

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  
INITIAL STUDY OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE

PROJECT NUMBER: WO# 1025

CP# 15-49

PROJECT NAME: Walnut Boulevard Bike Lane Gap Closure Project

PREPARED BY: Alex Nattkemper

DATE: December 21, 2015

APPROVED BY: [Signature] DATE: 1-11-16

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

☒ **Categorical Exemption** [Class 1(c)]

☐ Environmental Impact Report Required

☐ Negative Declaration

☐ Conditional Negative Declaration

The project will not have a significant effect on the environment. The recommendation is based on the following: The project consists of minor alteration of existing public facilities, involving negligible expansion of use beyond that previously existing pursuant to section 15301(c) of the CEQA guidelines. The project will not result in the removal of any scenic resource.

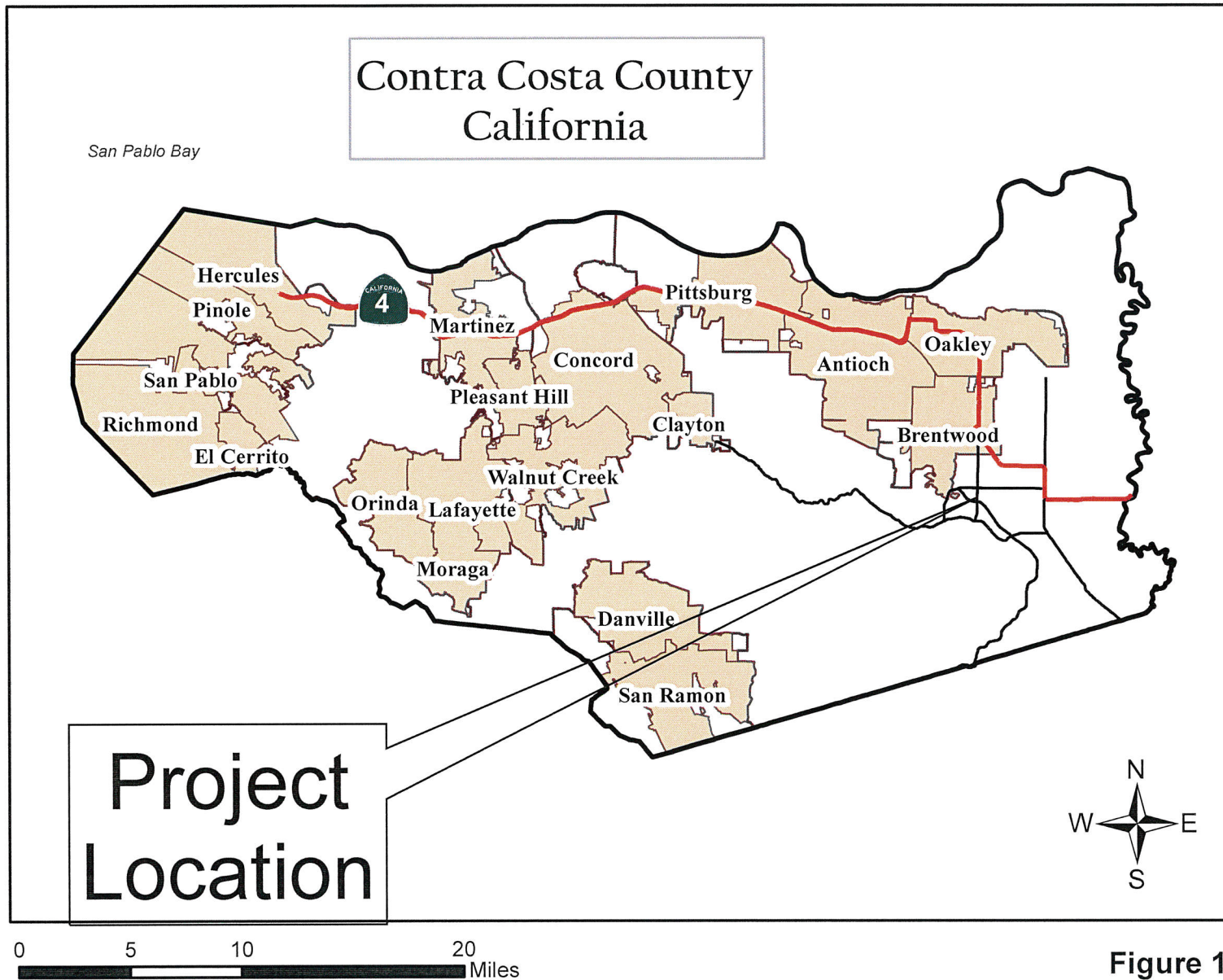
What changes to the project would mitigate the identified impacts: N/A

