ECORP Consulting, Inc.
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

June 26, 2024

Ms. Kim Rhodes, PLA, Vice President/Landscape Architecture Practice Leader
David Evans and Associates, Inc.
San Dimas, CA 91773
Via e-mail to: ksr@deainc.com

Re: Results of the Biological Resources Assessment for the 10th and Flower Park Project, City of Santa Ana, California

Dear Ms. Rhodes:

The purpose of this letter report is to provide the results of the biological resources assessment conducted by ECORP Consulting, Inc. (ECORP) for the proposed 10th and Flower Park Project (Project) in Santa Ana, Orange County, California (Figure 1). ECORP provided a qualified biologist to conduct a literature review and site visit to determine if sensitive biological resources are present on the Project Site. ECORP conducted a literature review using several databases and completed a pedestrian survey of the Project Site.

PROJECT LOCATION AND SETTING

The approximately 1.3-acre Project Site is comprised of eight separate Assessor Parcel Numbers (APNs): 005-142-02, 005-142-03, 005-142-34, 005-142-35, 005-142-47, 005-142-48, 005-142-49, and 005-142-58 at the southeast corner of 10th Street and Flower Street (Figure 2). The Project Site is immediately bounded by an apartment building complex to the north, residential homes to the east and west, and a commercial parking lot to the south. The elevation of the Project Site is approximately 120 feet above mean sea level.

METHODS

Prior to conducting the survey, a literature review and database search was performed using the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) and the California Native Plant Society's (CNPS) Electronic Inventory (CNPSEI) to determine the special-status plant and wildlife species that have been documented on or near the Project Site. ECORP searched CNDDB and CNPSEI records within the Project Site boundaries as depicted on the U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute Anaheim topographic quadrangle, plus the surrounding eight topographic quadrangles including Yorba Linda, Orange, Tustin, Newport, Seal Beach, Los Alamitos, Whittier, and La Habra. The CNDDB and CNPSEI contain records of reported occurrences of federally or state-listed endangered, threatened, proposed endangered or threatened species, California Species of Special Concern (SSC), and/or other special-status species or habitat that may occur within or near the Project.

Following the literature review, a comprehensive survey was conducted by walking the Project Site to determine the vegetation communities and wildlife habitats on the Project Site. The biologist documented

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the plant and animal species present on the Project Site and assessed the site's suitability for special-status plant and wildlife species. Data were recorded on a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit, field notebooks, and/or maps. Photographs were taken during the survey to provide visual representation of the Project Site and are provided in Appendix A.

RESULTS

The survey was conducted by ECORP biologist, Carly Tailor, on June 3, 2024. During the survey, the temperature was 61 degrees Fahrenheit with 100% cloud cover and wind speeds between 0 and 3 miles per hour. The Project Site consists of a fenced, mulched lot currently being used as a dog park, two residences located on the eastern portion of the site, and an access road to these residences. Ornamental landscaping occurs on the street medians and surrounding areas outside of the chain-link fence. Throughout the length of the survey, the Project Site was used by residents with their dogs.

No vegetation communities were identified on the Project Site; however, two land cover types; developed and disturbed, were observed. Disturbed land includes areas where the native vegetation community has been heavily influenced by human actions but lack development. Disturbed areas may be actively maintained to be free of vegetation or have been compacted or disked to such a degree that native and nonnative vegetation is very sparse. On the Project Site, the dog park is mapped as disturbed.

The developed land cover type is characterized by some level of anthropogenic development or disturbance and includes various types of landscaping including lawns, and ornamental shrubs/trees. The developed designation can indicate a location where vegetation is highly managed and maintained such as in areas of urban and residential landscaping and active agriculture fields and orchards (U.S. Forest Service 2009). On the Project Site, this includes the maintained medians and ornamental vegetation surrounding the residences and apartment building.

