

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
INITIAL STUDY
OF ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE

PROJECT WO# 0662-6R4176

CP# 12-50

PROJECT NAME: Walnut Boulevard Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvement Project

PREPARED BY: Claudia Gemberling *LC*

DATE: 1/7/2013

APPROVED BY: *Jackie Cox*

DATE: 1/15/13

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (X) Categorical Exemption (Section 15303(d) (Class 3)) () Negative Declaration
() Environmental Impact Report Required () Conditional Negative Declaration

The project consists of construction of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures.

What changes to the project would mitigate the identified impacts? N/A

USGS Quad Sheet: Walnut Creek Base Map Sheet # N-14, 15; P-15 Parcel # N/A

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS:

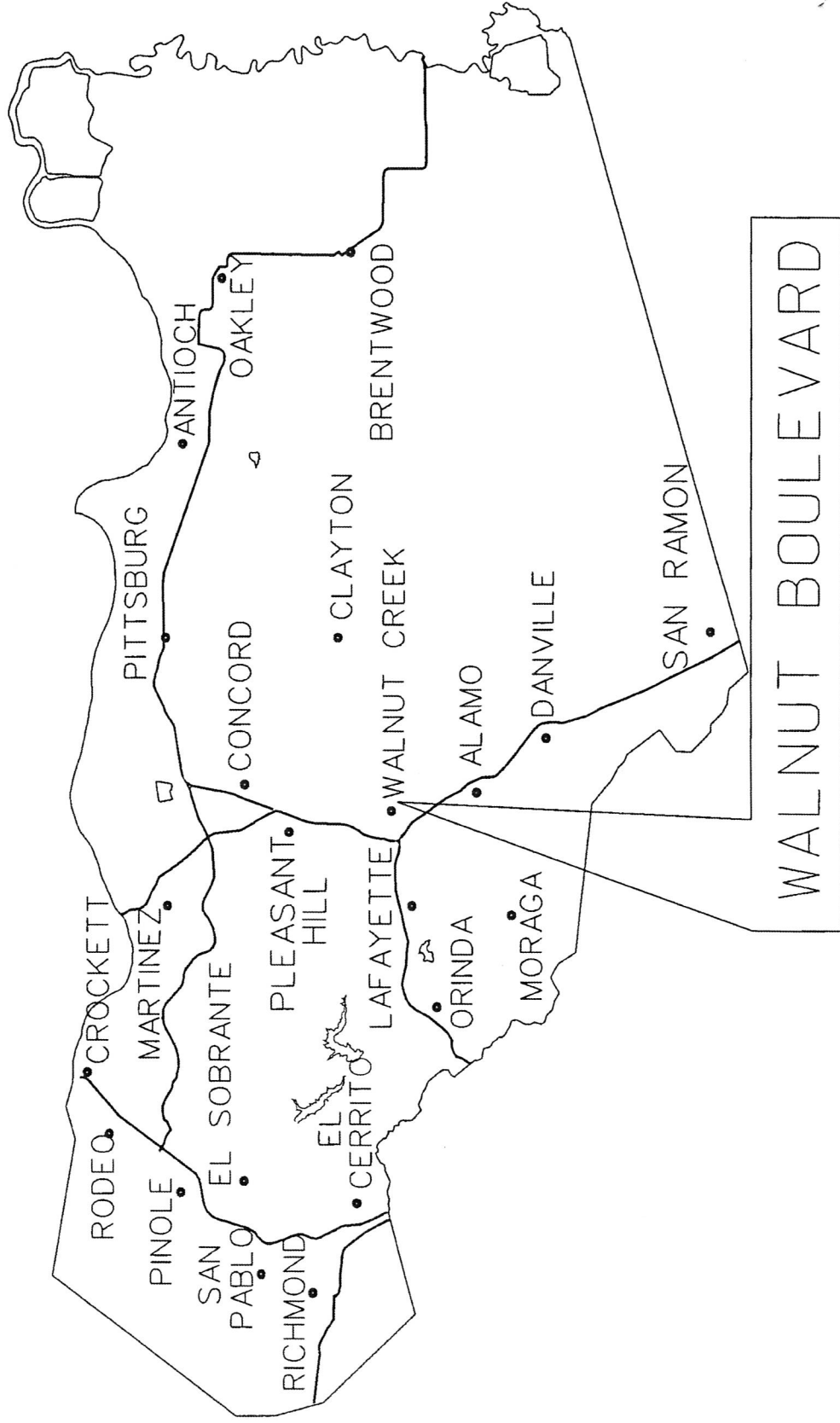
1. **Location:** The project is located in an unincorporated area of Walnut Creek (Figures 1 and 2).
2. **Project Description:** Contra Costa County Public Works Department (CCCPWD) proposes to construct an approximately 2,400-foot long pedestrian path and associated facilities from Walnut Heights Elementary School to Clarkin Court. In addition, an approximately 3,500-foot long Class III bike route will be designated from the school to Mountain View Boulevard to join the planned bike route in the City of Walnut Creek on both sides of the project limits. Residents and students walk or bike within the travel lanes of Walnut Boulevard due to the lack of pedestrian facilities. An American Disabilities Act (ADA)-compliant pedestrian path is needed to provide an accessible path of travel. Most of the road section has no curb and gutter. The proposed improvements include construction of a 5-foot wide asphalt path, an asphalt berm to separate motorists from pedestrians, concrete curb, gutter, and/or sidewalk as necessary to match existing improvements; curb ramps, bike route signage, minor drainage modifications including a headwall at an existing culvert, two-foot high retaining wall where necessary, driveway conform grading, and utility relocations. The improvements will result in the need to remove approximately nine trees that include eucalyptus and native oak saplings. Preparation for construction will include a nesting bird survey if work occurs between March and July and consultation with a certified arborist to ensure proper treatments for any necessary root trimming.