USGS Quad Sheet: Brentwood	Base Map Sheet #: P-25	Parcel #: N/A
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**GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

- Location:** The project is located in an unincorporated area in east Contra Costa County south of the City of Brentwood and west of Discovery Bay [Figures 1-4].
- Project Description:** The purpose of this project is to widen the roadway to provide Class II bike lanes in each direction along a narrow section of Walnut Boulevard between Marsh Creek Road and Vasco Road in order to improve bicyclist safety. Recent improvements to Marsh Creek Road and Vasco Road have widened these intersections along Walnut Boulevard. However, these improvements left an approximately 1,000 foot long gap in paved shoulders wide enough for cyclists to use as bike lanes. This section between the two revised intersections remains a two lane rural road with little to no shoulders. This area has become increasingly used by bicyclists in east Contra Costa County. The project consists of adding approximately 6 feet of pavement widening on the west side of Walnut Boulevard. The project will relocate one roadside traffic sign due to widening. After the widening is completed, a slurry seal surface treatment and re-alignment of the pavement markings will center the travel lanes over the new roadway width. Bike lane signing and striping will be installed within the project limits and the existing centerline rumble strips will be replaced. The drainage pattern will be re-established through a graded roadside ditch and the partial excavation of its associated berm that extends approximately 520 feet in length parallel to the road. The project is a covered activity under the East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP) under Road Safety Improvements. The project will follow the HCP/NCCP Avoidance and Mitigation Measures to minimize impacts to covered species and water quality. Appropriate Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be implemented to protect storm drain inlets. In addition, HCP/NCCP development fees will be paid to the Conservancy at project contract award. One lane will be open for traffic during construction activities. Emergency vehicles will have access at all times. Real property transactions, such as temporary construction easements from adjacent properties, may be necessary in support of the project.
- Does it appear that any feature of the project will generate significant public concern?**  
☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ maybe (Nature of concern):
- Will the project require approval or permits by other than a County agency?**  
☒ Yes ☐ No East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy
- Is the project within the Sphere of Influence of any city?** No

# Walnut Boulevard Bike Lane Gap Closure Project



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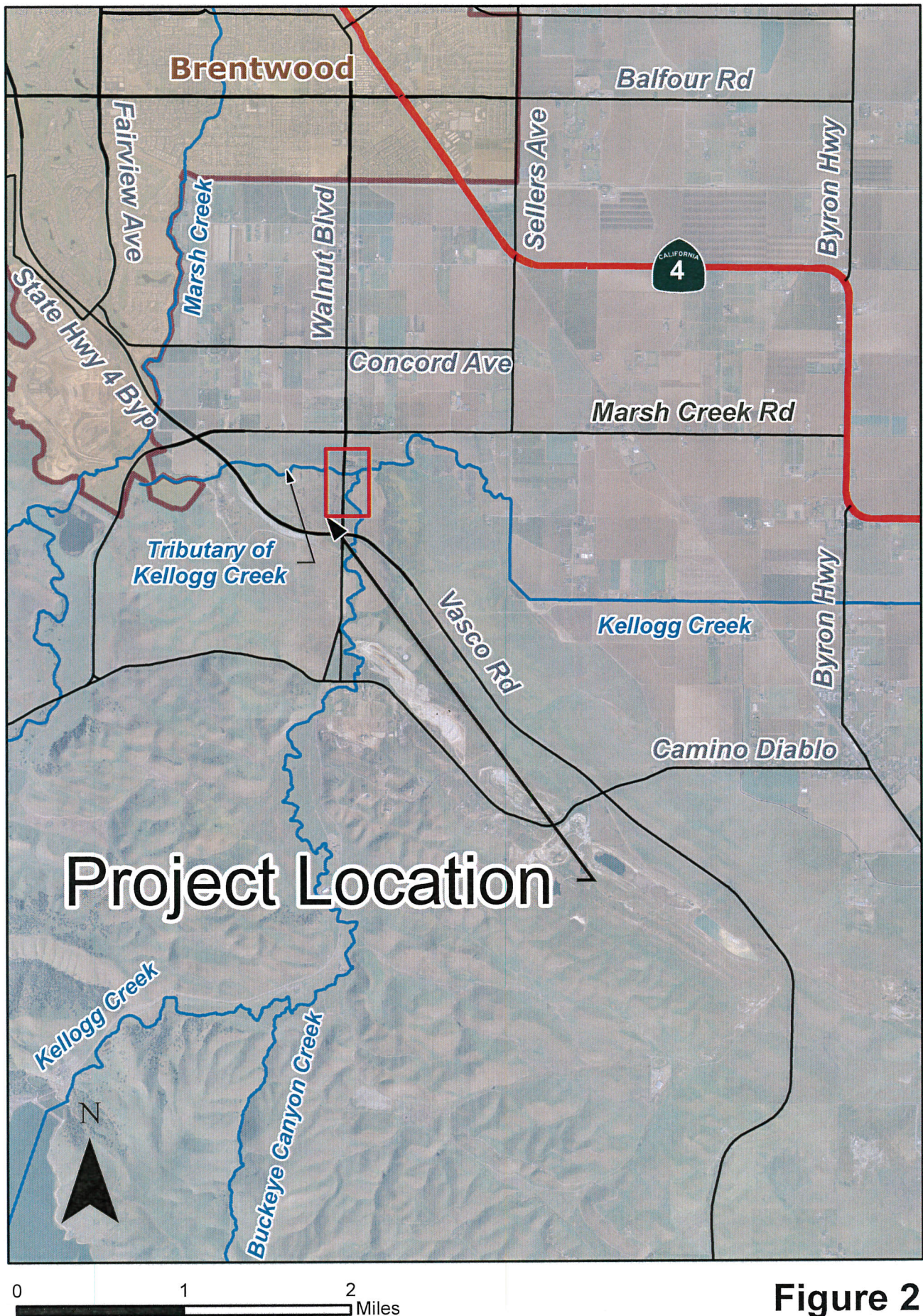


