



CITY OF FORT BRAGG

Incorporated August 5, 1889

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Fort Bragg, California 95437

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**INITIAL STUDY AND
ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST**

PROJECT TITLE: POMO BLUFFS PARK TRAIL EXTENSION

APPLICATIONS: Coastal Development Permit 4-08 (CDP 4-08) & Design Review 6-08 (DR 6-08)

LEAD AGENCY: City of Fort Bragg

CONTACT: City of Fort Bragg
Community Development Department
416 North Franklin Street
Fort Bragg, CA 95437
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LOCATION: Trail easements proposed for development are located on two bluff top parcels in the Coastal Zone of the City of Fort Bragg, Mendocino County. The parcels are atop the southern bluff of the Noyo River, immediately west of the Noyo River Bridge and State Route 1 (N. Main Street).

**ASSESSOR'S
PARCEL NO.:** 018-440-11 and 61

OWNER: Dominic and Juliet Affinito (APN 018-440-11)
Tradewinds Lodge (APN 018-440-61)

**GENERAL PLAN
DESIGNATION:** C3 - Highway Visitor Commercial

**ZONING
DESIGNATION:** Highway Visitor Commercial (HVC)
Coastal Zone (CZ)

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BACKGROUND:

The City of Fort Bragg (the City) is in contract with property owners to acquire access easements on Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APN) 018-440-11 and 61 that would link an existing access easement on APN 018-440-61 all the way through to an accessible pedestrian ramp providing ingress and egress to the sidewalk on N. Main Street just south of the Noyo River Bridge on the west side of the roadway. These contiguous easements will create the most direct and scenic route between the existing developed Pomo Bluffs Park and the westernmost N. Main Street sidewalk. (See attached map).

The easement segments will be referred to as follows:

Easement Segment A: Approximately 350 lineal feet of 50-foot wide easement running along the Noyo Bay bluff. (This segment is already owned by the City).

Easement Segment B: Approximately 135 lineal feet of varied width easement running along the west side of the Cliff House Restaurant.

Easement Segment C: Approximately 68 lineal feet of 15-foot wide easement running along the south side of the Cliff House Restaurant.

This Initial Study and Environmental Checklist analyzes the project impacts of developing a pedestrian and bicycle trail within the easement segments to complete the pedestrian/bicycle connectivity and accessibility of the park to other pedestrian/bicycle routes in the City.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Pomo Bluffs Trail Extension project consists of coastal access, trail and amenity improvements consistent with the Pomo Bluffs Management Plan. Specific improvements include: approximately 500 lineal feet 10-foot wide, accessible, paved bicycle and pedestrian path along the three easement segments, approximately 500 feet of split rail fencing along the southern boundary adjacent to the Recreational Vehicle Park, park identification, informational and rules signs, trash/recycling receptacles, dog waste mitt dispensers, two park benches and protective removable bollards along the southern boundary of Segment C. Segment C will have striping painted on the asphalt to indicate the trail.

The project is in the Coastal Zone of the City of Fort Bragg, and the City of Fort Bragg will process a Coastal Development Permit and Design Review Permit after Planning Commission adoption of this environmental document.

A detailed description of the elements of each category of improvement follows, below:

Bicycle and Pedestrian Path. An approximately 500 lineal foot, 10-foot wide, asphalt bicycle/pedestrian trail would be constructed within the easement segments and along the bluff above Noyo Bay. The path would be accessible from the established Pomo Bluffs Park trail loop at the end of Harbor Avenue and from an accessible ramp joining the southbound sidewalk of S. Main Street (State Route 1). The access from S. Main Street (Segment C) will briefly traverse the Cliff House restaurant property along an easement protected from the parking area by removable bollards. Segment A of the trail would have two points for ocean viewing where benches would be placed.

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Fences and Bollards. Along Segments A and B, split rail fencing would be provided along the southern boundary of the park easement to separate the public and private property. The fencing would have 5” by 5” split lumber posts at a spacing of 8’ on center with 2” by 4” dual split rails placed between the posts. In Segment C, a series of removable and permanent bollards are proposed to separate the trail easement from the Cliff House Restaurant parking to distinguish the trail from the parking lot and to protect trail users from motorized vehicular hazards.

Site Furnishings. Within the Segments A and B, park benches would be provided in two locations with prime viewpoints and two trash/recycling receptacles would be provided at strategic locations. A dog waste mitt dispenser will be installed in a prominent location near the junction of Segment B and Segment C.

Signs. A number of signs are necessary to provide information and directions to park and trail users. Signs and their proposed locations are listed below:

- 1) Two bluff hazard warning signs would be placed at 200’ intervals along the top of the Noyo Bay bluff to notify users of the park of the potential hazard.
- 2) One park rules sign and a sign acknowledging the contribution of the California Coastal Conservancy would be placed on one post at the intersection of Segments B and C.
- 3) Two directional signs: one indicating the trail route to users entering from the Highway 1/Main Street access ramp and another indicating the trail at the intersection of Segments B and C.
- 4) A “Restaurant Parking Only” sign facing the Cliff House Restaurant parking lot attached either to a bollard or separate sign post.

Vehicle Access and Parking. This portion of the trail permits only pedestrian and bicycle access. No vehicle access or parking is planned.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a “Potentially Significant Impacts” as indicated by the checklist on the following pages:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology/Soils |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use/Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Traffic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities/Service Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance | |

DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

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- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect (1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and (2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.



Chris Carterette, Land Use Planner

4-08-2008
Date

Response to Comments

On April 11, 2008, the City of Fort Bragg filed the Initial Study/ Negative Declaration (IS/ND) for the proposed Pomo Bluff Park Trail Extension Project with the Governor's Office of Planning and Research/State Clearinghouse.

