



ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

TO: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

FROM: JIMMY VO, ASSISTANT ENGINEER

PREPARED BY: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

MEETING DATE: AUGUST 6, 2014

SUBJECT: KINGRIDGE TREE MITIGATION PROJECT IN LAURELWOOD PARK

RECOMMENDATION

Request that the Commission review and provide comments on the Kingridge Sanitary Sewer Line Improvement – Tree Mitigation project in Laurelwood Park.

BACKGROUND

The Kingridge Sanitary Sewer Line Improvement project is the final phase in improving sanitary conditions and providing slope stabilization in Kingridge Canyon. The project will replace 1,500 linear feet of sewer line within Kingridge Canyon between 36th and 42nd Avenue and includes construction of two (2) retaining walls. The Kingridge sewer rehabilitation project is necessary to prevent sanitary sewer overflows into Laurelwood Creek and has been mandated by the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RQCWB) in the City's Cease and Desist Order (CDO).

The construction contract for sewer rehabilitation work has been awarded to Anderson and Pacific and Notice to Proceed for construction was issued on July 1, 2014.

The Kingridge sewer construction site is within a riparian habitat and is densely populated with various native and non-native tree species. As a result, tree removal is necessary to gain access into Kingridge Canyon. Staff reviewed the sewer pipe alignment during design to minimize tree removal to 17 trees (12 native species and 5 non-natives species). The City's municipal code and environmental permits require mitigation for tree removal as high as 5:1 for certain native species. A total of 66 mitigation trees will be required to offset the 17 trees removed at the Kingridge site.

Public Works Staff investigated potential riparian habitat sites that could be used for the Kingridge tree mitigation. Parks and Recreation reviewed the results of the investigation and determined that Laurelwood Park was the most feasible location. The mitigation site will serve a dual purpose in providing enhancements to the existing landscaping at Laurelwood Park while offering a mitigation area for the Kingridge Sanitary Sewer Phase III Project. The planting of trees in Laurelwood Park coincides with the 2004 Laurelwood Parks and Sugarloaf Mountain Open Space Management Plan that identifies the need for additional buffer to the Laurelwood Creek Corridor. The mitigation trees, once matured, will provide additional benefits to the public through canopy shade, enhanced air quality, increase riparian wildlife habitats, and visual appeal.

Public Works and Parks and Recreation Staff worked closely with the environmental consultant to design the Kingridge Tree Mitigation project. The plantings will cover a 435 feet long strip of land approximately 12-30 feet wide adjacent to the existing riparian corridor as shown in Attachment 1. A 3 foot wooden split-rail fence will be installed along the western perimeter of the mitigation site. It will act as a wildlife-friendly fencing, allowing an array of species to utilize the new wider riparian corridor. Educational signage would be placed every 50 feet along the fencing to discourage trespassing into the restoration area. The irrigation system will be expanded to accommodate the new mitigation trees and standard details provided by Parks for the materials have been incorporated into the project specifications. The project will also include modifications to the irrigation within the turf area as required to establish the new turf edge and restore proper coverage to the turf to the approval of the Parks and Recreation Department. Public Works requested input from the City's arborist on existing improvements in the area. Currently there are 4 ornamental California sycamores growing in the planned mitigation site. These trees will be removed and replaced with identical trees within Laurelwood Park at a location to be determined by Parks and Recreation during construction.

There will be impacts to Laurelwood Park during the construction of the project, and during the tree establishment and environmental monitoring period which is expected to last between 6 and 10 years. The construction phase of the project is planned to begin in September 2014 and will last until the end of December 2014. Temporary construction fencing will be installed at the staging areas for the duration of the construction activities and will be removed after. The Contractor will ensure there will be minimal impacts to the undisturbed lawn area during construction. Equipment and tractors will not encroach into the non-mitigation area and the Contractor will only have access to the mitigation planting area from the side. The Contractor will also be responsible for providing and maintaining adequate irrigation to the undistributed lawn area and will be required to replace or repair any damages to the existing irrigation system.

During the maintenance period, the Contractor will be responsible for a variety of duties including; maintenance inspections, collecting and installing replacement plants, operation and maintenance of the irrigation systems, weed control and trash removal.

The purpose of the mitigation monitoring period is to ensure survival of the trees and as a result, the area will be closed to foot traffic for that duration. The project will close out upon

acceptance from the regulatory agencies at the end of the monitoring and maintenance period at which time the maintenance responsibilities will be transferred back to the Department of Parks and Recreation and the improvements will become a permanent aspect of Laurelwood Park .