Figure 2



**PLAN VIEW - WALNUT BOULEVARD**

LEGEND		
EXISTING	DESCRIPTION	PROPOSED
	Right of Way	
	Centerline	
	Edge of Pavement	
	Storm Drain	
	Fence	
	Utility Line	
	Striping	
	Guardrail	

SCALE: 1" = 40'  
for 11x17



Contra Costa County  
**Public Works**  
Department

255 GLACIER DRIVE MARTINEZ, CALIFORNIA 94553 PH: (925) 313-2000 FAX: (925) 313-2333

**PRELIMINARY PROJECT LAYOUT**

WALNUT BOULEVARD  
BIKE LANE GAP CLOSURE PROJECT

FEDERAL ID NO.: N/A

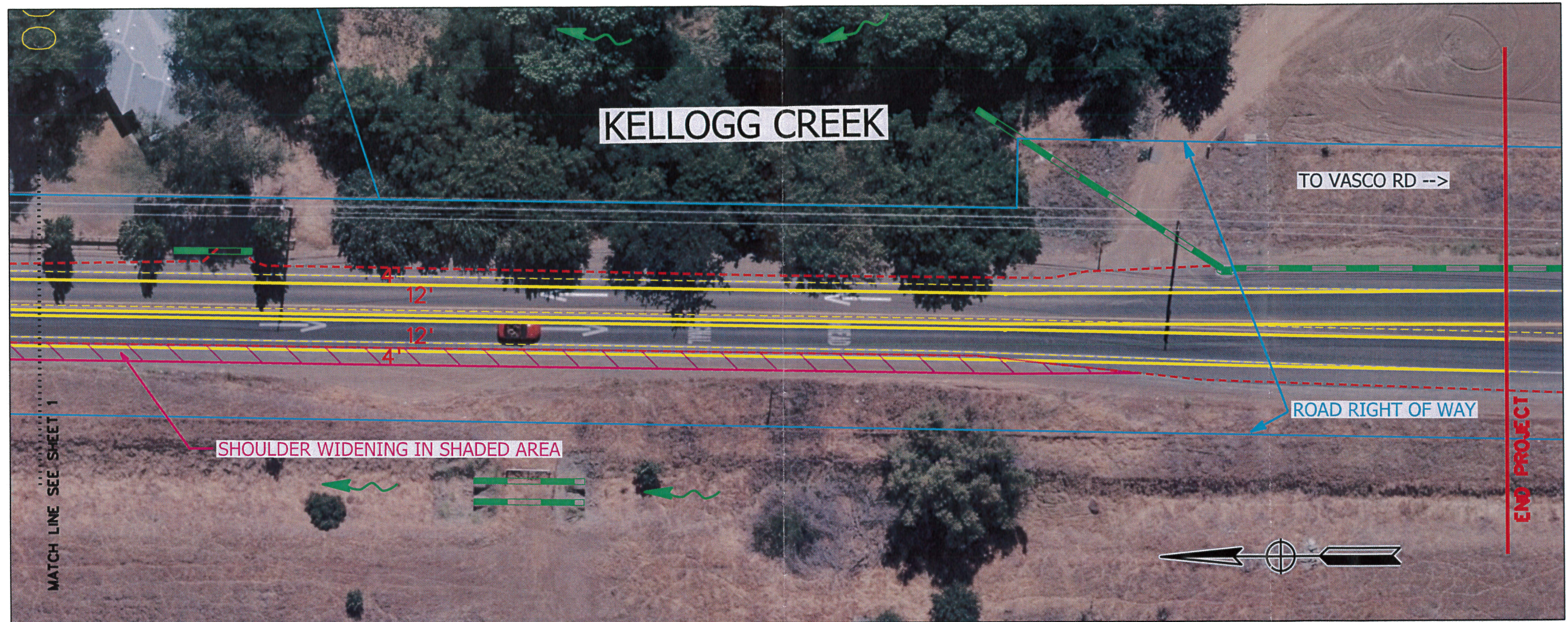
DB: LL

CB: AV

DATE: NOV 2015

SHEET 1 OF 2

Figure 3



**PLAN VIEW - WALNUT BOULEVARD**

LEGEND		
EXISTING	DESCRIPTION	PROPOSED
	Right of Way	
	Centerline	
	Edge of Pavement	
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FEDERAL ID NO.: N/A

DB: LL

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SHEET 2 OF 2

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 Bike Lane Gap Closure Project, WO#1025 & CP#15-49](#)

Project Applicant: Contra Costa County Public Works Department

Project Location – **Specific:** The west side of Walnut Boulevard between Marsh Creek Road and Vasco Road

Project Location: Unincorporated area south of the City of Brentwood      Project Location – County: [Contra Costa](#)

**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:**

The purpose of this project is to widen the roadway to provide Class II bike lanes in each direction along a narrow section of Walnut Boulevard between Marsh Creek Road and Vasco Road in order to improve bicyclist safety. Recent improvements to Marsh Creek Road and Vasco Road have widened these intersections along Walnut Boulevard. However, these improvements left an approximately 1,000 foot long gap in paved shoulders wide enough for cyclists to use as bike lanes. This section between the two revised intersections remains a two lane rural road with little to no shoulders. This area has become increasingly used by bicyclists in east Contra Costa County. The project consists of adding approximately 6 feet of pavement widening on the west side of Walnut Boulevard. The project will relocate one roadside traffic sign due to widening. After the widening is completed, a slurry seal surface treatment and re-alignment of the pavement markings will center the travel lanes over the new roadway width. Bike lane signing and striping will be