In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Section 21091, and State CEQA guidelines, Section 15073, the IS/ND was made available for a 30-day public review period during which time public agencies, private groups and associations and individuals were provided the opportunity to review and comment on the contents of the document. The public review period ended on May 12, 2008. One comment letter was received from the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) prior to the close of the public review period (a copy is attached as an appendix to this document).

No corrections, additions and deletions were required in response to the comments received, as the NAHC's concerns were addressed during the course of the project archaeological study. This Initial Study and Environmental Checklist (SCH#2008042064), and the Notice of Determination (to be filed with the County Recorder's Office on May 27 on the eleventh day, taking into account holidays and weekends, following the City of Fort Bragg Planning Commission's May 14, 2008 adoption of this negative declaration) constitute the Final Negative Declaration for the Pomo Bluffs park Trail Extension Project.

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Evaluation of Environmental Impacts

I. Aesthetics

<i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>a. Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?</i>				X
<i>b. Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?</i>				X
<i>c. Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?</i>				X
<i>d. Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?</i>				X

Implementation of the project would not have any impact regarding the above categories because the development would occur in previously utilized and developed areas. The proposed infrastructure (park benches, signs, split rail fences, waste/recycling receptacles, trail, etc.) would be either low slung or slender and would not impact the resources or cause such impacts listed *a. through d.* Opening of the easements to public use as a park with trail will enhance the opportunity for the public to enjoy the vistas of the coast and Noyo Harbor.

II. Agricultural Resources

<i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?</i>				X
<i>b. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?</i>				X
<i>c. Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?</i>				X

Highway Commercial zoning overlies the easement segments in both the Fort Bragg General Plan and the Fort Bragg Municipal Code. The project site has not been utilized for agricultural purposes for at least two decades. The surrounding land in the vicinity is zoned for general and visitor serving commerce and large lot residential uses. Development of the proposed park facilities would not result in the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses.

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III. Air Quality

<i>Where available, the significance criteria by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>a. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?</i>				X
<i>b. Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?</i>			X	
<i>c. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?</i>				X
<i>d. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?</i>				X
<i>e. Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?</i>				X

The City of Fort Bragg is located in the North Coast Air Basin and is within the jurisdiction of the Mendocino County Air Quality Management District (MCAQMD). The MCAQMD is responsible for the enforcement of the Federal Clean Air Act relative to all activities with the possibility of impacting local and regional air quality. Mendocino County is an “attainment area” for state and federal air quality standards except for the State suspended particulate matter standard (PM10).

As proposed, the project would not consist of any development or activities to cause a negative impact to air quality, although short-term impacts due to grading and construction activities may include increased dust emissions. Best management practices, including compliance with District Regulation 1, Rule 430 regarding fugitive dust emissions, will be required during the construction period.

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IV. Biological Resources

<i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>a. Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modification, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?</i>				X
<i>b. Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?</i>				X
<i>c. Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?</i>				X
<i>d. Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?</i>				X
<i>e. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?</i>				X
<i>f. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?</i>				X

The Easement Segments A and B consist of a mowed lawn (part of a Recreational Vehicle campground), and Easement Segment C consists of asphalt and concrete pavement (part of the Cliff House Restaurant parking lot). A botanical study of the entire park area including Easement Segments A and B was conducted by Teresa Sholars in May 28, 2002 with a site review in mid-2004. None of the plants found during that study in the now developed area park were found on the portion of the land proposed for development in this project. None of the receptors listed in impact categories *a. through d.* are present and as such no impact would occur. No conflict regarding categories *e and f.* would occur.

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V. Cultural Resources

<i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 15064.5?</i>				X
<i>b. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?</i>				X
<i>c. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?</i>				X
<i>d. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?</i>				X

An archaeological survey for the project site was completed by Thad Van Bueren, a Registered Professional Archaeologist (*Archaeological Survey for the Pomo Bluffs Trail Extension in the City of Fort Bragg, California. March 14, 2008*). No archaeological sites or other types of historical resources were discovered within the subject area. The report recommends that, if buried archaeological deposits are encountered during construction of the project, all work in the immediate vicinity should be halted until a professional archaeologist can examine the finds and make recommendations for their treatment and handling. Evidence of an archaeological site may include, but is not limited to, shellfish remains, flaked stone tools, and flint knapping debris, dietary bone, ground stone tools, human burials, and historic artifacts. The recommendations of the report will be incorporated into the construction plan for the project.

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VI. Geology and Soils

<i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>a. Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:</i>				
<i>i. Rupture of known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.</i>				X
<i>ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?</i>			X	X
<i>iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?</i>				X
<i>iv. Landslides?</i>				
<i>b. Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?</i>				X
<i>c. Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?</i>				X
<i>d. Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the California Building Code (2001), creating substantial risks to life or property?</i>				X
<i>e. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?</i>				X

During the design and engineering of the proposed park improvements, the geotechnical engineering firm, Kleinfelder, Inc., prepared a geologic and geotechnical report (July 30, 2004) for the entire Pomo Bluffs Park site, (including the bluff top portion of the subject trail extension project through Segment A and B). The study provides findings, recommendations, and conclusions regarding the geotechnical feasibility and relative geologic bluff stability of the area as well as specific geotechnical design criteria relative to the site conditions and proposed improvements.

The site is located approximately six miles west of the San Andreas Fault, though it is not located within an earthquake fault zone pursuant to the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone Act of 1972. Numerous small earthquakes occur in the region and future events can be expected. The park improvements will be constructed to meet the most current applicable code standards relative to earthquake readiness and safety.

