

Livermore Area Recreation and Park District An independent special district

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April 26, 2023

Thomas Premo Associate Environmental Planner Caltrans District 4 P.O. Box 23660 Oakland, California 94623-0660

Subject: Concurrence with Determination of *de minimis* Impacts to Sycamore Grove Park Arroyo Road at Dry Creek Bridge Replacement [Federal Aid #: BRLO – 5933 (138)]

Dear Thomas:

The Livermore Area Recreation & Park District (LARPD) is the owner and operator of Sycamore Grove Park, an 847-acre open space. The park is located south of Wetmore Road, west of Arroyo Road, east of Vallecitos Road/SR 84, and generally north of Veterans Road. It includes trails for hiking, biking, and horseback riding, picnic areas, and restrooms. Adjacent to a portion of the northeast boundary of the park is the existing Arroyo Road bridge over Dry Creek.

The LARPD is aware of the proposed Arroyo Road at Dry Creek Bridge Replacement Project (Project) and has been coordinating with Caltrans and the Alameda County Public Works Agency (ACPWA) on the Project's planning and design as it affects Sycamore Grove Park.

We are aware that a strip of right-of-way along the northeast boundary of the Park, approximately 0.25 acres in size, will be required for the Project in order to accommodate the bridge replacement over Dry Creek. The replacement bridge will also include a 12-foot-wide Class I bike path and will need to be shifted to the southwest to accommodate the raised profile, wider bridge structure, and longer span. An additional 0.23-acres of Sycamore Grove Park would be permanently impacted by the Project due to the need to modify the trail alignment. This area is currently occupied by a segment of Dry Creek Trail, which would be directly impacted. The encroachment onto Dry Creek Trail would eliminate the ability of its

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users to traverse this segment of the trail. An additional 0.65-acres would be impacted due to construction activities. A group of approximately three trees adjacent to Dry Creek Trail would be removed, as well as several other trees adjacent to Arroyo Road in the vicinity, to accommodate the Project.

LARPD concurs with Caltrans' determination that the Project will result in *de minimis* impacts to Sycamore Grove Park. Our concurrence is based on the following:

- The Project would fully offset the loss of 0.25 acre of land from Sycamore Grove Park by improving access to the park across Dry Creek via the Class I bicycle path that would be included on the proposed bridge.
- The project would fully offset permanent impacts to Park facilities by construction of a new path, directly southwest of, and parallel to, the existing path that would be removed. The project would also re-establish the border fencing between the Park property and Arroyo Road.
- The project would fully offset temporary impacts to Park facilities by erecting temporary fencing to separate the construction zone from Park facilities and relocating the impacted segment of Dry Creek Trail prior to the start of construction.
- During the construction phase, the Project would implement a series of measures that would avoid or minimize temporary impacts associated with noise and emissions of air pollutants including dust. These measures will be identified in the Initial Study to be prepared for the Project.

Thank you for Caltrans' continued efforts to coordinate with ACPWA and LARPD on this Project. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Mathew Fuzie General Manager

MF/lvb

cc. Steven Hunte, Project Manager, ACPWA