The plant species identified on the Project Site consisted of common ornamental plants including Outeniqua yellowwood (*Afrocarpus falcatus*), agave (*Agave* ssp.), bougainvillea (*Bougainvillea* sp.), red iron bark (*Eucalyptus sideroxylon*), crape myrtle (*Lagerstroemia indica*), southern magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*), and Chinese elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*). Additional species surrounding the Project Site include eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus* sp.), jacaranda (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*), date palm (*Phoenix* sp.), elephant bush (*Portulacaria afra*), and ornamental rose (*Rosa* sp.).

The wildlife species present on the Project Site at the time of the survey included American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*), Allen's hummingbird (*Selaphorus sasin*), European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), and Swinhoe's white-eye (*Zosterops simplex*). Bird activity was high particularly in the trees and landscaping surrounding the apartment complex and residences to the east.

The literature review and database searches conducted prior to the survey identified several listed and special-status plant and wildlife species that occur near the Project Site, such as least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus,* state and federally Endangered), coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica,* federally Threatened, CDFW SSC), western pond turtle (*Emys marmorata,* federally proposed Threatened, CDFW SSC), southern California legless lizard (*Anniella stebbinsi,* CDFW SSC), western mastiff

bat (*Eumops perotis californicus,* CDFW SSC), southern tarplant (*Centromadia parryi* ssp. *australis,* California Rare Plant Rank [CRPR] 1B.1 [rare in California and elsewhere]), chaparral sand-verbena (*Abronia villosa* var. *aurita,* CRPR 1B.1), and San Bernardino aster (*Symphyotrichum defoliatum,* CRPR 1B.2 [moderately threatened in California]). Habitats and conditions suitable for the species identified in the literature review were searched for during the survey and were not observed on the Project Site.

DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The approximately 1.3-acre Project Site is located in a busy, residential area of Santa Ana consisting of primarily ornamental plant species and wildlife species common to developed areas. Several listed and special-status plant and wildlife species were included in the literature review; however, none of these species are expected to occur due to no suitable habitat present, frequent human disturbance, and dogs present on the Project Site.

The Project Site provides suitable habitat for nesting birds and raptors, protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and California Fish and Game Code in the surrounding trees and ornamental vegetation. During the survey, several active house sparrow and European starling nests were observed in the roof of the adjacent apartment building. Additionally, American crow fledglings were observed being fed by an adult crow in a eucalyptus tree in the commercial parking lot south of the site.

It is recommended that Project activities are conducted outside of the bird breeding season (February through August for raptors and March through August for the majority of migratory bird species). If ground disturbing Project activities are scheduled to occur during the nesting bird season (February 1 – August 30), a qualified biologist shall conduct a pre-construction nesting bird survey to ensure that active bird nests will not be disturbed or destroyed. The survey shall be completed no more than 3 working days prior to initial ground disturbance. The nesting bird survey shall include the Project Site and adjacent areas where project activities have the potential to affect active nests, either directly or indirectly due to construction activity, noise, or vibrations. If an active nest is identified, a qualified biologist shall establish an appropriate disturbance limit buffer around the nest using flagging or staking. Construction activities shall not occur within any disturbance limit buffer zones until the nest is deemed inactive by the qualified biologist.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this biological resources technical study for your Project. If you have any questions on this report, please do not hesitate to contact Stacie Tennant via email at stennant@ecorpconsulting.com or Carly Tailor at ctailor@ecorpconsulting.com.

Sincerely,

Carly Tailor

Carly Tailor
Staff Biologist

Appendix A: Representative Site Photographs

REFERENCES

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). 2024. RareFind California Department of Fish and Game Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB). California. Sacramento, CA, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Biogeographic Data Branch. Accessed May 2024.

California Native Plant Society (CNPS). Rare Plant Program. 2024. Rare Plant Inventory (online edition, v9.5). Website https://www.rareplants.cnps.org. Accessed May 2024.

