

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

FROM: City of Fresno
Department of CAPITAL PROJECTS
747 R St., 2nd Floor
Fresno, California 93721-4016

TO: Fresno County Clerk
2220 Tulare Street
Fresno, California 93721

Office of Planning & Research SCH NO.: N/A
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, California 95812-3044

Project Title: STEP Grant Pedestrian Improvements, FC00026

Project Location: Fresno, CA (See attached location map)

Project Location – City: City of Fresno **Project Location – County:** County of Fresno

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: The proposed project involves the installation of curb, gutter, sidewalk, trees, and associated water infrastructure to close sidewalks gaps, as well as the installation of four High-Intensity Activated Crosswalks (HAWKs) in West Fresno. The improvements will enhance pedestrian safety, provide necessary infrastructure for local transit, and support environmental goals by reducing vehicle miles traveled and promoting safer access to public transportation.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Fresno – Department of Capital Projects

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Gustavo Rangel

Exempt Status: (check one)

- Ministerial: PRC § 21080(b)(1); CEQA Guidelines §15268
- Declared Emergency: PRC § 21080(b)(3); CEQA Guidelines §15269(a)
- Emergency Project: PRC § 21080(b)(4); CEQA Guidelines §15269(b) and (c)
- Categorical Exemption: CEQA Guidelines §15301/Class 1, and §15302/Class 2
- Statutory Exemption: PRC § _____

Reasons why project is exempt: The proposed project involves the installation of curb, gutter, sidewalk, trees, and associated water infrastructure to close sidewalks gaps, as well as the installation of four High-Intensity Activated Crosswalks (HAWKs) in West Fresno. The improvements will enhance pedestrian safety, provide necessary infrastructure for local transit, and support environmental goals by reducing vehicle miles traveled and promoting safer access to public transportation.

The project involves the installation of curb, gutter, sidewalk, trees, and associated water infrastructure within existing public rights-of-way. These are minor alterations and repairs to existing public facilities, such as roads and sidewalks, and will not expand the existing infrastructure or capacity beyond the current use. These improvements will ensure the safe operation of the public right-of-way and enhance the quality of public facilities in West Fresno. The project also involves installing four High-Intensity Activated Crosswalks (HAWKs), which are safety devices designed to improve pedestrian and vehicular safety. These installations are consistent with minor infrastructure improvements and will not expand the existing use of the right-of-way but will instead improve the safety and functionality of the existing facilities for pedestrians and drivers. The improvements will be located on the same site as the

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existing infrastructure and will serve substantially the same purpose. No mature, scenic trees will be removed, and disturbed vegetation will be replaced with new landscaping. These improvements will not negatively impact the surrounding environment and will enhance the aesthetic value of the area. The location where the improvements will be installed is not environmentally sensitive and is surrounded by urban development. The improvements will enhance pedestrian safety, promote multimodal transportation, and reduce vehicle miles traveled in the area, contributing to environmental sustainability goals.

Based on staff analysis, it has been determined that no adverse environmental impacts will occur as a result of the proposed project. None of the exceptions to Categorical Exemptions set forth in the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2 apply to this project. Furthermore, the proposed project is not expected to have a significant effect on the environment. Accordingly, as the area is not environmentally sensitive, as noted above, a categorical exemption has been prepared for the project.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Gustavo Rangel **Telephone No.** (559) 621-8634

Signature: *Gustavo Rangel* **Date:** 4/30/2026

Printed Name and Title:

Gustavo Rangel, Project Manager
Department of Capital Projects

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by applicant

Attachments: Categorical Exemption Determination

**CITY OF FRESNO
CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. P25-1920516/FC00026**

THE PROJECT DESCRIBED HEREIN IS DETERMINED TO BE CATEGORICALLY
EXEMPT FROM THE PREPARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS
PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 19 OF THE STATE CEQA GUIDELINES

APPLICANT: Drew Wilson
Planning Manager
City of Fresno Department of Transportation-FAX
2223 G Street
Fresno, California 93706

PROJECT LOCATION: The proposed project will be located in West Fresno along designated corridors that will involve installation of infrastructure within existing public rights-of-way. (See attached Location Map)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed project involves the installation of curb, gutter, sidewalk, trees, and associated water infrastructure to close sidewalks gaps, as well as the installation of four High-Intensity Activated Crosswalks (HAWKs) in West Fresno. The improvements will enhance pedestrian safety, provide necessary infrastructure for local transit, and support environmental goals by reducing vehicle miles traveled and promoting safer access to public transportation.

