



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO:
Contra Costa County
Clerk-Recorder's Office
555 Escobar Street
Martinez, CA 94553

FROM: (LEAD AGENCY)
 EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT
 Office of the Secretary - (510) 287-0404
 375 Eleventh Street, MS 806
 Oakland, CA 94607-4240

Lead Agency is the Project Applicant
 Lead Agency is Public Agency Approving Project
 Lead Agency is Carrying Out Project

PROJECT INFORMATION

- TITLE:** Moraga Creek Flood and Erosion Control Project
- LOCATION:** *(City, County, and specific location)*
Moraga, Contra Costa County, on District watershed property adjacent to Moraga Creek. See Figure 1.
- DESCRIPTION:** Large flows occurred in Moraga Creek during the 2016 and 2017 winter storms resulting in creek bank erosion and a large landslide along a 300-ft long reach. The landslide deposited debris and trees into the creek channel, leading to erosion of the opposite creek bank. The purpose of the project is to provide environmental, design, and construction services to install a retaining wall, repair the damaged creek banks, and restore the previous trail /access road across the slope. See Attachment A.

EXEMPTION FINDING (Check one)


This project is exempt from CEQA because:

- Activity is not a project
- Activity is Ministerial (Sec.21080(b)(1); Guideline 15268)
- Activity is a Declared Emergency (Sec.21080(b)(3); Guideline 15269(a))
- Activity is an Emergency Project (Sec.21080(b)(4); Guideline 15269(b)(c))
- Activity is Categorically Exempt Under Guideline 15301
- Activity is Statutorily Exempt Under Guideline _____
- Reasons why project is exempt: Project is exempt under 15301 as it entails the repair and minor alteration of topographical features at an existing public facility, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. The Project will have no significant environmental effects relative to location, cumulative impact, or significant effects due to unusual circumstances, hazardous waste, or historical resources, pursuant to Section 15300.2 of the CEQA Guidelines.

APPROVAL BY INITIATING UNIT: Geotechnical Engineering - 562

<u>10/08/20</u>	<u>B. Tom Boardman</u>	<u>Sean M. Todaro</u>
1. DATE PREPARED	2. PREPARED BY (initial)	3. REVIEWED BY (Unit Supv. initial)
<u>Elizabeth Z. Bialek</u>		
4. RECOMMENDED BY (Division/Section Manager)		
<u>B. Tom Boardman</u>	<u>610</u>	<u>Associate Civil Engineer</u>
5. CONTACT PERSON	MAIL SLOT #	TITLE
		<u>510-287-0332</u>
		PHONE

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION APPROVED FOR FILING WITH THE COUNTY CLERK

<u>10/09/20</u>	
DATE	DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR
<u>10/15/20</u>	<u>Rosita S. Cole</u>
DATE FORWARDED TO COUNTY CLERK	SECRETARY OF THE DISTRICT

ATTACHMENT A
EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILTIY DISTRICT
MORAGA CREEK FLOOD AND EROSION CONTROL PROJECT

Overview and Background

Moraga Creek is a natural watercourse that primarily carries local storm water runoff from the communities of Moraga and Lafayette. It is also an important part of the East Bay Municipal Water District (EBMUD) water supply system as Moraga Creek serves as a channel for transferring raw water to EBMUD's Upper San Leandro (USL) Reservoir via the Moraga Pumping Plant and Aqueduct. In the winter storms of 2016 and 2017, hillside slopes became saturated, and large flows in Moraga Creek caused creek bank erosion, resulting in a large area of land movement that deposited landslide debris and trees into the creek channel, along an approximately 300-foot reach. The slope movements affected several homes along Augusta Drive in Moraga, the Canyon Road Bridge, and an existing paved trail/access road across the site. The landslide debris has also caused erosion of the opposite bank due to creek flows. EBMUD covered the landslide with a plastic tarp, removed multiple damaged trees from the creek, and placed stream bank erosion protection fabric along both edges of the creek as an emergency temporary mitigation.

Project Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of the Moraga Creek Flood and Erosion Control Project (Project) is to provide environmental, design, and construction services to provide a long-term solution to install a retaining wall system, repair the damaged creek banks, and provide a location to restore the previous trail and access road across the slope. Continued slope movement into the creek could lead to additional slope instability, localized flooding, and further impacts to the surrounding community.

Project Location

The Project is located on EBMUD-owned watershed land below 931 to 947 Augusta Drive in Moraga, CA along the western edge of Moraga Creek near the intersection with Canyon Rd Bridge in Contra Costa County (Figure 1).

Project Characteristics

The Project will include two rows of retaining walls consisting of 3-ft diameter, vertical drilled piers, spaced laterally every 6-ft. Each pier will be drilled to a depth of approximately 60-ft and embedded down into bedrock below the base of the landslide. The piers will be tied together with an at-grade reinforced concrete grade beam and each pier will include a post-tensioned

tieback anchor embedded into bedrock. The upper wall will be approximately 350-ft long; the lower wall will be approximately 460-ft long. Both walls will extend laterally past the mapped extent of the landslide.

The landslide site will be re-graded between the walls with on-site soils and re-vegetated with local plants, trees and native grasses. Drainage ditches will be constructed to collect surface water runoff from the slope. A 16-ft wide path will be graded across the middle of the site to allow the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) to rebuild their paved trail/access road at a later date. The landslide debris will be removed from the edge of the creek and the creek bank reconstructed to allow positive drainage in the creek during high flows. A turf-reinforcing mattress will be used towards the areas of higher water flows to reduce future creek erosion. No work will take place within the waters of the creek. The Project site plan and retaining wall layout is shown on Figure 2.