Sawyer, J. O., T. Keeler-Wolf, and J. M. Evens. 2009. *A Manual of California Vegetation, 2nd ed*. California Native Plant Society, Sacramento, CA.

U.S.-Forest Service. 2009. CalVeg Zone 7 South Coast and Montane Ecological Province. Available here: https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fsbdev3_045405.pdf.

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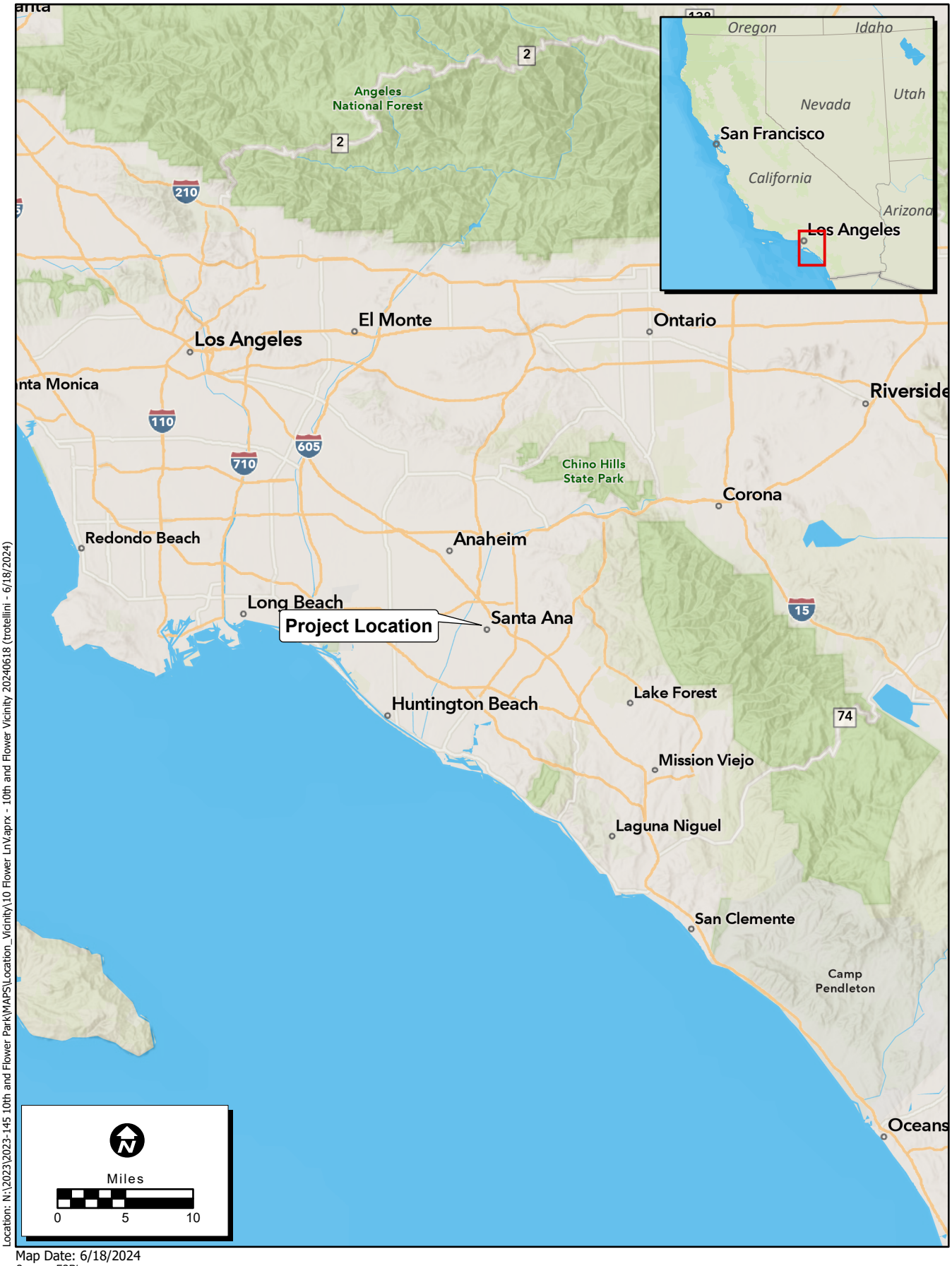