The project area that has bluff frontage is adjacent to the geotechnical project “stations” 0+00 through 2+50, where a minimum geotechnical setback of twenty feet is required from the top of

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bluff. This setback will be observed with all proposed trail extension improvements and amenities positioned at least 30 feet from the bluff edge (an added 10-foot setback beyond what is recommended in the report).

The report provides recommendations for site preparation (clearing, grubbing, compaction, fill) for the areas proposed for physical improvements (i.e. bike/pedestrian path). All recommendations in the geotechnical report will be incorporated into the project design.

To notify users of the park of the potential hazards associated with the steep bluff face the City will place bluff hazard signage every 200 feet along the face of the bluff to notify users of danger.

VII. Hazards and Hazardous Materials

<i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>a. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?</i>				X
<i>b. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?</i>				X
<i>c. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?</i>				X
<i>d. Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?</i>				X
<i>e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area.</i>				X
<i>f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?</i>				X
<i>g. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?</i>				X
<i>h. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?</i>				X

No aspect of the proposed project pertains to categories *a through h* because none of the conditions or circumstances relate to the project implementation, proposed use or immediate vicinity.

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VIII. Hydrology and Water Quality

<i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?</i>				X
<i>b. Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?</i>				X
<i>c. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?</i>				X
<i>d. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?</i>				X
<i>e. Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?</i>				X
<i>f. Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?</i>				X
<i>g. Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?</i>				X
<i>h. Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?</i>				X
<i>i. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?</i>				X
<i>j. Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?</i>				X

Responding to the Surface and Subsurface Drainage and Erosion Control section of the 2004 Kleinfelder geologic and geotechnical report, the trail will be designed such that storm water runoff would percolate on site or sheet flow as prescribed. The small amount of paving associated with the project has been taken into account in the geologic and geotechnical report and the recommendations therein will be followed, thus resulting in no impact to water quality. No groundwater withdrawal is proposed. According to FIRM Community Panel 060184 0005 C, the project site is located at approximately 85 feet above mean high tide level, the project area is above the 100-year flood hazard area and located in a Zone X, outside the 500-year flood area.

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IX. Land Use and Planning

<i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>a. Physically divide an established community?</i>				X
<i>b. Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?</i>				X
<i>c. Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?</i>				X

The Pomo Bluffs Trail Extension project site is located in the Highway Commercial (HVC) zoning district which allows public parks as a permitted use. The proposed park improvements are relatively minimal and have been sited and designed with consideration to the concerns expressed by neighboring residents during the community workshops for the Pomo Bluff Parks Management Plan. The commercial property owner is willingly selling the easements to the City and sees the proposed trail extension as being complimentary to their adjacent restaurant and RV campground businesses.

The site is also located within the Coastal Zone (CZ). The intent of the coastal zone is to allow for development which is sensitive to the coastal views enjoyed on the coast, preserve native plants, preserve and enhance habitat areas and water quality, and also promote coastal access. The Pomo Bluff Trail Extension project would enhance existing coastal access to residents and visitors of Fort Bragg.

Upon certification of the City’s amended Local Coastal Program (currently under review) by the California Coastal Commission the above analysis will remain valid as the zoning and permitted uses for the project site will not change.

X. Mineral Resources

<i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>a. Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?</i>				X
<i>b. Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?</i>				X

The project site does not contain any known mineral resources and construction of the project would not result in the loss of any locally-important mineral resources delineated in the Fort Bragg General Plan or any other land use document.

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XI. Noise

<i>Would the project result in:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>a. Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?</i>			X	
<i>b. Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?</i>				X
<i>c. A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?</i>				X
<i>d. A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?</i>				X
<i>e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?</i>				X
<i>f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?</i>				X

The project would not generate any excessive or substantial noise other than possibly during the relatively short construction period. These activities would be subject to and conducted in accordance with the City's noise ordinance. As such, the project would result in a less than significant impact relative to noise.

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XII. Population and Housing

<i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>a. Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?</i>				X
<i>b. Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?</i>				X
<i>c. Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?</i>				X

The proposed project would not induce population growth either directly or indirectly. It does not involve the development of new housing units or the displacement of existing units.

XIII. Public Services

<i>Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>Fire protection?</i>			X	
<i>Police protection?</i>			X	
<i>Schools?</i>				X
<i>Parks?</i>				X
<i>Other public facilities?</i>				X

The project site is currently served by the Fort Bragg Fire Department and patrolled by the Fort Bragg Police Department. The Fort Bragg Police Department has indicated that patrols can be effectively performed with current staffing levels. Additionally, the Fort Bragg Fire Department and the US Coast Guard (who maintain a station one quarter mile up river from the project site) are well prepared for cliff and rough water rescue operations.

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XIV. Recreation

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. <i>Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?</i>				X
b. <i>Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?</i>				X

The project entails the construction of physical improvements at a City park and would have only positive impacts on public recreational facilities and coastal access opportunities in the area.

XV. Transportation/Traffic

<i>Would the project result in:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. <i>Cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections?)</i>				X
b. <i>Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?</i>				X
c. <i>Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?</i>				X
d. <i>Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?</i>				X
e. <i>Result in inadequate emergency access?</i>				X
f. <i>Result in inadequate parking capacity?</i>				X
g. <i>Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?</i>				X

The trail extension’s purpose is to create connectivity to existing bicycle and pedestrian routes and the easements are for pedestrian and bicycle use only. While it is an important segment of the existing park infrastructure, it is not a significant enough addition to cause visitor attraction to the extent that a traffic or parking impact would occur, or that conflicts with policies, plans or programs supporting alternative transportation would occur.

