

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  
INITIAL STUDY OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE

PROJECT NUMBER: 0662-6U4095

CP# 19-06

PROJECT NAME: Alhambra Valley Road Realignment – West of Bear Creek Road

PREPARED BY: Alex Nattkemper, Environmental Services Division DATE: March 9, 2020

APPROVED BY: *Teresa B. Moore* DATE: 3/19/2020

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Categorical Exemption: §15301 Class 1(c)  Negative Declaration  
 Environmental Impact Report Required  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 repair to an existing public street, pursuant to section 15301(c) of the State CEQA Guidelines.

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

USGS Quad Sheet: <u>Briones Valley</u>	Base Map Sheet #: <u>J-9</u>	Parcel #: <u>362-100-003</u>
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GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS:

- Location:** The project is located along Alhambra Valley Road approximately 0.4 miles west of Bear Creek Road in a rural, unincorporated area of western Contra Costa County [Figures 1-3].
- Project Description:** The purpose of this project is to restore two-way traffic and allow unimpeded traffic flow along a segment of Alhambra Valley Road, which has been functioning with one-way reversing traffic due to existing creek bank erosion at the south side of the road. A portion of the eastbound lane has been closed off with concrete k-rail and stop signs have been installed on both sides of the partial lane closure. The entire length of the project is approximately 800 feet, while the erosion along the project section is approximately 100 feet long. The roadway configuration prior to the bank erosion were two 11-foot wide lanes with minimal paved shoulder in both directions. The project consists of realigning the roadway slightly to the north, away from Pinole Creek, and reconstructing the road with two 10-foot lanes and two 4-foot shoulders. There is an existing earthen ditch located along the north side of the road that will be re-established parallel to the new alignment. Following the project, the k-rail will remain and end treatments will be installed or a guardrail system will be installed as necessary. No tree removal or trimming will be necessary. Clearing and grubbing of vegetation along the north side of the road will be necessary to construct the new alignment. Appropriate Best Management Practices (BMPs) for protection of environmental resources will be implemented during construction. Utility adjustments or relocation may be necessary in support of the project. One lane will be open during construction activities; road closure may be necessary for a brief period. If a temporary road closure is needed, advanced notification will be provided to the public and local authorities. Emergency vehicles will have access at all times. To allow one-way reversing traffic during construction, the existing stop signs will be permanently removed and replaced with temporary traffic signals at the project limits. Real Property transactions, including right-of-way acquisition, may be necessary in support of this project. Construction is anticipated to begin in fall 2020 and take approximately two months to complete.
- 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
- Is the project within the Sphere of Influence of any city?** No.