installed within the project limits and the existing centerline rumble strips will be replaced. The drainage pattern will be re-established through a graded roadside ditch and the partial excavation of its associated berm that extends approximately 520 feet in length parallel to the road. The project is a covered activity under the East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP) under Road Safety Improvements. The project will follow the HCP/NCCP Avoidance and Mitigation Measures to minimize impacts to covered species and water quality. Appropriate Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be implemented to protect storm drain inlets. In addition, HCP/NCCP development fees will be paid to the Conservancy at project contract award. One lane will be open for traffic during construction activities. Emergency vehicles will have access at all times. Real property transactions, such as temporary construction easements from adjacent properties, 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;  
☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));  
☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));

☒ Categorical Exemption: **Class 1(c)**  
☐ Other Statutory Exemption, Code No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ General Rule of Applicability [Article 5, Section 15061 (b)(3)]

**Reasons why project is exempt:** **The project consists of minor alteration of existing public facilities, involving negligible expansion of use beyond that previously existing; pursuant to section 15301(c) of the CEQA guidelines. The project will not result in the removal of any scenic resource.**

Lead Agency Contact Person: [Alex Nattkemper](#) - **Public Works Dept.** Area Code/Telephone/Extension: [\(925\) 313-2364](#)

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:**  
Public Works Department  
255 Glacier Drive  
Martinez, CA 94553  
**Attn:** [Alex Nattkemper](#)  
**Environmental Services Division**  
**Phone:** [\(925\) 313-2364](#)

**Department of Fish and Game Fees Due**

☐ EIR - \$3,070.<sup>00</sup>  
☐ Neg. Dec. - \$2,210.<sup>25</sup>  
☐ DeMinimis Findings - \$0  
☒ **County Clerk - \$50**  
☒ **Conservation & Development - \$25**

**Total Due: \$ [75.<sup>00</sup>](#)**  
Total Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Receipt #: \_\_\_\_\_