



***CITY OF ATASCADERO
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION***

6500 Palma Avenue

Atascadero, CA 93422

805.461.5000

TO: File
 State Clearinghouse
 SLO County Recorder

Date Adopted: Sept 1, 2023

FROM: Kelly Gleason, Senior Planner
City of Atascadero
Community Development Department
6500 Palma Avenue
Atascadero, CA 93422

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in Compliance with Section 21152.1 of the Public Resources Code.

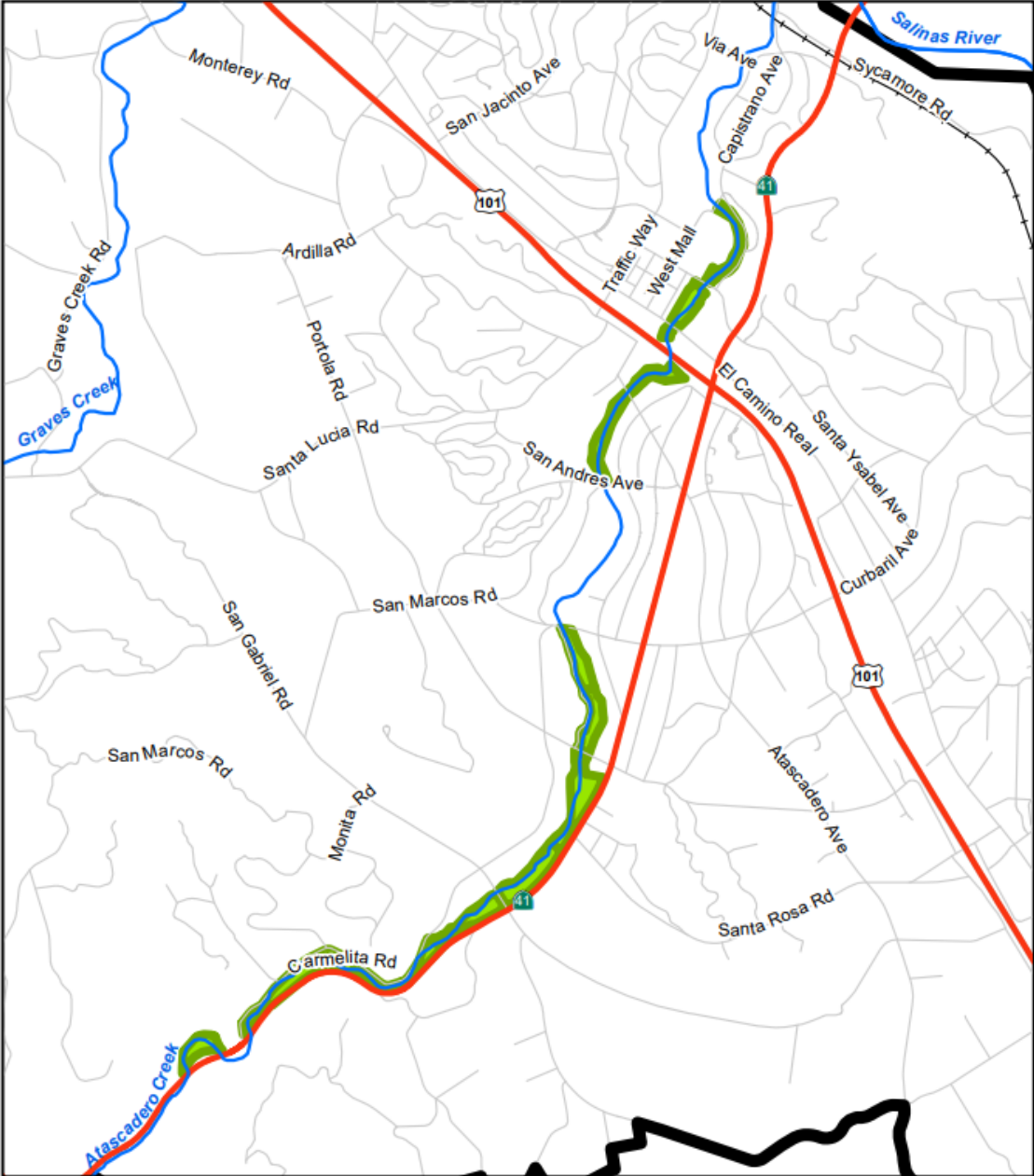
Project Title: DEV23-0093 – Atascadero and Graves Creek Storm Debris Removal

