



# Notice Of Exemption

**TO:** Office of Planning & Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**FROM:** City of Diamond Bar  
21810 Copley Drive  
Diamond Bar, CA 91765  
(909) 839-7030

[CMalpica@diamondbarca.gov](mailto:CMalpica@diamondbarca.gov)

# FILED

OCT 06 2022

**Project Title/Case No.:** Repairs for the Sycamore Canyon Creek Project

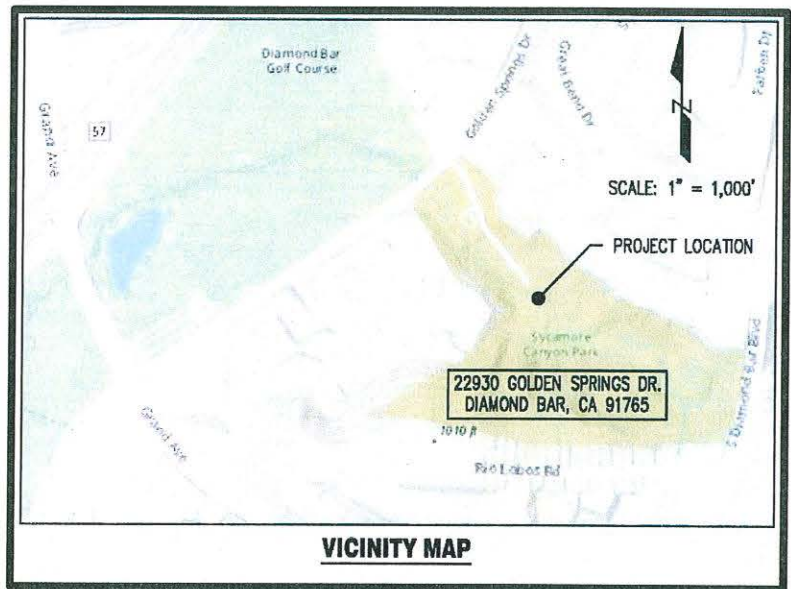
**Project Applicant:** City of Diamond Bar

**Project Location - Specific:** The project site is a section of Sycamore Canyon Creek located within Sycamore Canyon Park at 22930 Golden Springs Drive. The project site is identified on the 7.5-minute San Dimas quadrangle map on Section 10, in Township 2 South, Range 9 West. It comprises Tax Assessor parcel numbers – APN 8717-022-904 and 8717-022-905.

**Project Location - City:** Diamond Bar

**Project Location - County:** Los Angeles

**Description of Project:** The project was caused by a storm runoff event in 2017 and includes the work needed to repair the damaged area of Sycamore Canyon Creek. This natural channel extends through the City Park and runs east to west. The damaged area of the creek is located near the rear parking area downstream of the concrete culvert crossing the park maintenance road. It is located within a concrete-lined section where the storm event had dislodged a tree growing within the channel concrete sidewall along the south side of the channel. The channel where the tree had fallen caused a portion of the concrete lining to break, creating a void in the sidewall that was susceptible to future channel failures.



The repair to the creek lining will consist of saw cutting, removing, and properly disposing of the existing concrete/shotcrete creek surface. Upon direction of the City arborist, any needed tree roots will be pruned. Then the creek lining will be reconstructed per the City's requirements. The sidewall repair will involve excavating the underlying soil to remove sediment deposits and compacting imported backfill material to rebuild the creek slopes to match the existing creek profile.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** City of Diamond Bar, Public Works Department

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:**

Name: Christian Malpica, Associate Engineer Telephone: (909) 839-7042  
Address: 21810 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Private entity     School district     Local public agency     State agency     Other special districts

**Exempt Status:** Categorical Exemption. CEQA Sections 15301 "Existing Facilities."



## Reasons why the project is exempt:

The proposed project qualifies for an exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Section 15301 (d), Class 1 Existing Facilities. CEQA Guidelines list classes of projects that have been determined not to affect the environment significantly and, as a result, are exempt from review under CEQA.

Among the classes of projects that are exempt from CEQA review are those projects that are specifically identified as existing facilities. CEQA Guidelines, Section 15301 defines Class 1 consisting of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. The types of "existing facilities" itemized below are not intended to be all-inclusive of the types of projects which might fall within Class 1. The key consideration is whether the project involves negligible or no expansion of use. For this particular project, 15301 (d) is applicable:

Restoration or rehabilitation of deteriorated or damaged structures, facilities, or mechanical equipment to meet current standards of public health and safety, unless it is determined that the damage was substantial and resulted from an environmental hazard such as earthquake, landslide, or flood.

As a result, the project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption pursuant to the CEQA's requirements for an "existing facility" within an urbanized area.

The proposed project or its circumstances would not result in any exceptions identified in CEQA Guidelines, Section 15300.2.



### Section 15300.2 (Exceptions)

**Location:** Not applicable to Class 1 exemption.

**Cumulative Impact:** All resource topics associated with the project have been analyzed and pose no significant impact. Therefore, the project would not make a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant cumulative impact.

**Significant Effect:** Fish and Game Code Section 1602 requires any person, state or local governmental agency, or public utility to notify the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) prior to beginning

any change to a bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake.

The repairs to Sycamore Canyon Creek will require the submittal of Attachment D - Routine Maintenance to CDFW found in Appendix B. However, these circumstances are not unusual in cases such as this project. Therefore, no known unusual circumstances applicable to the project or project site could significantly affect the environment.

On September 15, 2022, The CDFW notified the City that the project would not require an Agreement and the project as described in the notification could proceed without an Agreement.

**Scenic Highway:** A review of the [CalTrans Scenic Highways](#) State Scenic Highway Map determined no designated or eligible state scenic highways in the project's vicinity.

**Hazardous Waste Site:** No on-site hazardous waste sites are listed under Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

**Historic Resource:** As the channel is already built, no cultural or archaeological resources were identified. However, if significant cultural or archaeological materials are encountered during the repair process, in that case, all work must be halted in the vicinity of the discovery until a qualified archaeologist can visit the site of discovery and assess the significance and integrity of the find.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Christian Malpica Area Code/Telephone/Extension (909) 839-7042

Signature:



Christian Malpica, Associate Engineer

10/19/2022

Date

If filed by applicant: N/A the City is the Applicant and Lead Agency

- 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

Date received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_