Exhibit 4: City of Fort Bragg Initial Study and Negative Declaration

Initial Study and Environmental Checklist
 City of Fort Bragg – Pomo Bluffs Park Trail Extension
 April 2008

XVI. Utilities and Service Systems

<i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>a. Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?</i>				X
<i>b. Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?</i>				X
<i>c. Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?</i>				X
<i>d. Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?</i>				X
<i>e. Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?</i>				X
<i>f. Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?</i>				X
<i>g. Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?</i>				X

The proposed project would not be connected to the City water, sewer, or storm drain system and would not result in any impact to the existing public utility systems.

Exhibit 4: City of Fort Bragg Initial Study and Negative Declaration

Initial Study and Environmental Checklist
 City of Fort Bragg – Pomo Bluffs Park Trail Extension
 April 2008

XVII. Mandatory Findings of Significance

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. <i>Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?</i>				X
b. <i>Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?</i>				X
c. <i>Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?</i>				X

The project would not have adverse impacts to humans or wildlife nor would it degrade any habitat values. The project, using a small amount of previously impacted land and minimal new development, would provide an important amenity and connection to the City of Fort Bragg's bicycle and pedestrian network.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Site Location Map
2. Conceptual Map
3. Construction Specifications
4. Site Photos

DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING AT THE FORT BRAGG COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT:

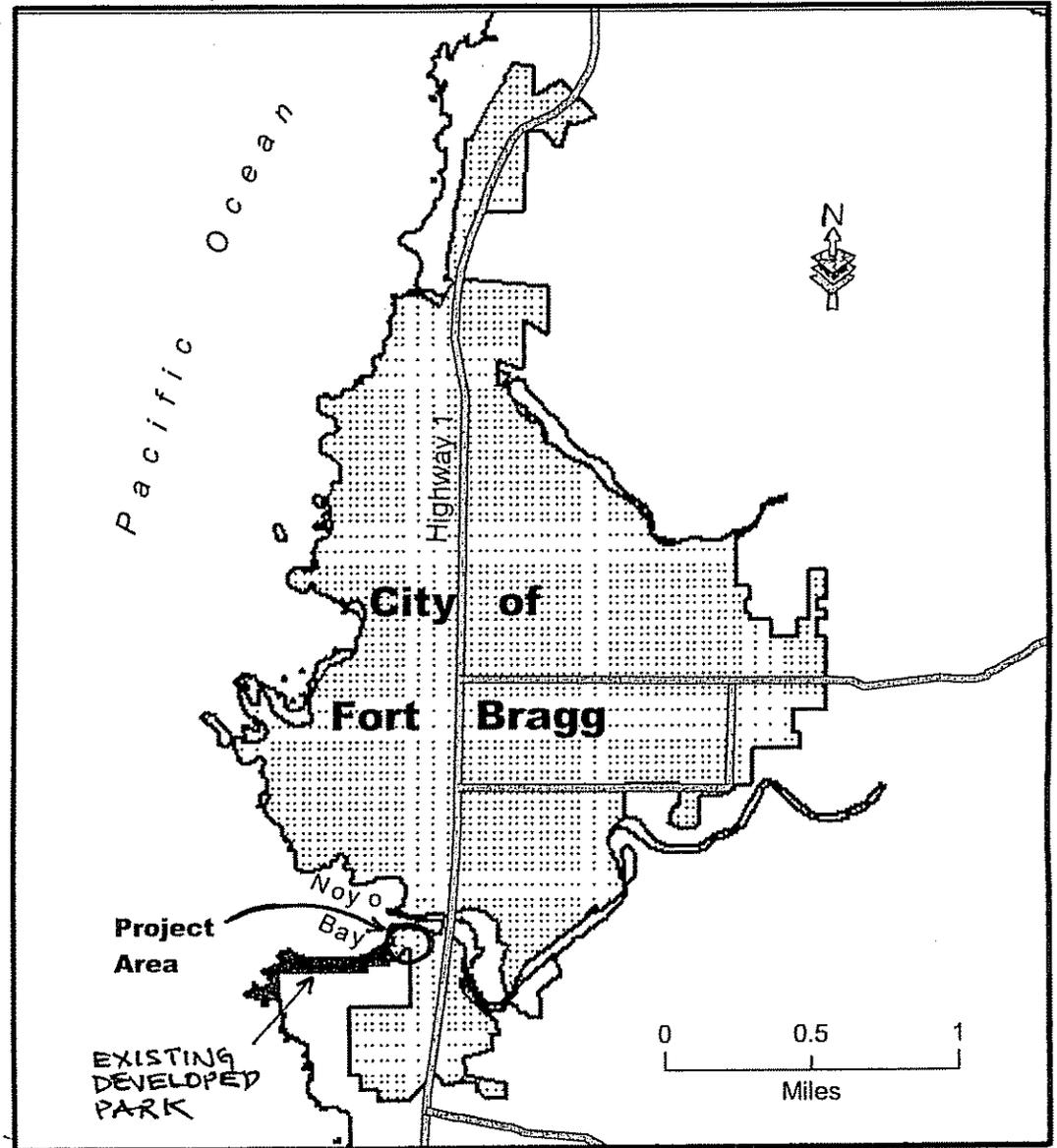
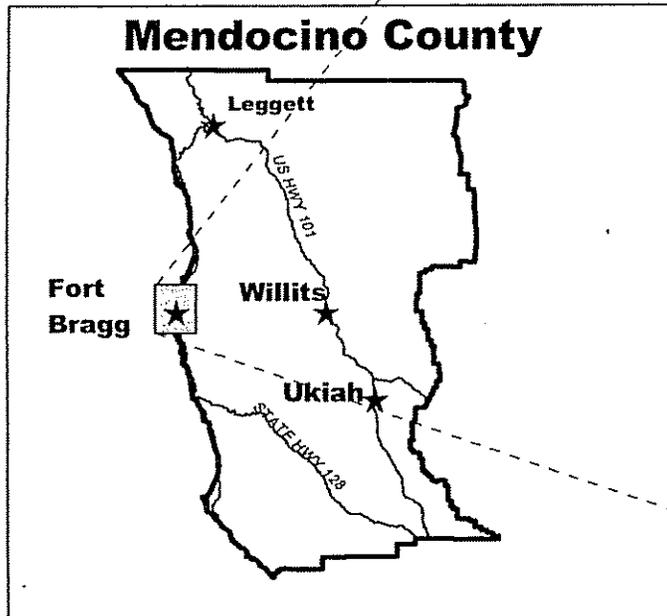
1. Pomo Bluffs Park Management Plan, 2005 and 2008 Addendum
2. Geologic and Geotechnical Report for Pomo Bluffs Park, July 30, 2004
3. Archaeological Survey for the Pomo Bluffs Trail Extension, March 14, 2008