Project Applicant: City of Atascadero

Project Owner: City of Atascadero, 6500 Palma Ave, Atascadero, CA 93422

Project Location: Segments of Atascadero Creek and Graves Creek

Project Location Maps



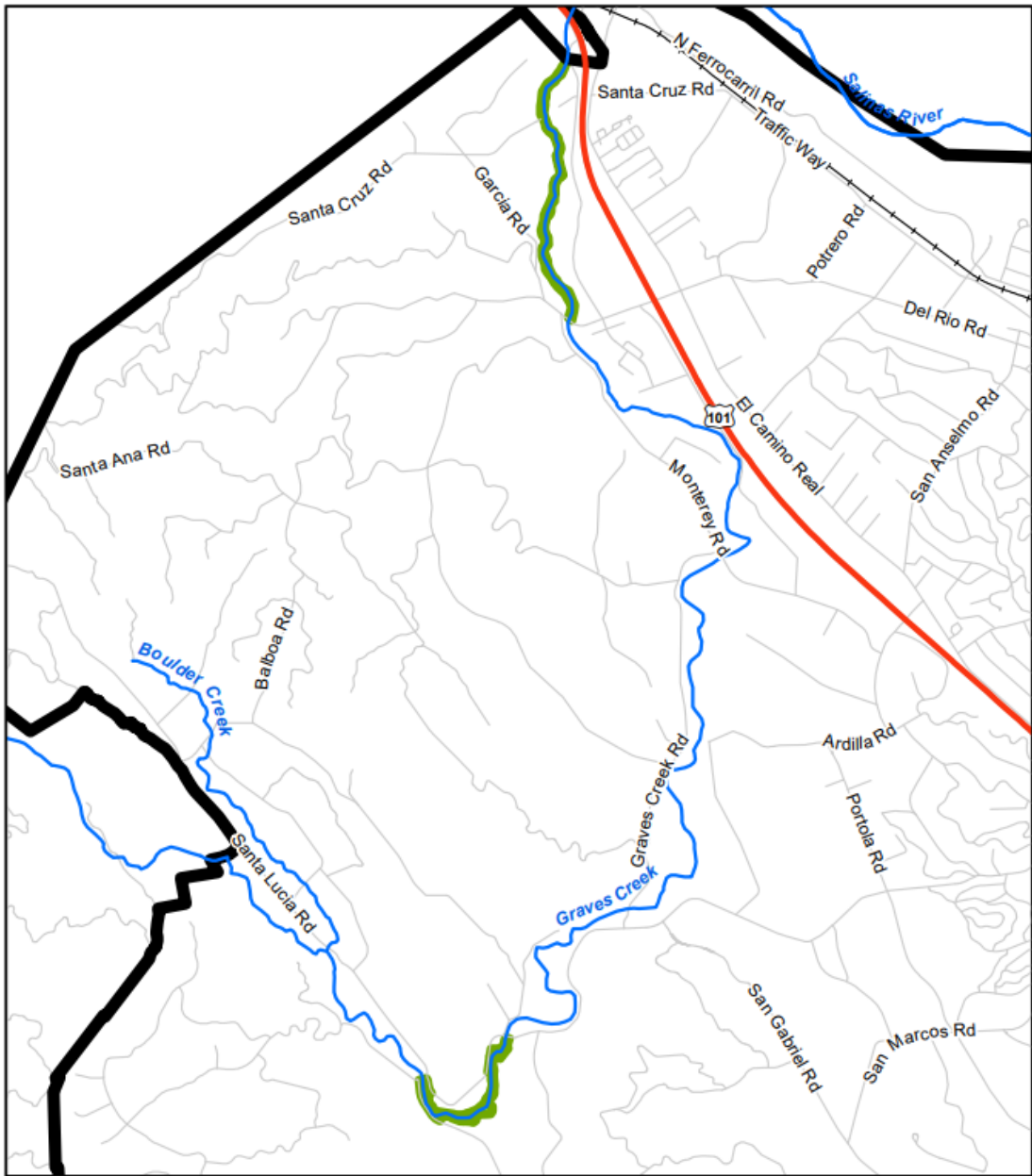
CITY OF ATASCADERO

City Owned Atascadero Creek Reservations

Creek Reservation Parcels
Creek Reservation Parcels

Date Printed: 8/9/2023 | Printed by: City of Atascadero - GIS Division





CITY OF ATASCADERO

City Owned Graves Creek Reservations

Creek Reservation Parcels

 Creek Reservation Parcels

Date Printed: 8/9/2023 | Printed by: City of Atascadero - GIS Division



Project Description:

As result of the January and March 2023 winter storms/disaster, flood water levels and flow in Atascadero Creek and Graves Creek resulted in a significant amount of debris and vegetation material collected in the water ways and creek banks. The City owns approximately 63 acres of open space creek reservation along Atascadero Creek and approximately 16 acres along Graves Creek. The historical amount of debris caused blockage in various areas along both creek areas, resulting in flooding that did not flood in previous storm events. These blockages are primarily made of fallen trees, limbs, vegetation, and litter from nearby properties that were carried by the flood water levels. As the flood water has subsided and debris material has dried, there remains numerous piles of debris which has the potential to act as fire fuel within the two creek areas. In addition, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has issued an El Niño advisory for the winter season, which historically results in an increase of expected rainfall beginning in December 2023 through February 2024.

While sediment removal is considered a long-term solution to addressing the water flow issues within Atascadero Creek brought on by the storm events, there is a more immediate need to remove the significant amount of debris and vegetation material within both Atascadero and Grave Creek areas. In order to limit risk to essential City facilities and private property ahead of the winter/rain season, staff is recommending the City pursue an expedited effort to remove debris and vegetative material within the City’s open space reservations along Atascadero Creek and Graves Creek.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Atascadero

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: City of Atascadero

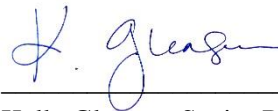
Exempt Status:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Ministerial (Sec. 15073) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Emergency Project (Sec. 1507 (b) and (c)) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Declared Emergency (Sec. 15061 (a)) | <input type="checkbox"/> | General Rule Exemption (Sec. 15061.c) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Categorically Exempt (Sec. 15301-15333): 15307 | | |

Reasons why project is exempt: The project qualifies for a Class 7 categorical exemption: Actions by Regulatory Agencies for the Protection of Natural Resources. This exemption allows for regulatory agencies to undertake actions necessary for the preservation and maintenance of natural resources where the regulatory process involves procedures for the protection of the resource. As CDFW permits will be required, protection from maintenance activities will be included.

Contact Person: Kelly Gleason, Senior Planner, kgleason@atascadero.org, (805) 470-3446

Date: September 1, 2023



Kelly Gleason, Senior Planner