Permits and Approvals

All work will be on EBMUD watershed property. A temporary right-of-access may be required for entry through the Moraga HOA private road entering the north end of the project. Any necessary environmental permits will be obtained from regulatory agencies prior to starting the Project.

Schedule and Work Hours

Construction is anticipated to start in May 2021 and last approximately six months. Work activities will be limited to daytime hours (7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.) and weekdays (Monday to Friday) to the extent feasible. Construction will occur during the dry season to avoid work along the edge of Moraga Creek during wet weather.

EBMUD Practices and Procedures

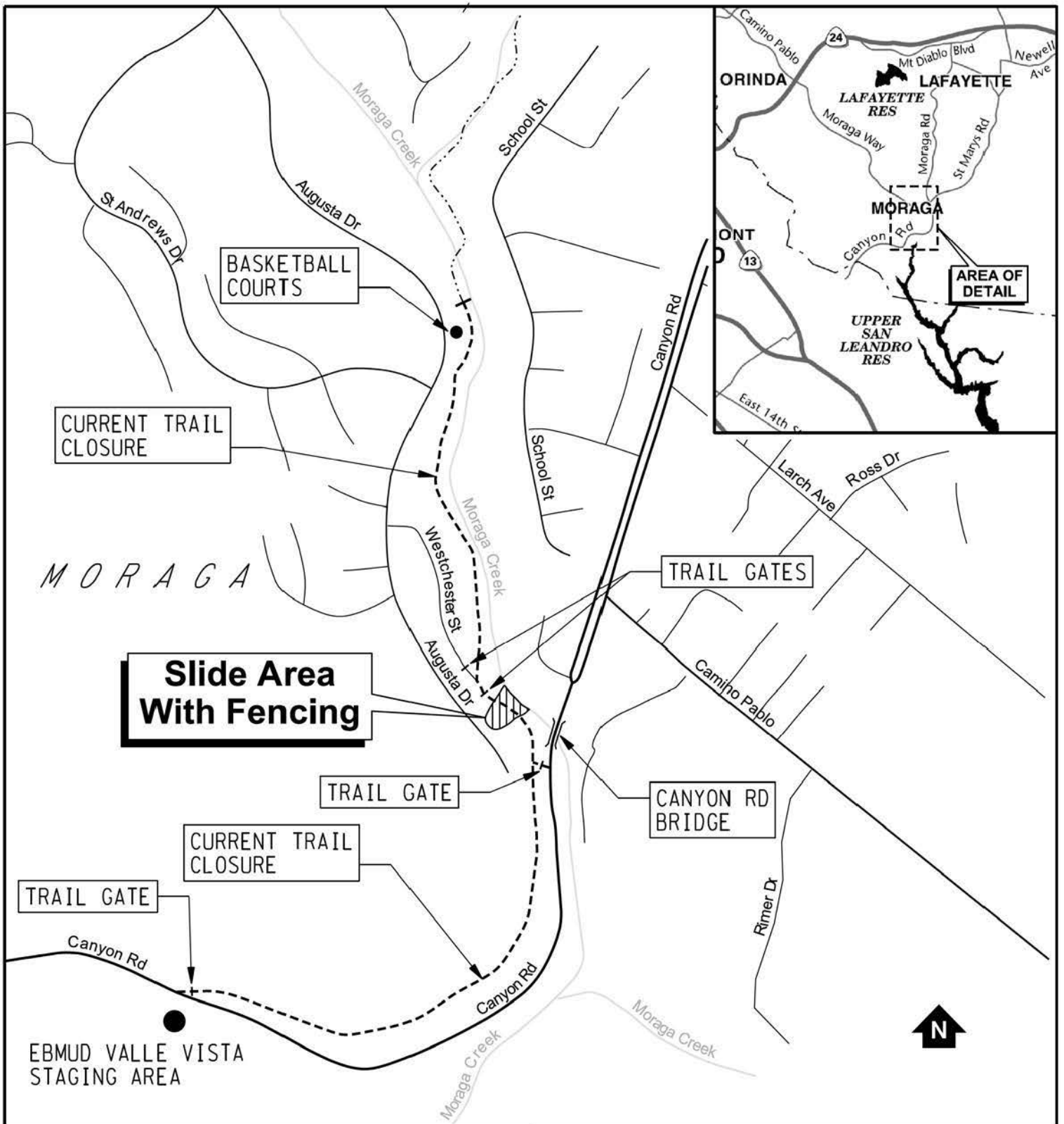
Standard construction environmental and safety practices applicable to all EBMUD construction projects will be incorporated into the Project. These standard practices minimize impacts to the public resulting from EBMUD construction projects.

This Project is located with EBMUD watershed land within the boundaries of the EBMUD Low Effect Habitat Conservation Plan, and will therefore include a wildlife exclusion fence to keep sensitive species out of the Project site.

OOY:EZB:smt

Figure 1: Site Vicinity Map

Figure 2: Project Site Plan



**PROJECT SITE
LOCATION MAP**

NOT TO SCALE

EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

**MORAGA CREEK SLIDE
LOCATION
AND TRAIL CLOSURE**

FIGURE 1