BUDGET IMPACT

This project will be funded from the Sanitary Sewer Fund which has allocated the appropriate budget from the Citywide Capital Improvement Program 5-year plan to cover the initial construction of the project and additional maintenance and monitoring activities for a minimum of 6 years to a maximum of 10 years.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

CEQA requirements for the Kingridge Sanitary Sewer Line Improvements Project Phase III were met when the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) was adopted by City Council at the October 1, 2012 meeting and public hearing. The Monitoring & Mitigation Plan (MMP) resulting from the MND and regulatory permits requires the implementation of the mitigation project. Since the mitigation project is not directly in the established riparian area, CEQA clearance for the mitigation project was approved with the passing of the Kingridge Sanitary Sewer Line Phase III project.

NOTICE PROVIDED

Public Works staff sent out notices with details about an informational presentation for the Kingridge Tree mitigation project taking place at the August Parks & Recreation Commission meeting. The invitees included residents within 500 feet of mitigation site at Laurelwood Park and to interested stakeholders as indicated by the Parks and Recreation staff. In addition, notices were placed around the park 14 days before the Commission meeting.

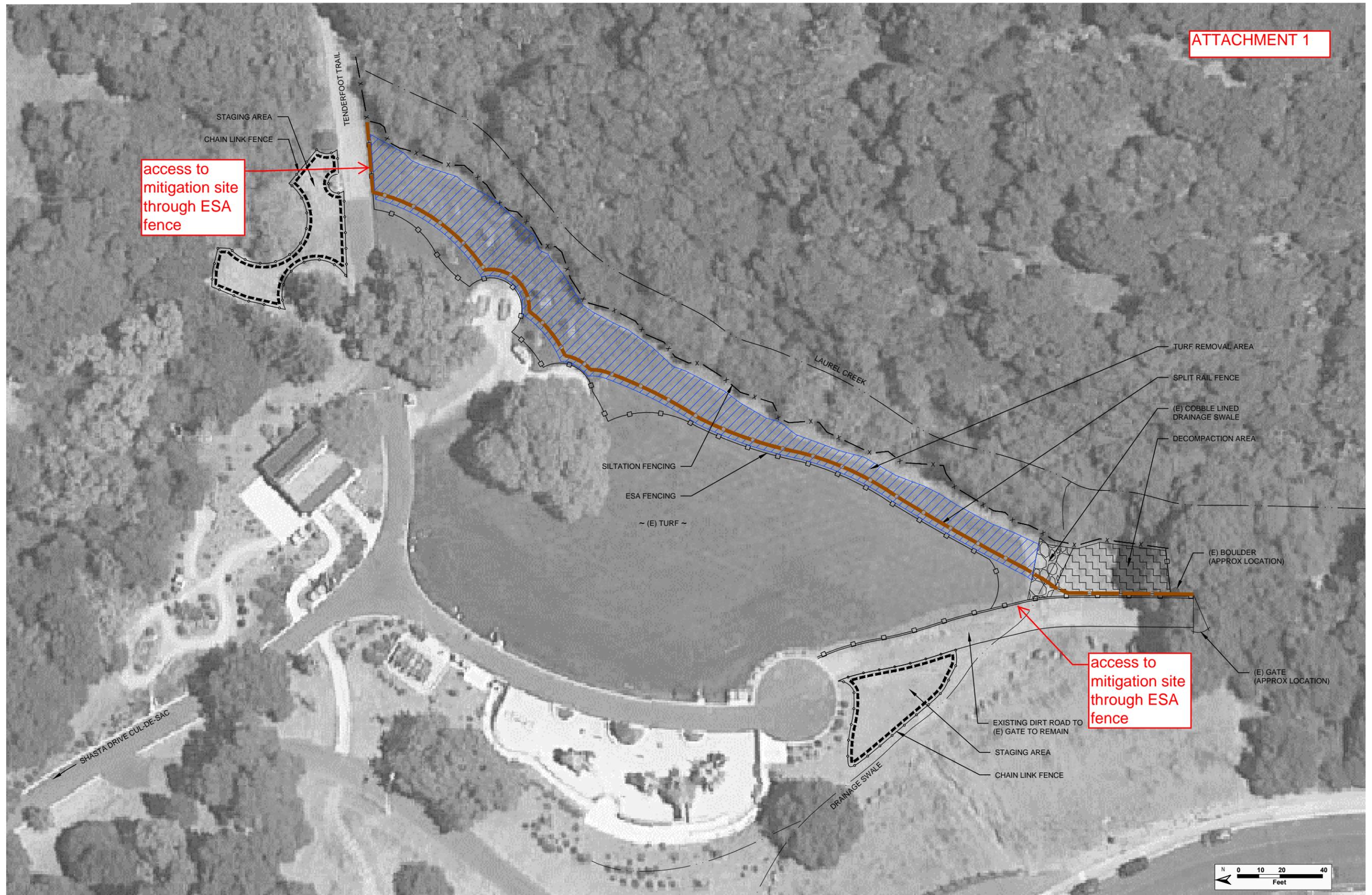
ATTACHMENTS

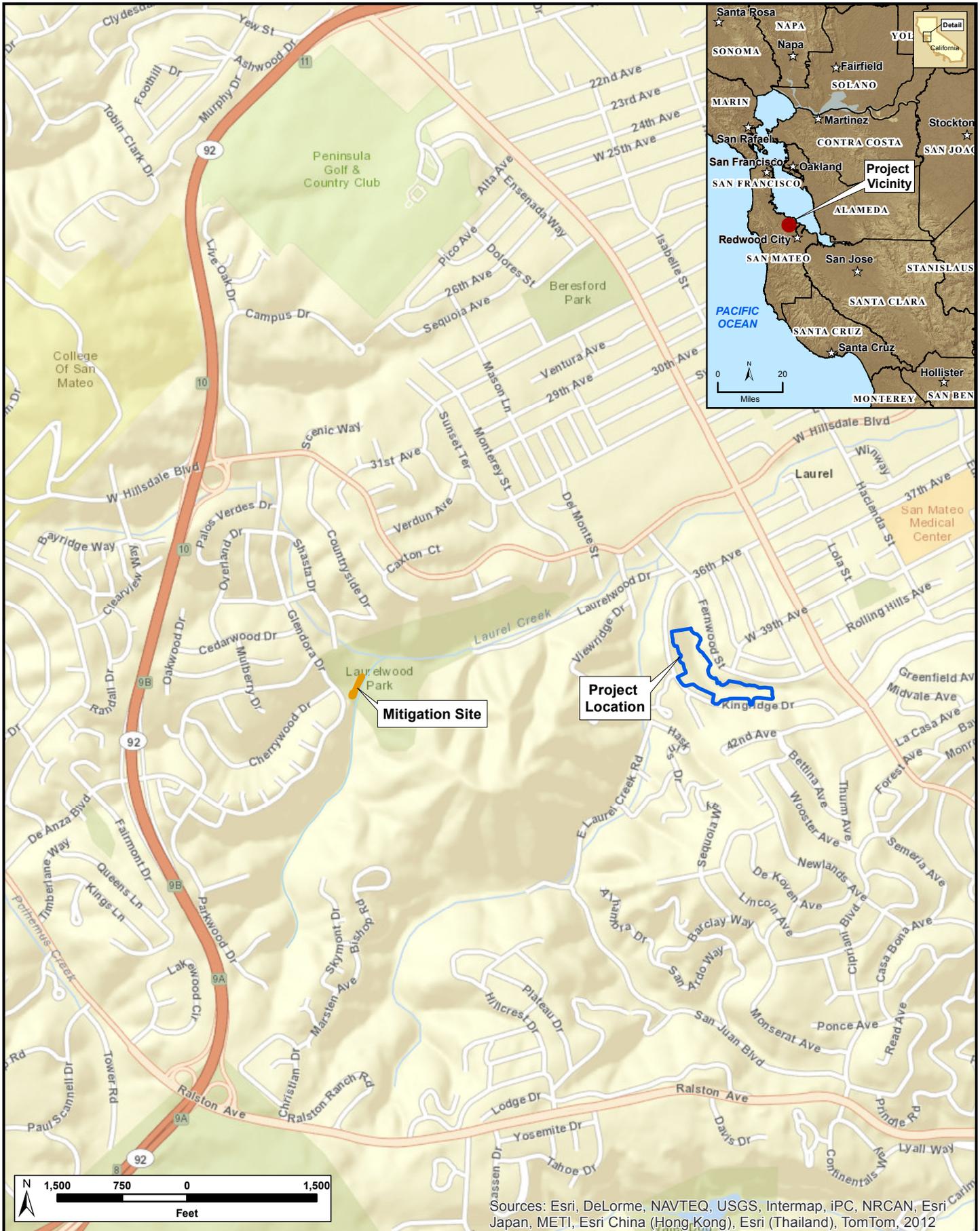
Attachment 1 – Planting Area Exhibit
Attachment 2 – Project Vicinity Map
Attachment 3 – Typical Cross-section

STAFF CONTACT

Jimmy Vo, Assistant Engineer
jvo@cityofsanmateo.org
(650) 522-7319

Cathi Zammit, P.E., Senior Engineer
czammit@cityofsanmateo.org
(650) 522-7306





Sources: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, USGS, Intermap, iPC, NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom, 2012

N:\Projects\3019\3019-01\03 Phase\Reports\MMP\Fig 1 Vicinity Map.mxd