This project is exempt under Section 15301/Class 1 and Section 15302/Class 2 of the State of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines. None of the exceptions to Categorical Exemptions set forth in the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2 apply to this project.

EXPLANATION:

Section 15301/Class 1 consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. The key consideration is whether the project involves negligible or no expansion of use. Examples include but are not limited to: (c) existing highways and streets, sidewalks, gutters, bicycle and pedestrian trails, and similar facilities, and other alterations such as the addition of bicycle facilities, including but not limited to bicycle parking, bicycle-share facilities and bicycle lanes, transit improvements such as bus lanes, pedestrian crossings, street trees, and other similar alterations that do not create additional automobile lanes.

Section 15302/Class 2 consists of the replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced.

The project involves the installation of curb, gutter, sidewalk, trees, and associated water infrastructure within existing public rights-of-way. These are minor alterations and repairs to existing public facilities, such as roads and sidewalks, and will not expand the existing infrastructure or capacity beyond the current use. These improvements will ensure the safe operation of the public right-of-way and enhance the quality of public facilities in West Fresno. The project also involves installing four High-Intensity Activated Crosswalks (HAWKs), which are safety devices designed to improve pedestrian and

Categorical Exemption
Environmental Assessment No. P25-1920516

vehicular safety. These installations are consistent with minor infrastructure improvements and will not expand the existing use of the right-of-way but will instead improve the safety and functionality of the existing facilities for pedestrians and drivers. The improvements will be located on the same site as the existing infrastructure and will serve substantially the same purpose. No mature, scenic trees will be removed, and disturbed vegetation will be replaced with new landscaping. These improvements will not negatively impact the surrounding environment and will enhance the aesthetic value of the area. The location where the improvements will be installed is not environmentally sensitive and is surrounded by urban development. The improvements will enhance pedestrian safety, promote multimodal transportation, and reduce vehicle miles traveled in the area, contributing to environmental sustainability goals.

Based on staff analysis, it has been determined that no adverse environmental impacts will occur as a result of the proposed project. None of the exceptions to Categorical Exemptions set forth in the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2 apply to this project. Furthermore, the proposed project is not expected to have a significant effect on the environment. Accordingly, as the area is not environmentally sensitive, as noted above, a categorical exemption has been prepared for the project.