AGENCY COMMENT LETTER:

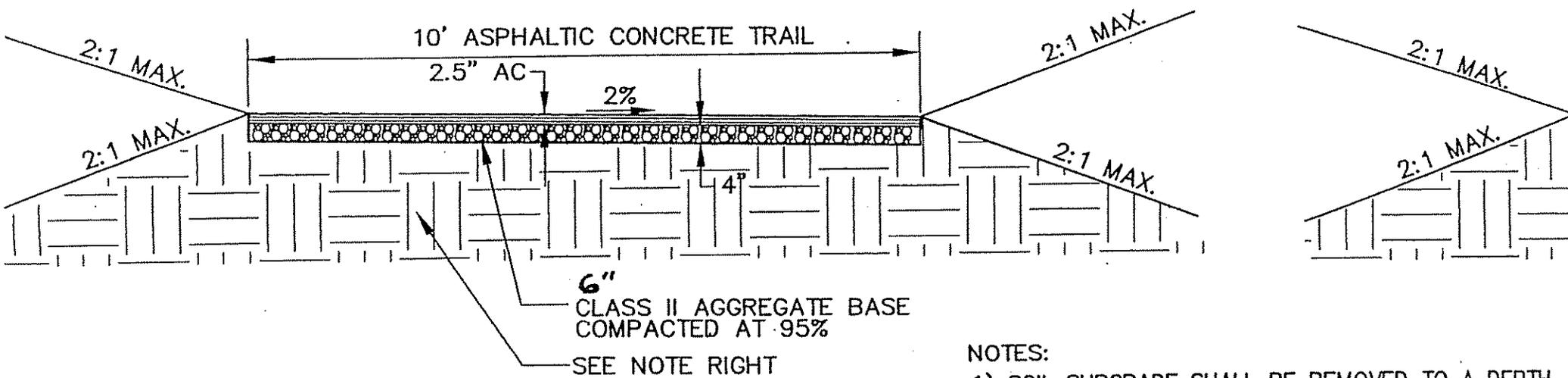
1. Letter from Katy Sanchez, Native American Heritage Commission, dated April 16, 2008