# Alhambra Valley Road Realignment West of Bear Creek Road

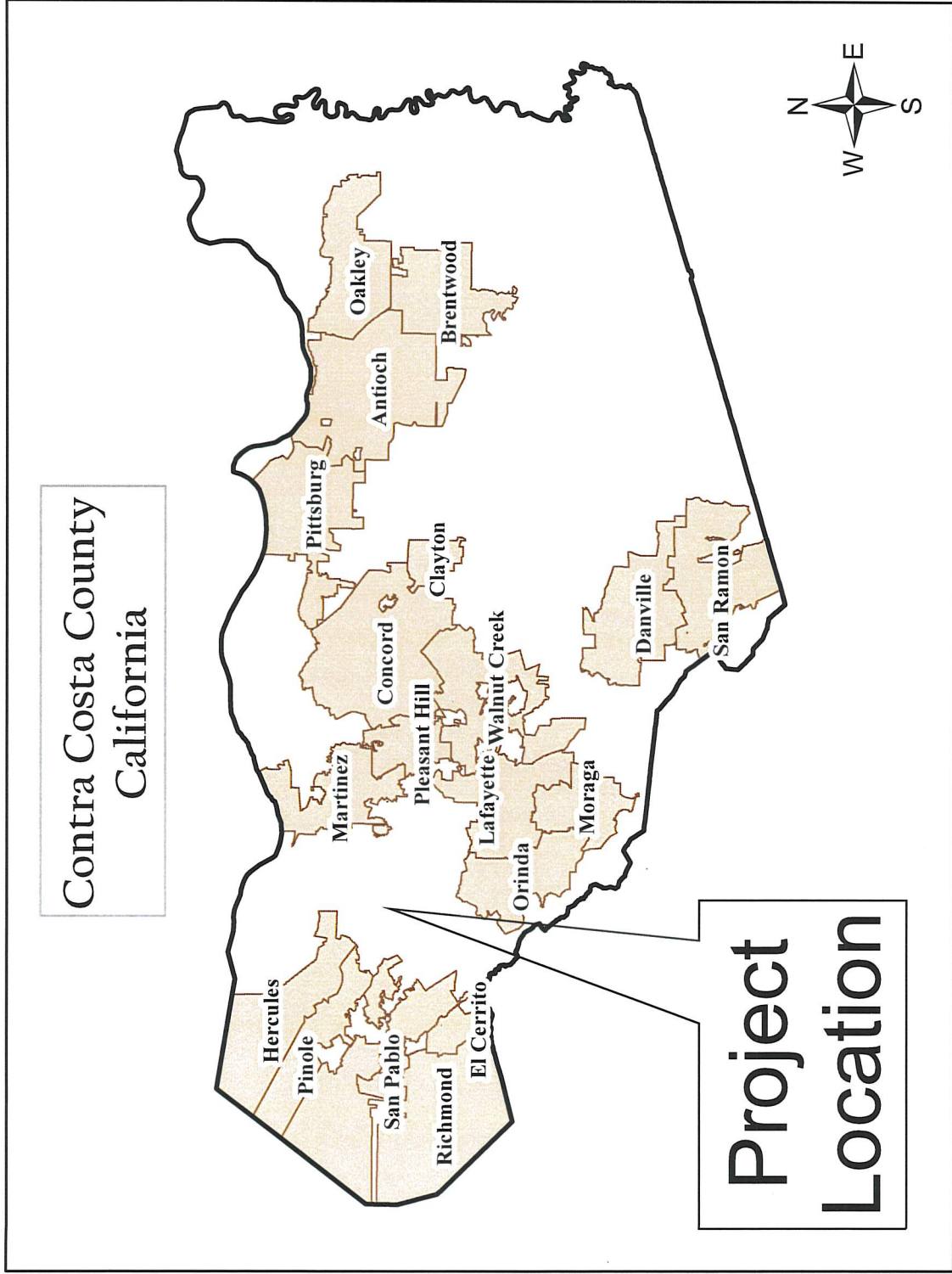


Figure 1

# Alhambra Valley Road Realignment West of Bear Creek Road

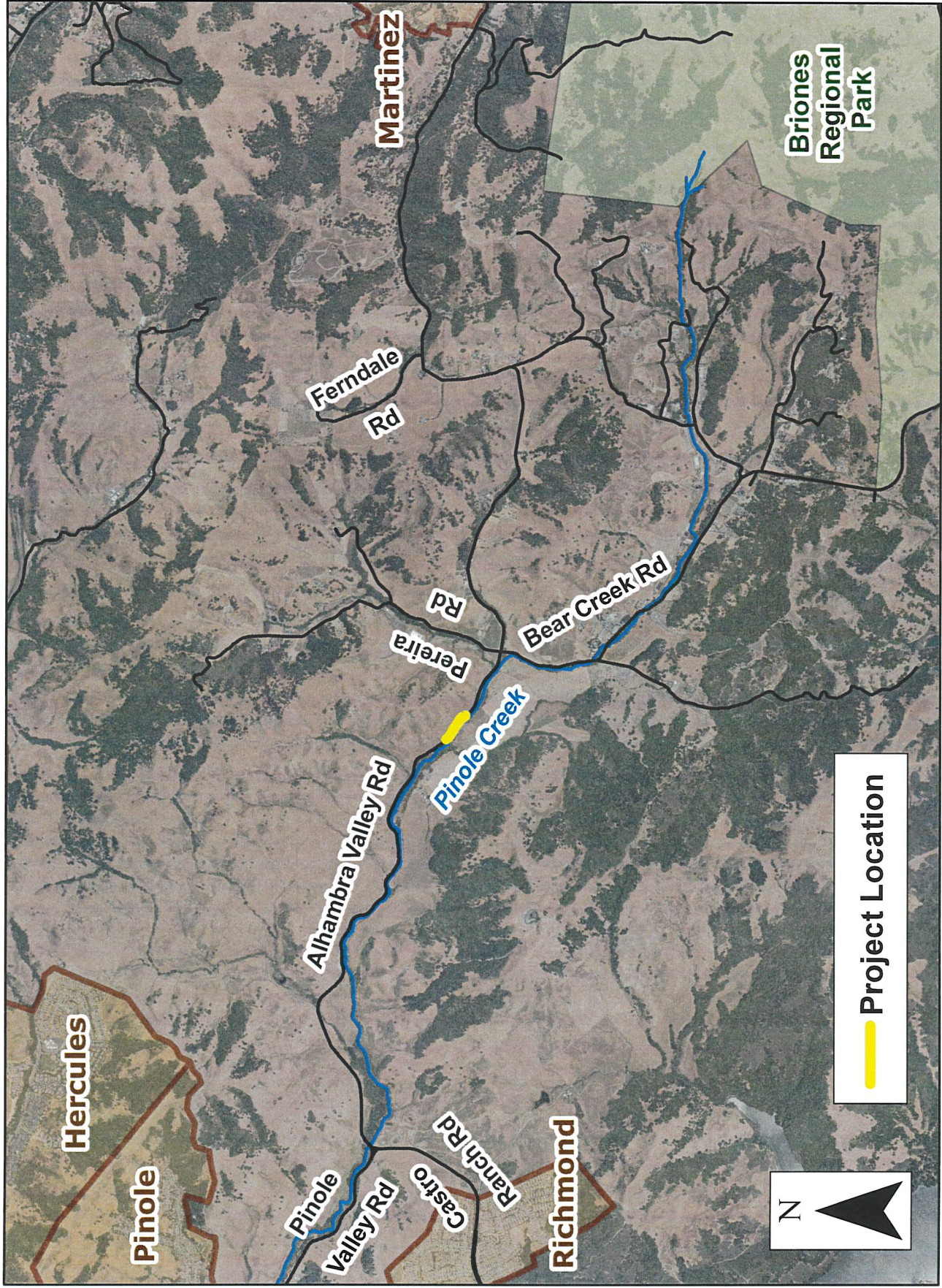


Figure 2

# Alhambra Valley Road Realignment West of Bear Creek Road

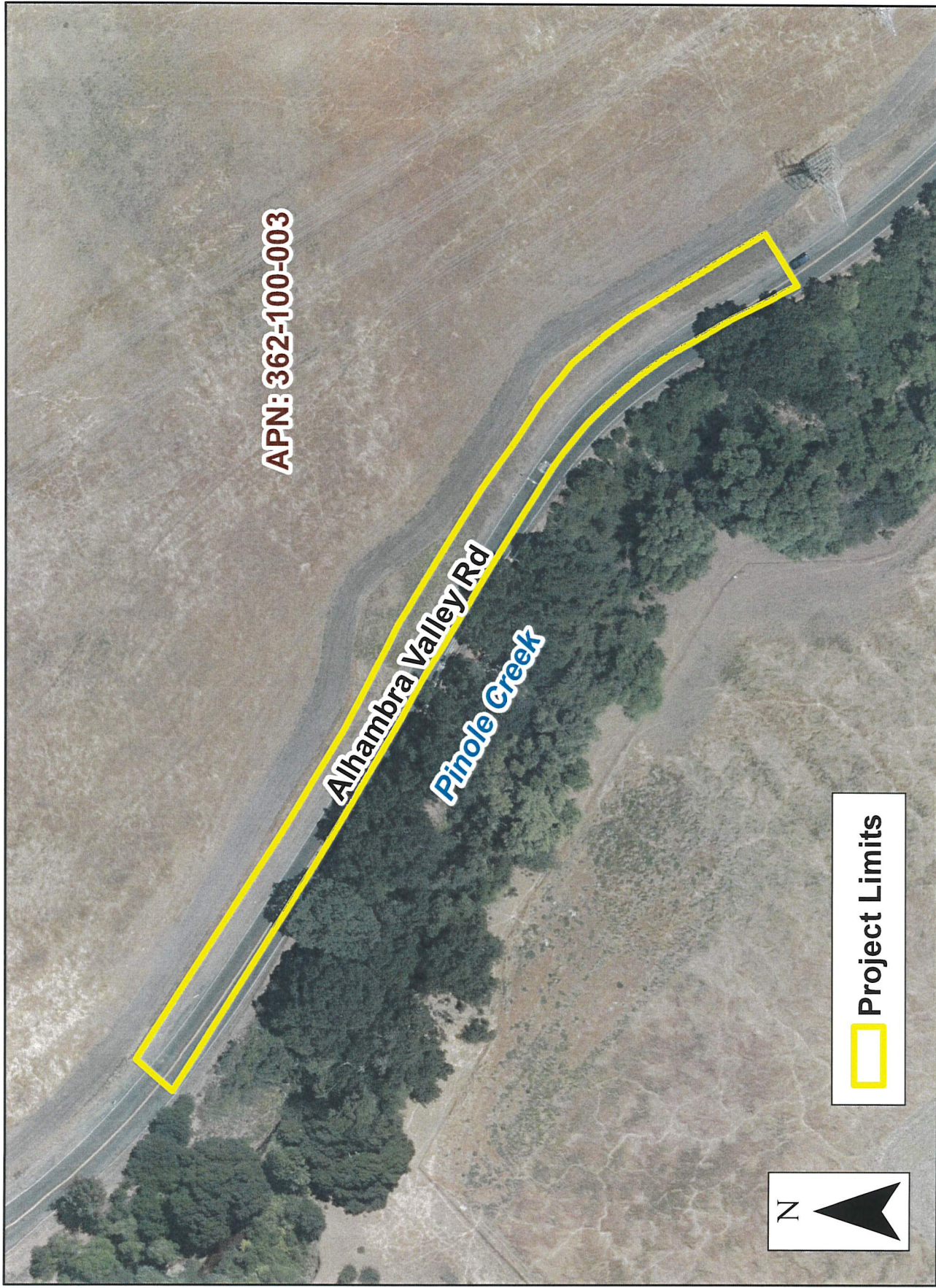


Figure 3

**CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT**  
**Notice of Exemption**

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

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

County Clerk  
County of: Contra Costa

**Project Title:** Alhambra Valley Road Realignment – West of Bear Creek Road  
Proj. No. 0662-6U4095, CP#19-06

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

**Project Location:** Alhambra Valley Road, approximately 0.4 miles west of Bear Creek Road, in a rural, unincorporated area in West Contra Costa County

**Lead Agency:** Contra Costa County Department of Conservation and Development

**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:** The purpose of this project is to restore two-way traffic and allow unimpeded traffic flow along a segment of Alhambra Valley Road, which has been functioning with one-way reversing traffic due to existing creek bank erosion at the south side of the road. A portion of the eastbound lane has been closed off