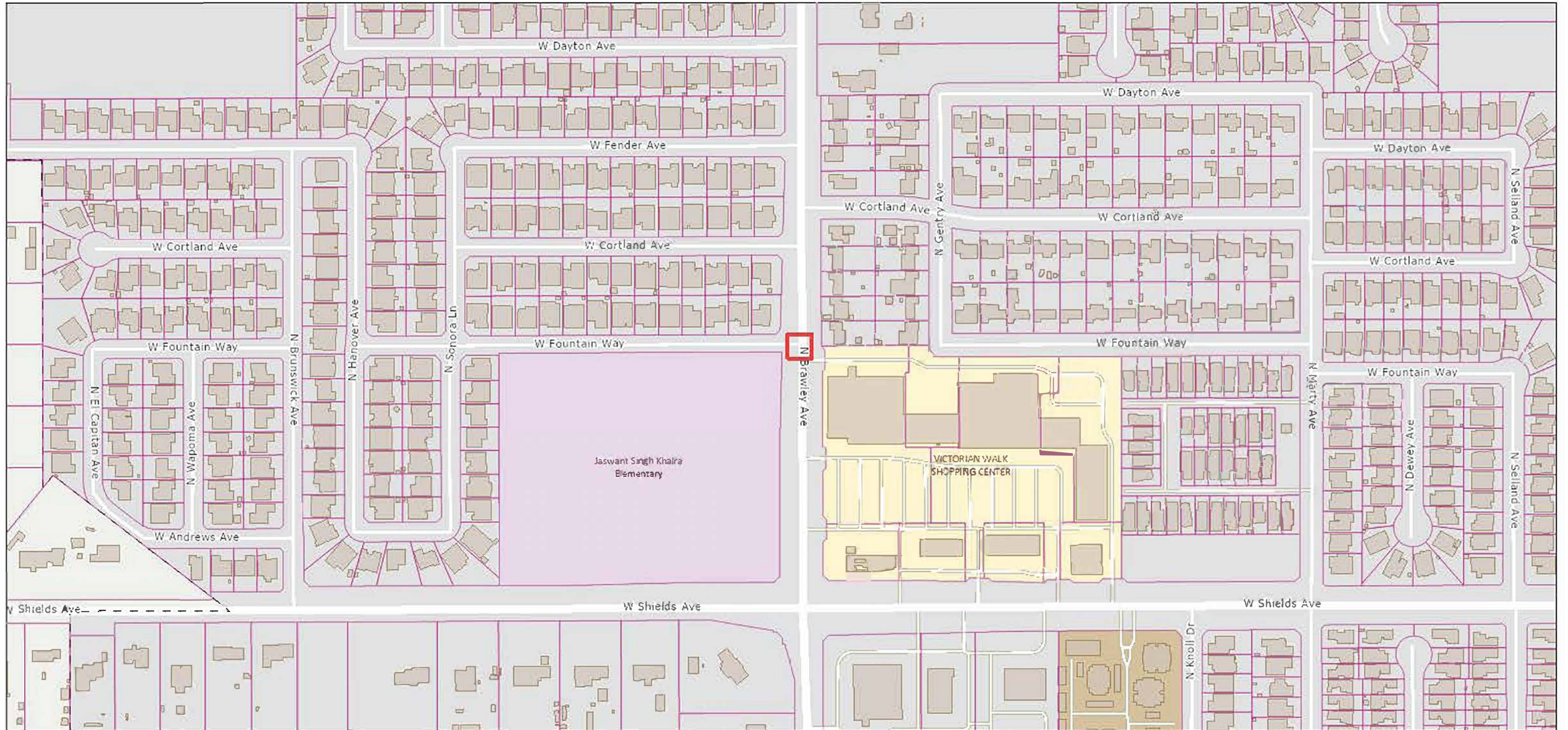
Date: April 30, 2026

Prepared By: Drew Wilson

Submitted By: *Gustavo Rangel*

Gustavo Rangel, Project Manager
City of Fresno
Department of Capital Projects
(559) 621-8634