Real property transactions may be necessary in support of the project.

3. **Does it appear that any feature of the project will generate significant public concern?**
[] Yes [X] No [] Maybe (Nature of concern):
4. **Will the project require approval or permits by other than a County agency?**
[] Yes [X] No
5. **Is the project within the Sphere of Influence of any city?** Yes (Walnut Creek)

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

CALIFORNIA



LOCATION MAP: WALNUT BOULEVARD PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE PROJECT

WALNUT BOULEVARD PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE PROJECT

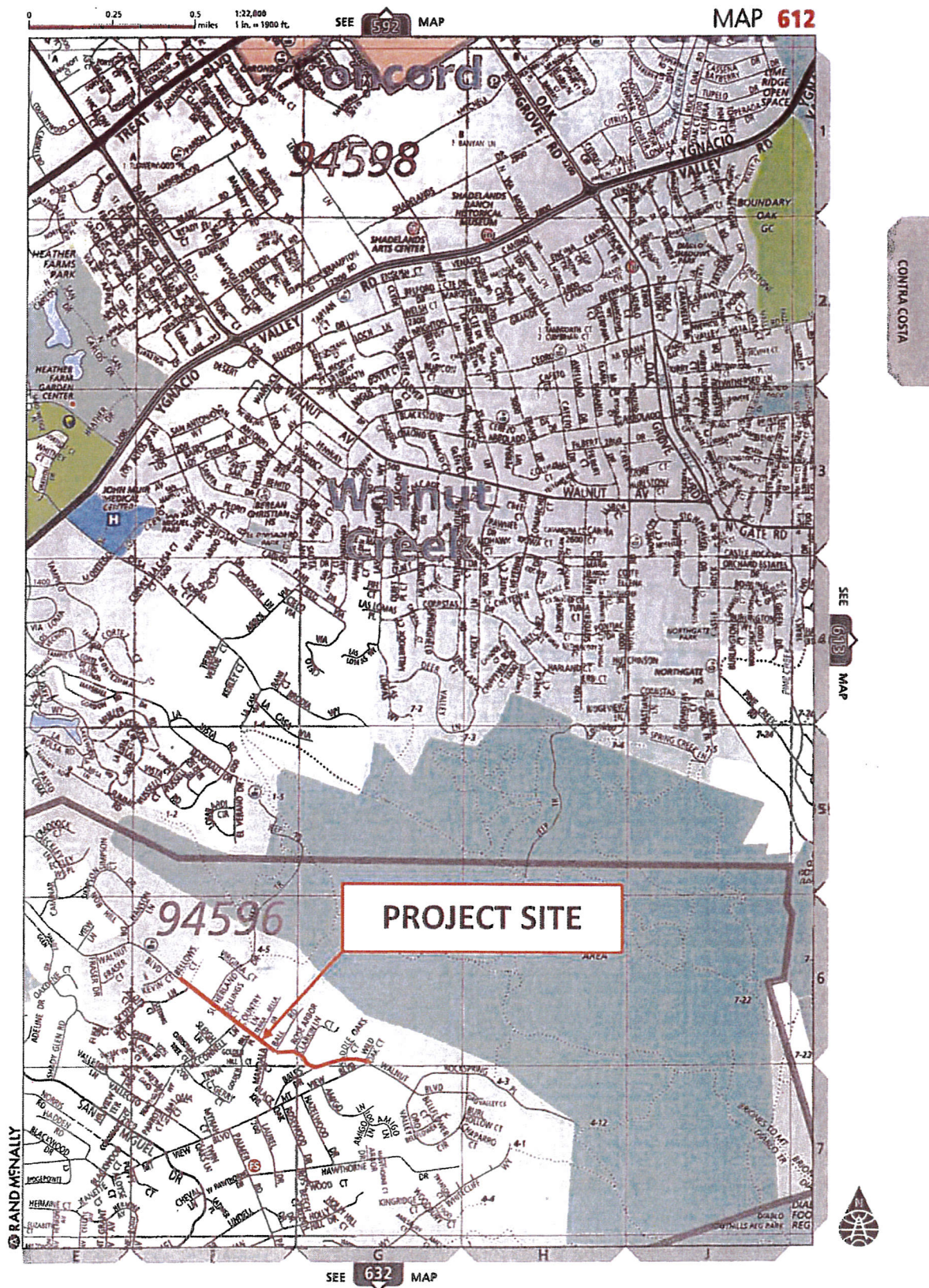


FIGURE 2

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk
County of: Contra Costa

From: Contra Costa County
Dept. of Conservation & Development
30 Muir Road
Martinez, CA 94553

Project Title: Walnut Boulevard Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvement Project, WO#4176, CP# 12-50

Project Applicant: Contra Costa County Public Works Department, 255 Glacier Drive, Martinez, CA 94553

Project Location – Specific: Walnut Boulevard between Bellows Court and Mountain View Boulevard

Project Location - City: Walnut Creek **Project Location – County:** Contra Costa

1. Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: Contra Costa County Public Works Department proposes to construct an approximately 2,400-foot long pedestrian path and associated facilities from Walnut Heights Elementary School to Clarkin Court. In addition, an approximately 3,500-foot long Class III bike route will be designated from the school to Mountain View Boulevard to join the planned bike route in the City of Walnut Creek on both sides of the project limits. Residents and students walk or bike within the travel lanes of Walnut Boulevard due to the lack of pedestrian facilities. An American Disabilities Act (ADA)-compliant pedestrian path is needed to provide an accessible path of travel. Most of the road section has no curb and gutter. The proposed improvements include construction of a 5-foot wide asphalt path, an asphalt berm to separate motorists from pedestrians, concrete curb, gutter, and/or