

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

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

From: (Public Agency): Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board
1250 San Carlos Avenue
San Carlos, CA 94070

County Clerk

County of: San Mateo and Santa Clara

(Address)

Project Title: San Francisquito Creek Bridge Bank Stabilization Project

Project Applicant: Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board

Project Location - Specific:

El Palo Alto Park, 117 Palo Alto Ave, Palo Alto, CA 94301

Project Location - City: City of Menlo Park and City of Palo Alto

Project Location - County: San Mateo County and Santa Clara County

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

In January 2023, the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (JPB) conducted a field survey to inspect the San Francisquito Bridge condition for any damage that might have occurred after the major January heavy rain and rising levels in the creek. This field survey revealed that the north bank abutment slope protection below the railroad bridge bearings was severely scoured and undermined the existing soil protection to the bridge north bank abutment. The survey also found that the roots of trees near the north bridge abutment bridge have been exposed, making the tree unstable as well as soils scour surrounding a storm drainage pipe outfall structure located 50 feet downstream of the north bridge abutment. JPB concluded that north abutment soil slope stabilization measures will need to be implemented before further erosion undermine the north bridge abutment. The project involves stabilization measures of the embankment below the JPB bridge, surrounding the existing storm drain outfall, and below the Alma Street bicycle-pedestrian bridge located approximately 60 feet downstream of the JPB bridge.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Hilda Lafebre

Exempt Status: (check one):

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: _____
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to PRC Section 21080(b)(3) (and CEQA Guidelines Section 15269 (a)), as the project would repair and restore the slope of a streambank supporting the JPB San Francisquito Bridge and Alma Street bicycle-pedestrian bridge that was damaged as a result of substantial erosion and scour that occurred from heavy storms and high water levels as observed in January 2023. The Governor included San Mateo and Santa Clara counties in a Storm State of Emergency on March 8, 2023.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Hilda Lafebre Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 650-622-7842

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: 6/8/2023 Title: Deputy Director, Program Management and Environmental Compliance

▪ Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____