HAWK - Brawley & Fountain Way



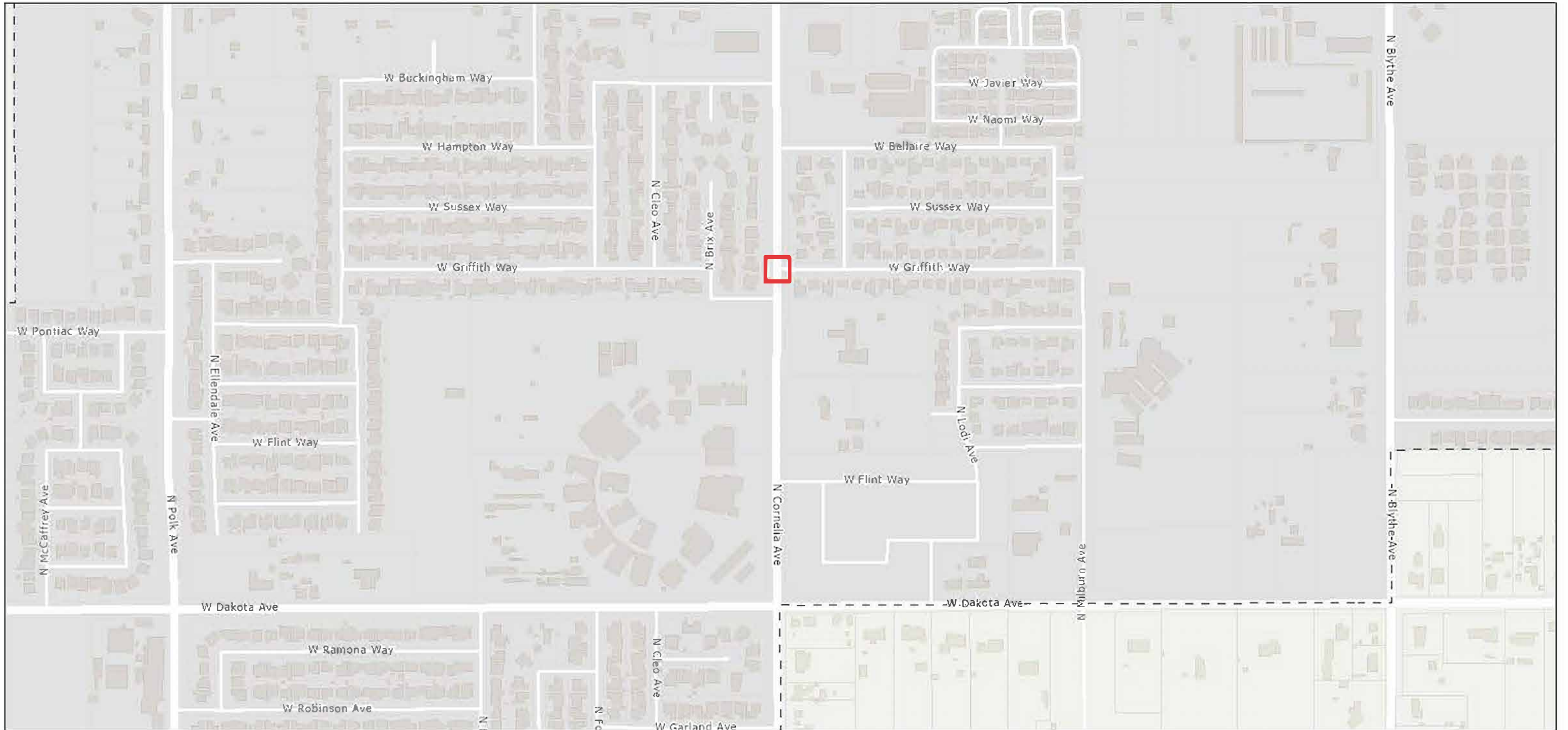
Legend

 Project Location



This map is believed to be an accurate representation of the City of Fresno GIS data. However, we make no warranties either expressed or implied for the correctness of this data.