sidewalk as necessary to match existing improvements; curb ramps, bike route signage, minor drainage modifications including a headwall at an existing culvert, two-foot high retaining wall where necessary, driveway conform grading, and utility relocations. The improvements will result in the need to remove approximately nine trees that include eucalyptus and native oak saplings. Preparation for construction will include a nesting bird survey if work occurs between March and July and consultation with a certified arborist to ensure proper treatments for any necessary root trimming.

Real property transactions may be necessary in support of the project.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Contra Costa County
Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Contra Costa County Public Works Department

Exempt Status:

- ☐ Ministerial Project (Sec. 21080(b) (1); 15268
- ☒ Categorical Exemption: 15303(d)
- ☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- ☐ Other Statutory Exemption, Code no.:
- ☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b))
- ☐ General Rule of Applicability

Reasons why project is exempt: The project consists of construction of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Claudia Gemberling **Area Code/Telephone/Extension:** (925) 313-2192

- If filed by applicant:
1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.

2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Signature:_____ Date:_____ Title: _____

☐ Signed by Lead Agency ☐ Signed by Applicant

AFFIDAVIT OF FILING AND POSTING

I declare that on _____ I received and posted this notice as required by California Public Resources Code Section 21152(c). Said notice will remain posted for 30 days from the filing date.

Signature

Title

Applicant:
Contra Costa County Public Works Department
255 Glacier Drive
Martinez, CA 94553
Attn: **Claudia Gemberling**
Environmental Division
Phone: **(925) 313-2192**

Department of Fish and Game Fees Due

☐ EIR - \$2,995.25

☐ Neg. Dec. - \$2,156.25

☐ DeMinimis Findings - \$0

☒ **County Clerk - \$50**

☒ **Conservation & Development - \$25**

Total Due: \$ 75.00

Total Paid \$ _____

Receipt #: _____