with concrete k-rail and stop signs have been installed on both sides of the partial lane closure. The entire length of the project is approximately 800 feet, while the erosion along the project section is approximately 100 feet long. The roadway configuration prior to the bank erosion were two 11-foot wide lanes with minimal paved shoulder in both directions. The project consists of realigning the roadway slightly to the north, away from Pinole Creek, and reconstructing the road with two 10-foot lanes and two 4-foot shoulders. There is an existing earthen ditch located along the north side of the road that will be re-established parallel to the new alignment. Following the project, the k-rail will remain and end treatments will be installed or a guardrail system will be installed as necessary. No tree removal or trimming will be necessary. Clearing and grubbing of vegetation along the north side of the road will be necessary to construct the new alignment. Appropriate Best Management Practices (BMPs) for protection of environmental resources will be implemented during construction. Utility adjustments or relocation may be necessary in support of the project. One lane will be open during construction activities; road closure may be necessary for a brief period. If a temporary road closure is needed, advanced notification will be provided to the public and local authorities. Emergency vehicles will have access at all times. To allow one-way reversing traffic during construction, the existing stop signs will be permanently removed and replaced with temporary traffic signals at the project limits. Real Property transactions, including right-of-way acquisition, may be necessary in support of this project. Construction is anticipated to begin in fall 2020 and take approximately two months to complete.

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: Class 1(c)  
 Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));  Other Statutory Exemption, Code No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));  Common Sense Exemption [Section 15061 (b)(3)]

**Reasons why project is exempt:** The project consists of consists of repair to an existing public street, pursuant to Section 15301(c) of the CEQA guidelines.

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: \_\_\_\_\_

**Contra Costa County Department of Conservation and Development**

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 - \$3,343.<sup>25</sup>  
 Neg. Dec. - \$2,406.<sup>75</sup>  
 DeMinimis Findings - \$0  
 County Clerk - \$50  
 Conservation & Development - \$25

**Total Due: \$75.00**

Total Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Receipt #: \_\_\_\_\_