists and bicyclists. Finally, erosion control measures will line all embankment area slopes, as well as on cut slopes when the slope material will support growth. The reconstructed roadway would generally follow the alignment of the existing roadway, with deviations needed to upgrade the horizontal and vertical geometry to current standards.

In this area, the marriage rate (now married) is about 60%, higher than the US national average of 48.1%, and the birth rate is roughly 47 births per 1000 women aged 15-50, slightly below the national average of 52, according to the American Community Survey (2023). In January the County of Fresno applied for the FY 2025 BUILD Grant for \$25 million.

- 4. If your priority is not transportation related, are there any transportation policy connections?**

N/A

- 5. Provide high-resolution photos, graphics or other explanatory attachments for the One Voice trip materials. Do not copy and paste them here, attach them as separate electronic files. Then, describe the attachments and include them with your submittal.**

Location Map, Crash Map and Budget

- 6. Contact** – Include the contact information for the priority submittal **and** the contact information of the person that will be attending the One Voice trip to speak on behalf of the priority:

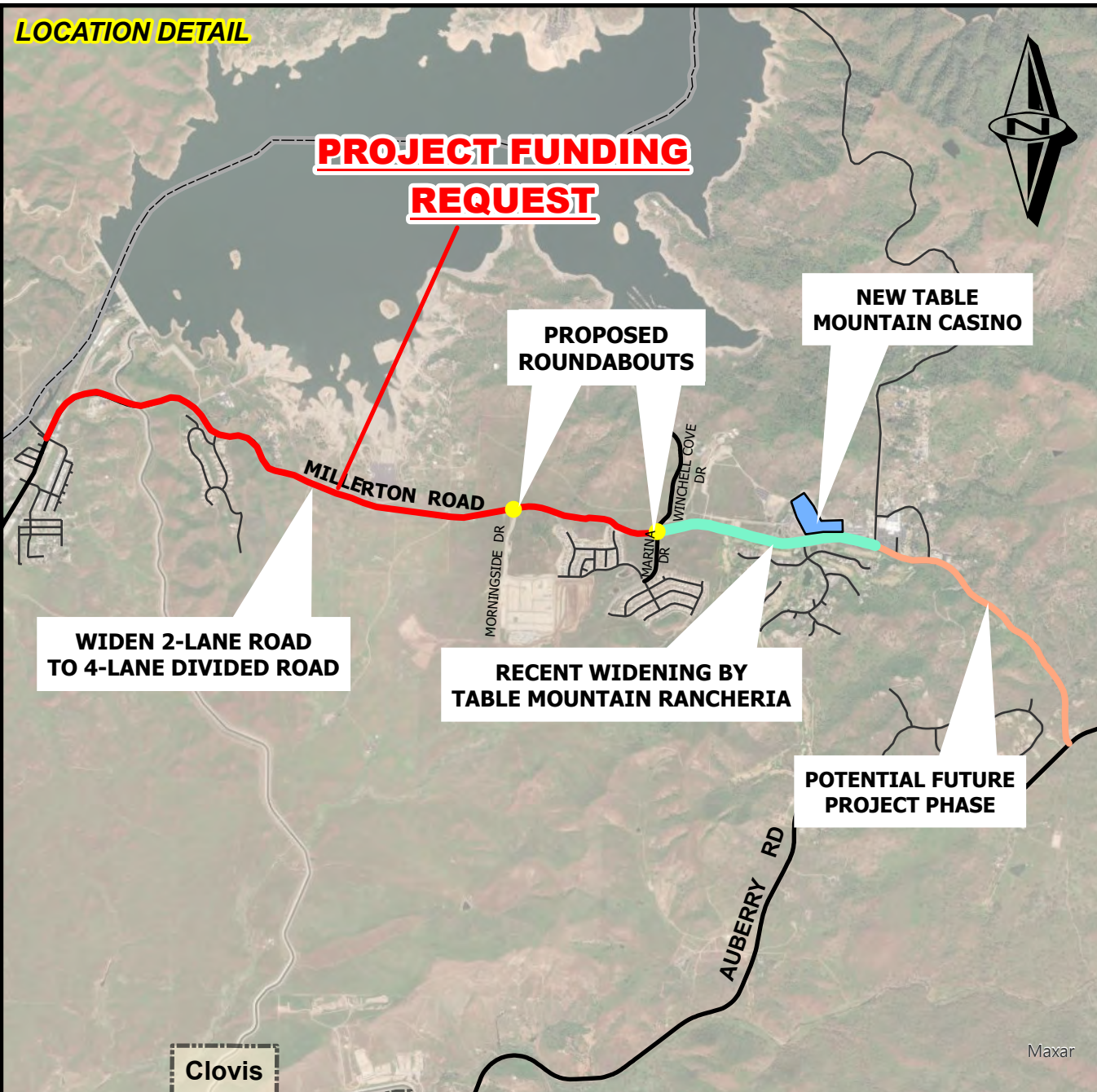
Project Contact:

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One Voice Participant:

Name, Title
Organization
Email Address
Phone Numbers, Cell/Office
Address
City, CA Zip Code

LOCATION DETAIL



STREETS



FRESNO COUNTY



Prepared By: Diana Nuttman, Staff Analyst
 Date: 02/27/2024 (revised)
 Agency: County of Fresno
 Department: Public Works & Planning
 Division: Design

SCALE IN YARDS



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS & PLANNING

**ATTACHMENT A
 MILLERTON ROAD WIDENING
 AND SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS**

ATTACHMENT B

PROJECT BUDGET

The amount of work to be done in Census Tract 55.15 is about 0.55 miles, out of total 3.2 mile project, or 17%. The rest is in Census Tract 64.05. The roundabouts will be in Tract 64.05. The bridge expansion occurs across the dividing line of the tracts, so the cost is split in half between both tracts.

