



# CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT Notice of Exemption

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

From: Contra Costa County  
Department of Conservation and  
Development  
30 Muir Road  
Martinez, CA 94553

County Clerk, County of Contra Costa

**Project Title:** North/South Pond Court Retaining Walls, County File #CDDP24-03004  
**Project Applicant:** Tom Dudley, Engineered Soils Repairs Inc., 1267 Springbrook Road, Walnut Creek, CA 94597; (925) 210-2150  
**Project Location:** North Pond Court, South Pond Court, and 768 S. Pond Court, in unincorporated Lafayette, CA (APNs: 365-530-024, 365-530-025, 365-530-026, & 365-530-016 )  
**Lead Agency:** Department of Conservation and Development, 30 Muir Road, Martinez, CA 94553  
**Contact Person:** Syd Sotoodeh (925) 655-2877 [syd.sotoodeh@dcd.cccounty.us](mailto:syd.sotoodeh@dcd.cccounty.us)

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** The applicant requests approval of a non-substantial modification to Development Plan #CDDP86-03041 with a deviation to allow a 0-foot setback to allow the construction of two new retaining walls over 3 feet in height and ranging from approximately 65 to 346 linear feet on the subject property. Proposed grading consists of approximately 1,122 cubic yards cut, and 1,100 cubic yards fill, for a net 22 cubic yards of cut. The application includes a Tree Permit for the removal of six (6) code-protected redwood trees from the subject property (trees # 253, 255, 258, 259, 261, and 263 with a combined diameter of approximately 122 inches) for required grading and the construction of the retaining walls. A section of each proposed wall is located in the County right-of-way. Approximately 15 trees located within the County right-of-way that are not code-protected are also proposed for removal for grading and construction activities.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Contra Costa County Department of Conservation and Development

**Exempt Status:**

- Ministerial Project (Sec. 21080[b][1]; 15268)  Categorical Exemption (Sec. 15303[e])  
 Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080[b][3]; 15269[a])  General Rule of Applicability (Sec. 15061[b][3])  
 Emergency Project (Sec. 21080[b][4]; 15269[b][c])  Other Statutory Exemption (Sec. )

**Reasons why project is exempt:** The project is exempt from environmental review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15303(e), Class 3, related to the "New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures". The project involves the construction of two new retaining walls approximately 4 feet in height and ranging from approximately 65 linear feet to 364 linear feet in length. The walls are accessory to the primary roadway and residential use of the property.

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: *Syd Sotoodeh* Title: Senior Planner Date: April 9, 2025  
**Contra Costa County Department of Conservation and Development**

Signed by Lead Agency  Signed by Applicant

**AFFIDAVIT OF FILING AND POSTING**

I declare that on \_\_\_\_\_ I received and posted this notice as required by California Public Resources Code Section 21152(c). Said notice will remain posted for 30 days from the filing date.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

**Applicant**

Tom Dudley, Engineered Soils Repairs Inc.  
1267 Springbrook Road  
Walnut Creek, CA 94597  
(925) 210-2150

**Department of Fish and Wildlife Fees Due**

- De Minimis Finding - \$0  
 County Clerk - \$50  
 Conservation and Development - \$25

Total Due: \_\_\_\_\_ Receipt #: \_\_\_\_\_