HAWK - Cornelia & Griffith



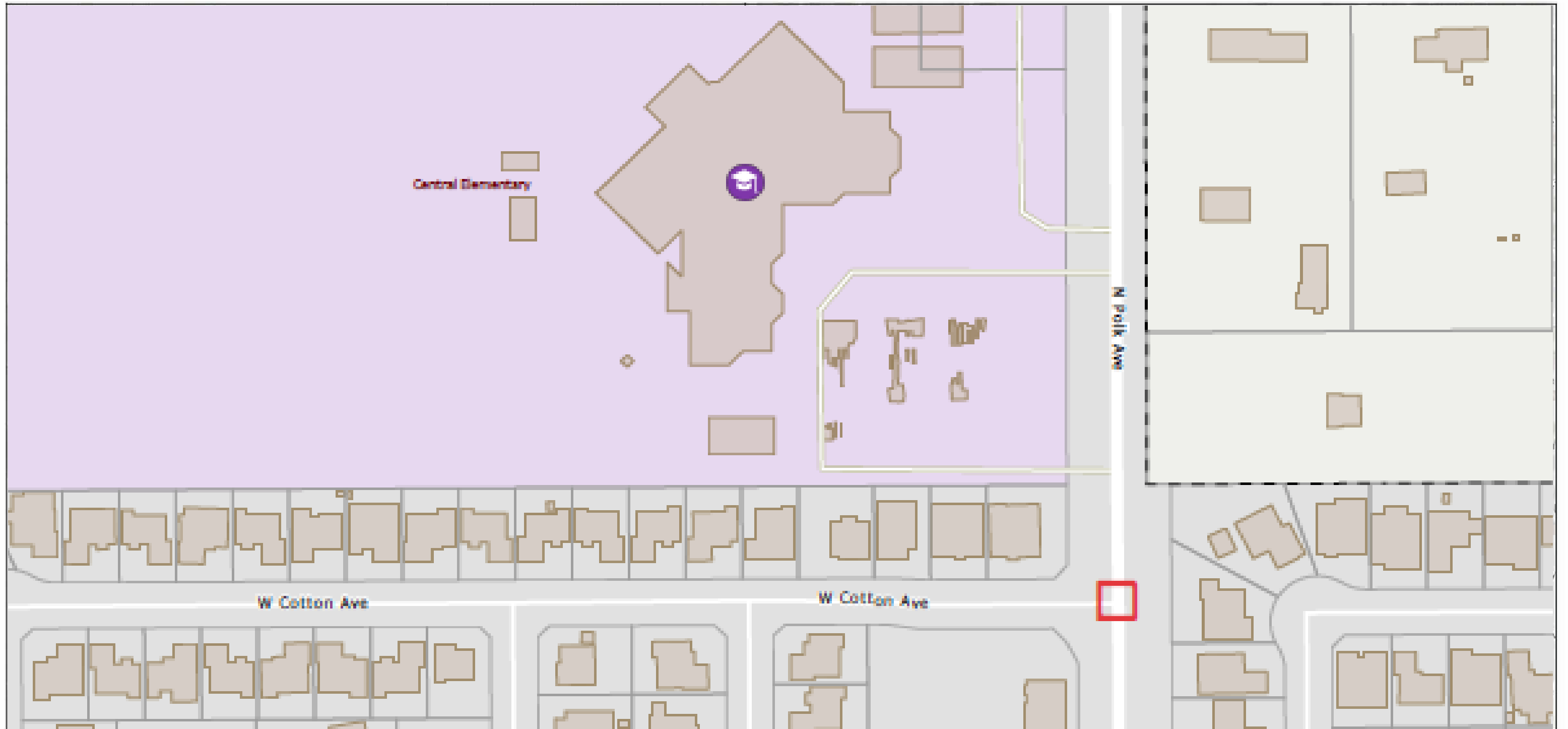
Legend

□ Project Location



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HAWK - Polk & Cotton



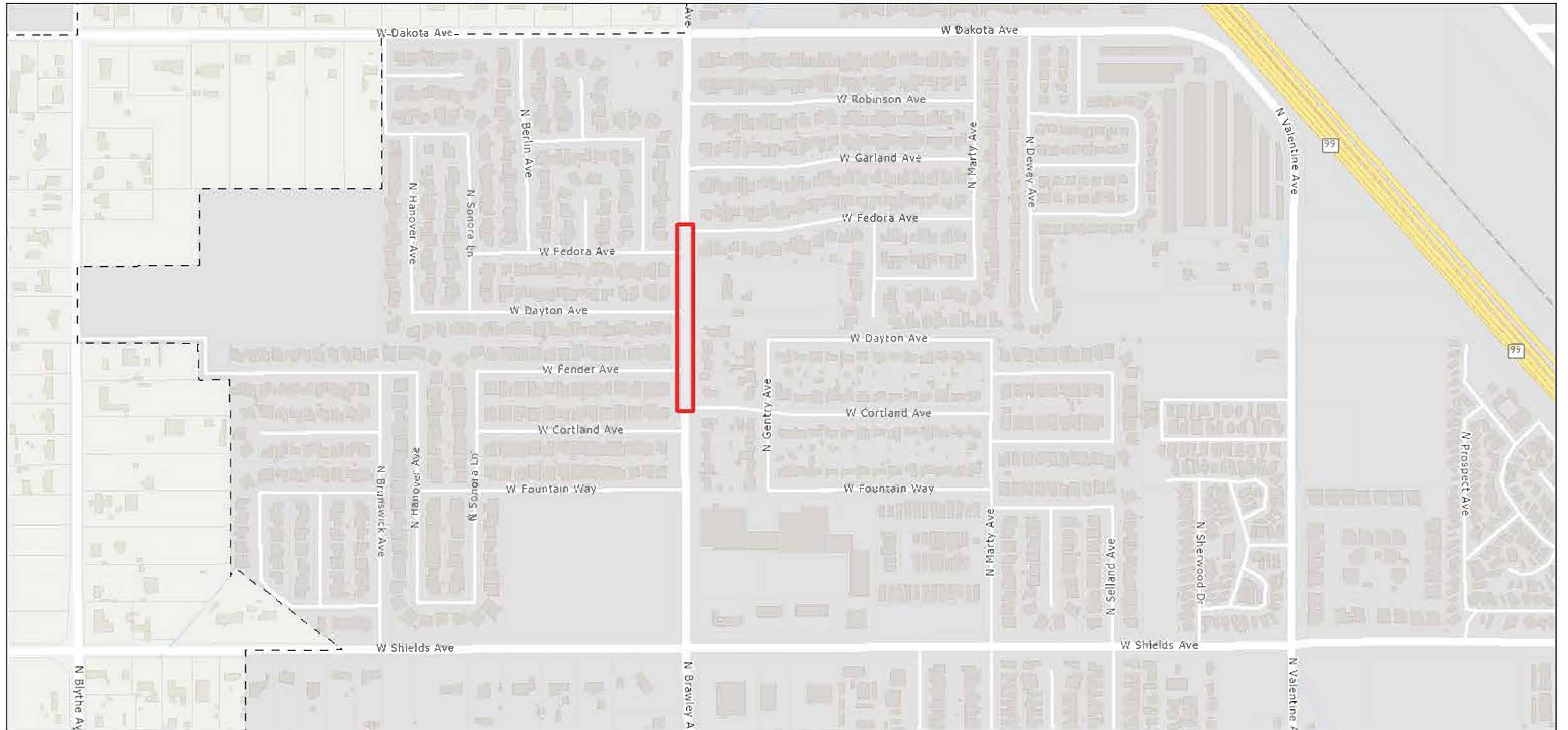
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 Project Location