**CITY OF FORT BRAGG
POMO BLUFFS PARK TRAIL EXTENSION
LOCATION MAP APRIL 2008**

LOCATION





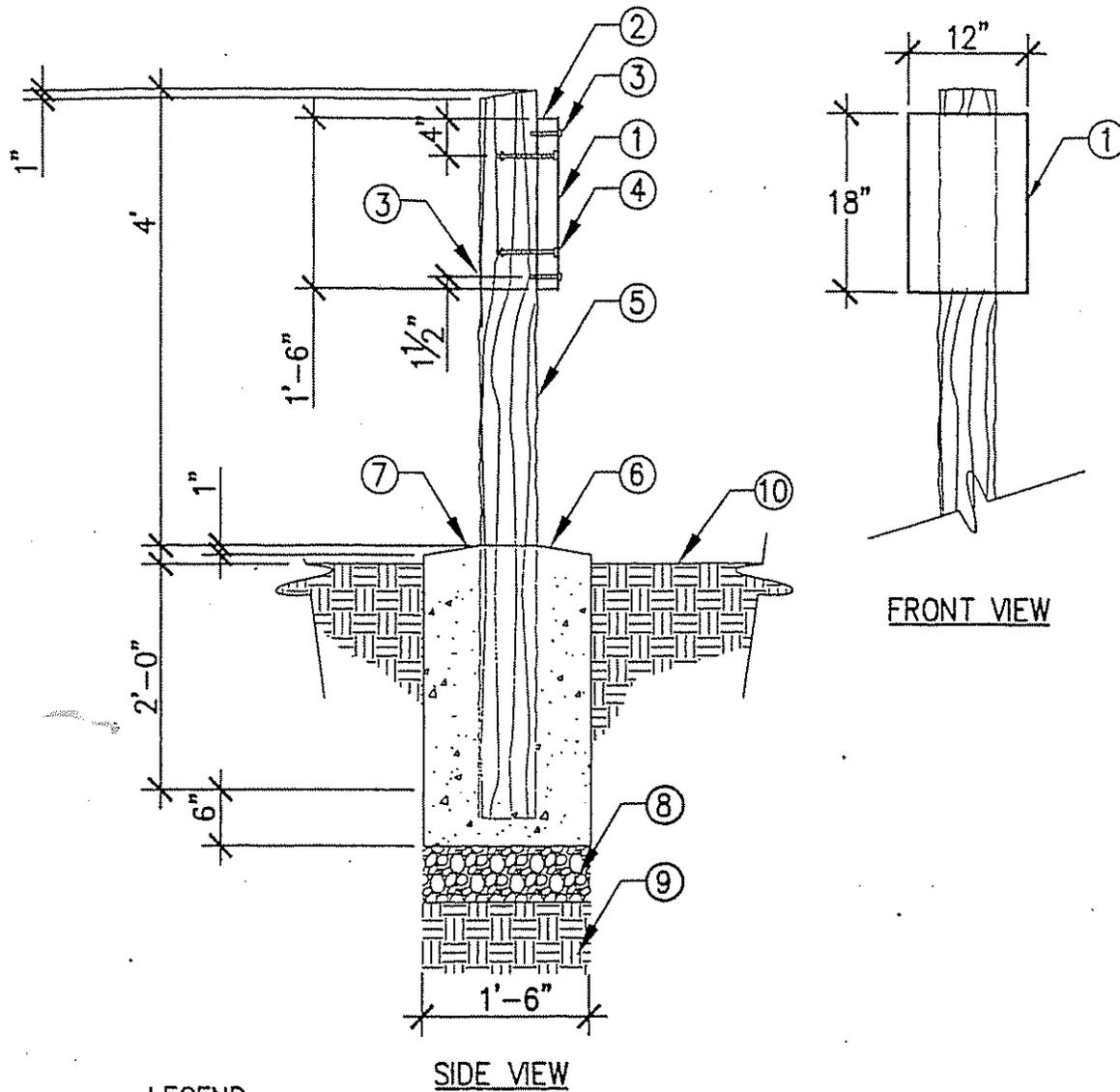


TYPICAL PATH SECTION

NOT TO SCALE .

NOTES:

- 1) SOIL SUBGRADE SHALL BE REMOVED TO A DEPTH OF 10" WITHIN PROPOSED PAVEMENT AREAS AND TO A MINIMUM OF 2' BEYOND PAVEMENT EDGES. SCARIFY EXPOSED EXCAVATION BOTTOM COMPACT TO 90% R.C.