There is a contingency amount of 15% for any unforeseen costs or rise in costs, as well as a projection of escalation in costs over 5 years. This estimate was updated in February 2024.

The level of design is 90%. The project has been in various planning stages since 2011 with updates to the project with additional elements and project limits. We will update the plans when additional funding is secured. The roundabouts are designed to be constructed with or without the road widening portion and can be adjusted to accommodate four lanes at a later time.

Table 1:

	Component 1: Road Widening	Component 2: Roundabouts	Component 3: Bridge Expansion	
Funding Source	Funding Amount	Funding Amount	Funding Amount	Total Funding
RSTG Funds:	\$71,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$71,000,000
Other Federal Funds: STBG, HSIP	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Non-Federal Funds:	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
Total Project Cost:	\$76,000,000	\$76,000,000	\$76,000,000	\$76,000,000

Table 2a:

2020 Census Tracts	Project Cost per Census Tract
55.15	\$11,000,000
64.05	\$65,000,000
	Total Project Cost: \$76,000,000

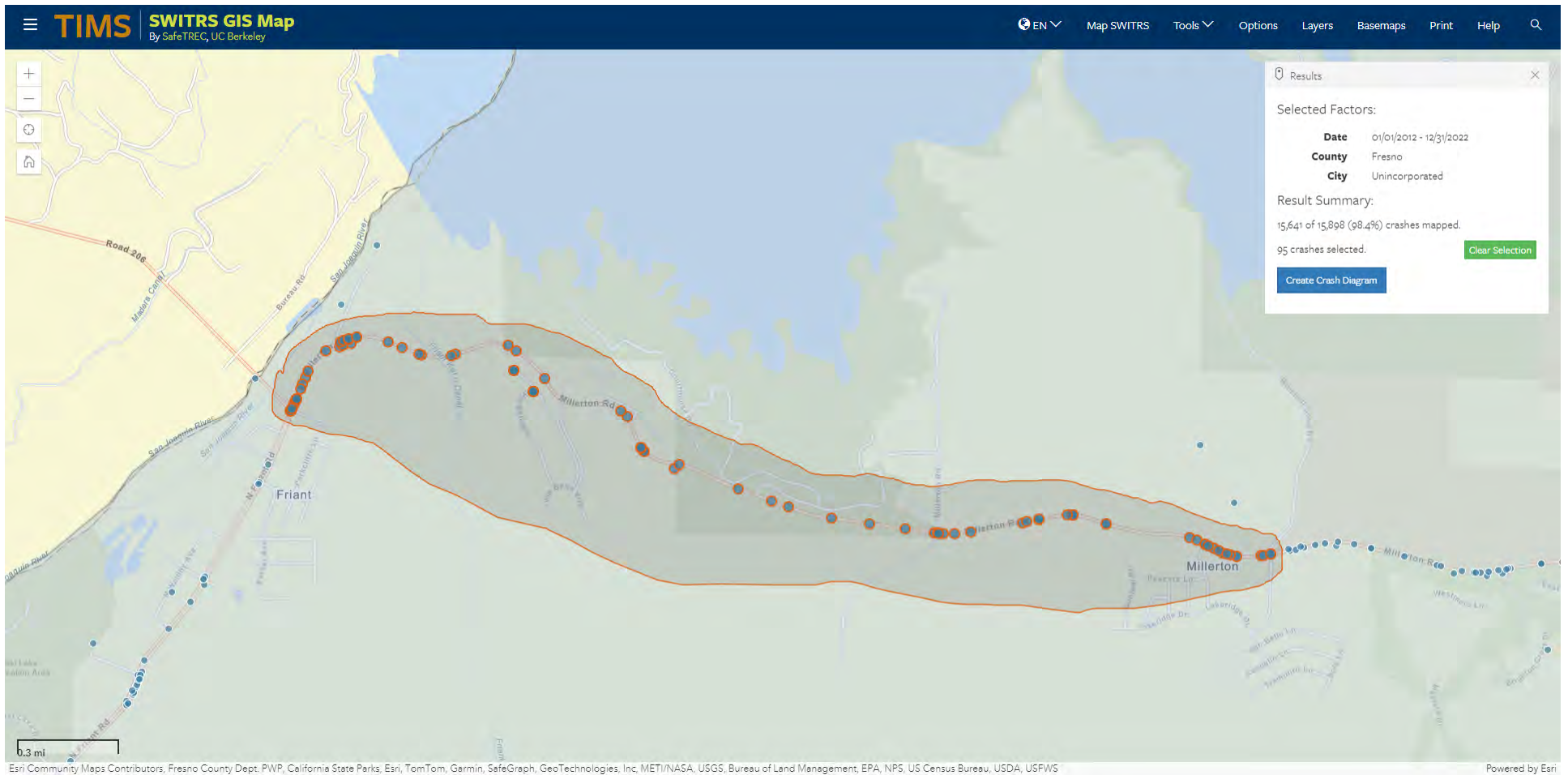
Table 2b:

2010 Census Tracts	Project Cost per Census Tract
55.15	\$11,000,000
64.05	\$65,000,000
	Total Project Cost: \$76,000,000

Table 2c:

Urban/Rural	Project Costs
Urban	\$0
Rural	\$76,000,000
	Total Project Cost: \$76,000,000

Transportation Injury Mapping System (TIMS)
Millerton Road, from North Fork Road to Marina Drive
Total of 95 crashes reported
(01/01/2012-12/31/2022)



<https://tims.berkeley.edu/tools/gismap/>

Accessed on 01/29/2024