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Sidewalk Improvements - Brawley Ave from Cortland to Fedora



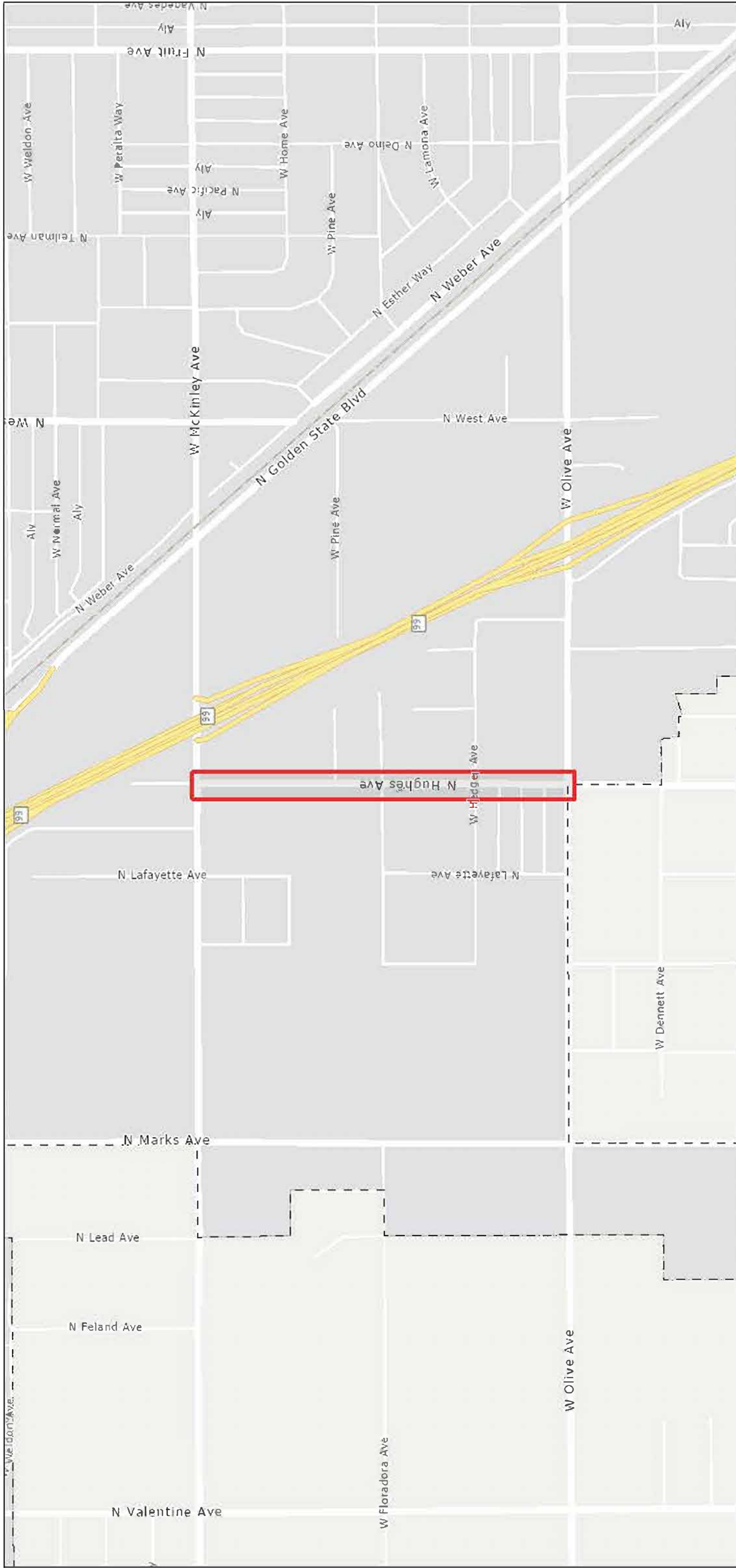
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 Project Location



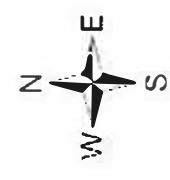
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Sidewalk Improvements - Hughes Ave from McKinley to Olive



Legend

Project Location



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