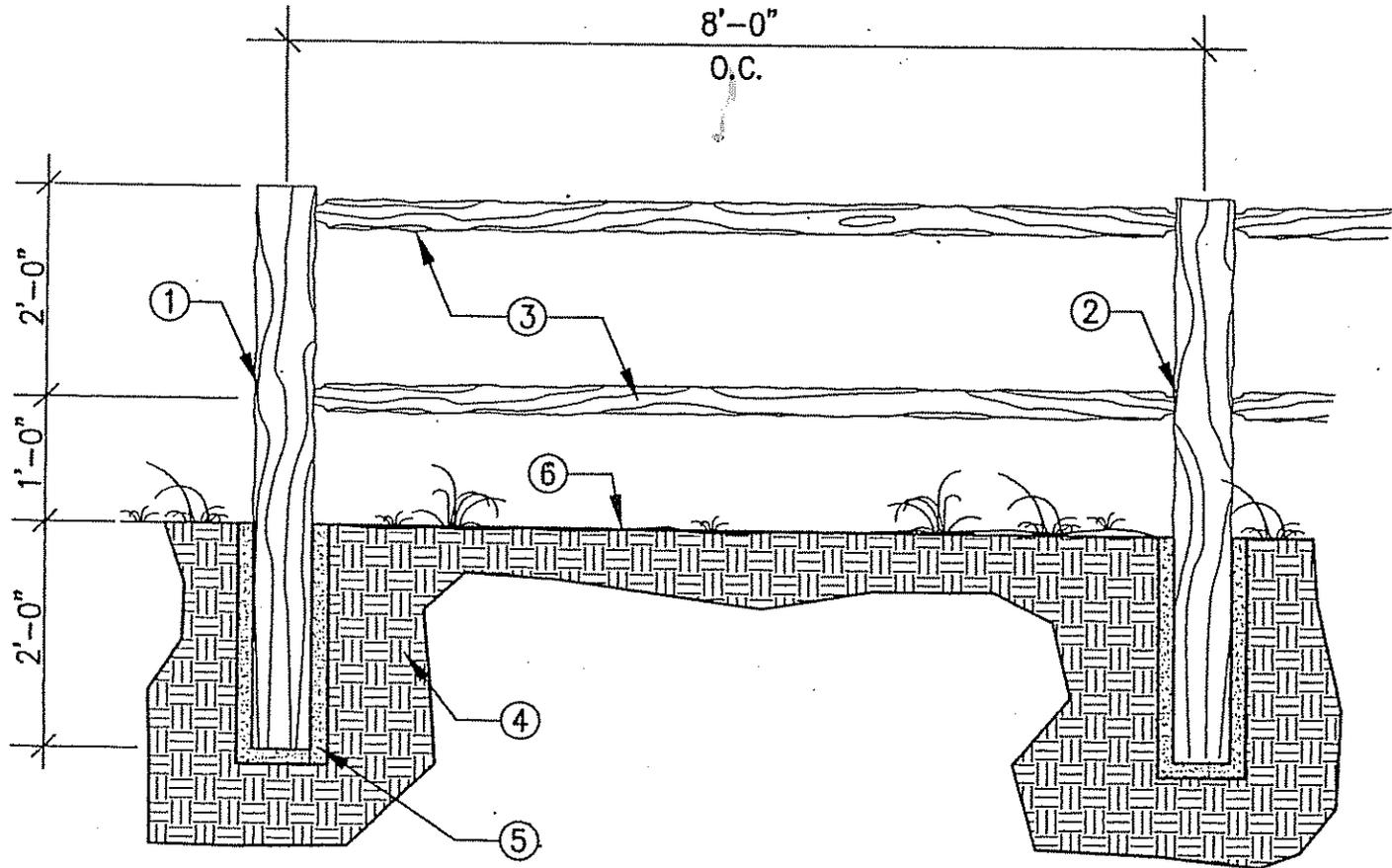


LEGEND

- | | |
|---|---|
| ① 18 GAUGE BONDERIZED STEEL SIGN | ⑥ 5 SACK 2500 PSI CONCRETE FOOTING |
| ② 2x FRAME REDWOOD BACKER FOR FULL LENGTH OF SIGN | ⑦ SLOPE FOOTING TO DRAIN |
| ③ 1/4" DIA. x. 3" GALV. LAG BOLT | ⑧ CLASS 2 COMPACTED BASE |
| ④ 1/4" DIA. x 6" GALV. LAG BOLTS WITH WASHERS; COUNTERSINK. | ⑨ 90% COMPACTED OR UNDISTURBI SUB-GRADE |
| ⑤ 6" x 6" SFS REDWOOD POST | ⑩ FINISH GRADE |

SIGN MOUNTING

NOT TO SCALE

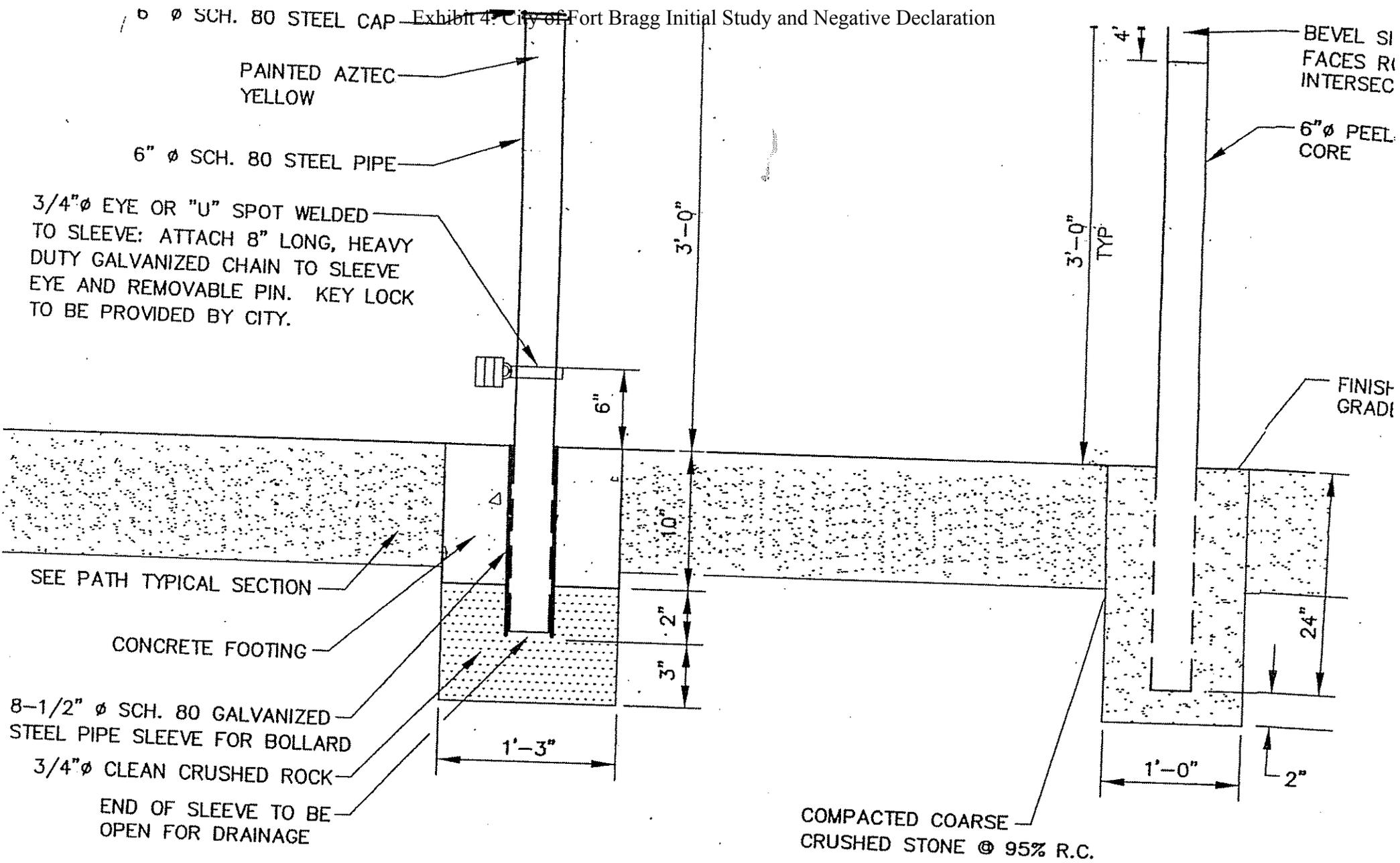


LEGEND

- | | |
|--|---|
| ① 5" x 5" x 5' SPLIT WESTERN RED CEDAR END POST | ④ UNDISTURBED NATIVE SOIL |
| ② 5" x 5±" x 5' SPLIT WESTERN RED CEDAR LINE OR CORNER POST. | ⑤ COURSE CRUSHED STONE @ 95% COMPACTION |
| ③ 2" x 4±" x 8' SPLIT WESTERN RED CEDAR TOP & BOTTOM RAIL. INSTALL WIDEST SIDE UP. | ⑥ FINISH GRADE |

SPLIT RAIL FENCE

NOT TO SCALE



NOTE: LOCKING MECHANISM SHALL HAVE CAPABILITY OF 3 KEY LOCKS.

WOOD & REMOVABLE BOLLARD
 NOT TO SCALE

Exhibit 4: City of Fort Bragg Initial Study and Negative Declaration



1. Looking east at access stairs and ramp from S. Main Street (Highway 1) to Easement Segment C.



2. Looking east at RV campground and Easement Segment A which runs all the way east to restaurant building in the background, at the right.



3. Looking southeast from Easement Segment A at Easement Segment B which joins Segment C at block wall in center of photograph.

Exhibit 4: City of Fort Bragg Initial Study and Negative Declaration

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor

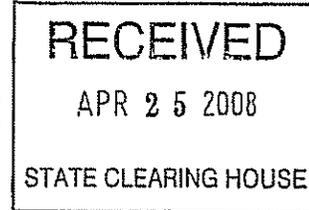
NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

915 CAPITOL MALL, ROOM 364
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 653-4082
(916) 657-5390 - Fax



April 16, 2008

Clear
5-12-08
ec



Chris Carterette
City of Fort Bragg, Community Development Dept.
416 N. Franklin Street
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

RE: SCH# 2008042064 Pomo Bluffs Park Trail Extension Project; Mendocino County

Dear Mr. Carterette:

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) has reviewed the Notice of Completion (NOC) referenced above. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) states that any project that causes a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource, which includes archeological resources, is a significant effect requiring the preparation of an EIR (CEQA Guidelines 15064(b)). To comply with this provision the lead agency is required to assess whether the project will have an adverse impact on historical resources within the area of project effect (APE), and if so to mitigate that effect. To adequately assess and mitigate project-related impacts to archaeological resources, the NAHC recommends the following actions:

- ✓ Contact the appropriate regional archaeological Information Center for a record search. The record search will determine:
 - If a part or all of the area of project effect (APE) has been previously surveyed for cultural resources.
 - If any known cultural resources have already been recorded on or adjacent to the APE.
 - If the probability is low, moderate, or high that cultural resources are located in the APE.
 - If a survey is required to determine whether previously unrecorded cultural resources are present
- ✓ If an archaeological inventory survey is required, the final stage is the preparation of a professional report detailing the findings and recommendations of the records search and field survey.
 - The final report containing site forms, site significance, and mitigation measures should be submitted immediately to the planning department. All information regarding site locations, Native American human remains, and associated funerary objects should be in a separate confidential addendum, and not be made available for public disclosure.
 - The final written report should be submitted within 3 months after work has been completed to the appropriate regional archaeological Information Center.
- ✓ Contact the Native American Heritage Commission for:
 - A Sacred Lands File Check. USGS 7.5 minute quadrangle name, township, range and section required.
 - A list of appropriate Native American contacts for consultation concerning the project site and to assist in the mitigation measures. Native American Contacts List attached.
- ✓ Lack of surface evidence of archeological resources does not preclude their subsurface existence.
 - Lead agencies should include in their mitigation plan provisions for the identification and evaluation of accidentally discovered archeological resources, per California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) §15064.5(f). In areas of identified archaeological sensitivity, a certified archaeologist and a culturally affiliated Native American, with knowledge in cultural resources, should monitor all ground-disturbing activities.
 - Lead agencies should include in their mitigation plan provisions for the disposition of recovered artifacts, in consultation with culturally affiliated Native Americans.
 - Lead agencies should include provisions for discovery of Native American human remains in their mitigation plan. Health and Safety Code §7050.5, CEQA §15064.5(e), and Public Resources Code §5097.98 mandates the process to be followed in the event of an accidental discovery of any human remains in a location other than a dedicated cemetery.

Sincerely,
Katy Sanchez
Katy Sanchez
Program Analyst

CC: State Clearinghouse

Notice of Determination

Appendix D

To:

Office of Planning and Research
For U.S. Mail: Street Address:
P.O. Box 3044 1400 Tenth St.
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 Sacramento, CA 95814

County Clerk
County of: Mendocino
Address: 501 Low Gap Road, Room 1020
Ukiah, CA 95482

From:

Public Agency: City of Fort Bragg
Address: 416 North Franklin Street
Fort Bragg, CA 95437
Contact: Chris Carterette, Senior Planner
Phone: 707 -961-2823 ext. 107

Lead Agency (if different from above):
Address:
Contact:
Phone:

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to State Clearinghouse): 2008042064

Project Title: Pomo Bluffs Park Trail Extension Project

Project Location (include county): Pomo Bluffs Park, City of Fort Bragg, Mendocino County

Project Description:

Develop coastal access, trail and amenity improvements consistent with the Pomo Bluffs Management Plan. Specific improvements include: approximately 500 lineal feet 10-foot wide, accessible, paved bicycle and pedestrian path along three easement segments, approximately 500 feet of split rail fencing along the southern boundary adjacent to the Recreational Vehicle Park, park identification, informational and rules signs, trash/recycling receptacles, dog waste mitt dispensers, two park benches and protective removable bollards.

This is to advise that the Fort Bragg Planning Commission has approved the above described project on May 14, 2008 and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project:
(Lead Agency or Responsible Agency)

- 1. The project [] will [X] will not have a significant effect on the environment.
2. [] An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA. [X] A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures [] were [X] were not made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [] was [X] was not adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations [] was [X] was not adopted for this project.
6. Findings [X] were [] were not made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the final EIR with comments and responses and record of project approval, or the negative Declaration, is available to the General Public at: Fort Bragg City Hall, Community Development Dept. 416 N. Franklin St., Fort Bragg, CA 95437

Signature (Public Agency) [Signature] Title Senior Planner

Date May 27, 2008 Date Received for filing at OPR