Location: N:\2023\2023-145 10th and Flower Park\MAPS\Location_Vicinity\10 Flower LnVaprx - 10th and Flower Vicinity 20240618 (trotellini - 6/18/2024)

Map Date: 6/18/2024

Sources: ESRI

Figure 1. Project Vicinity

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2023-145 10th and Flower Park

Location: N:\2023\2023-145 10th and Flower Park\MAPS\Location_Vicinity\10 Flower LnV.aprx - 10th and Flower Vicinity 202406181 (trotellini - 6/18/2024)

Map Date: 6/18/2024

Sources: ESRI, Maxar (2022)

Figure 2. Project Location

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2023-145 10th and Flower Park

APPENDIX A

Representative Site Photographs

Photo 1. View of the Project Site from the east.

Photo 2. View of the Southern Boundary of the Project Site.

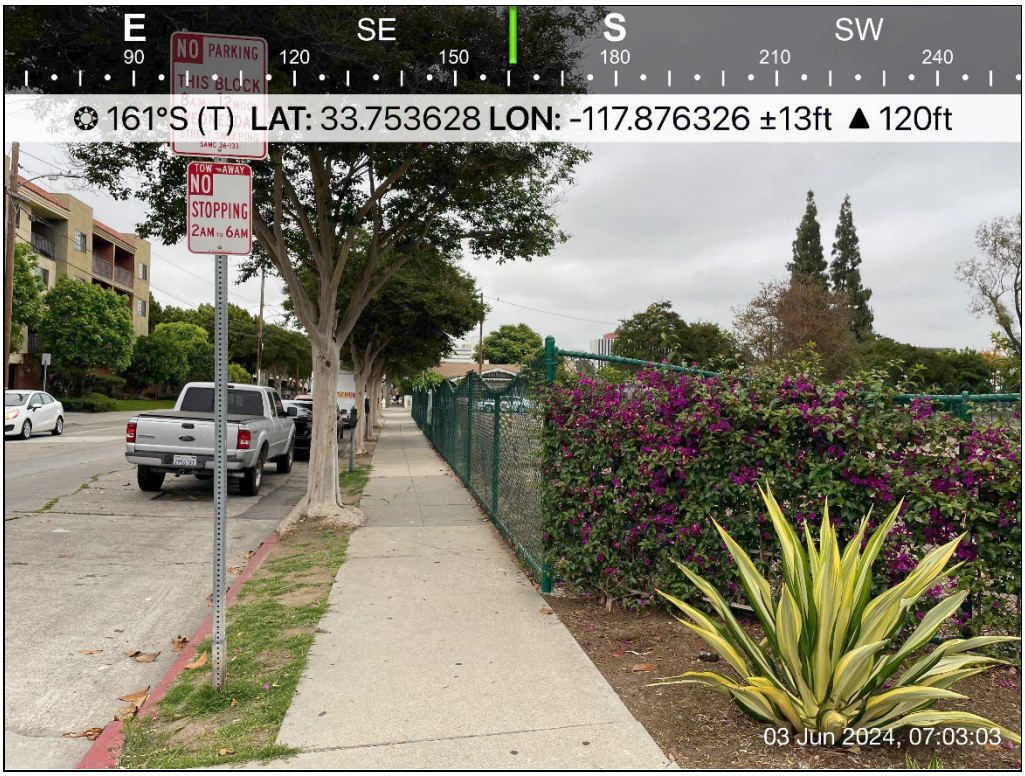

Photo 3. View of 10th Street and the Northern Boundary of the Project.

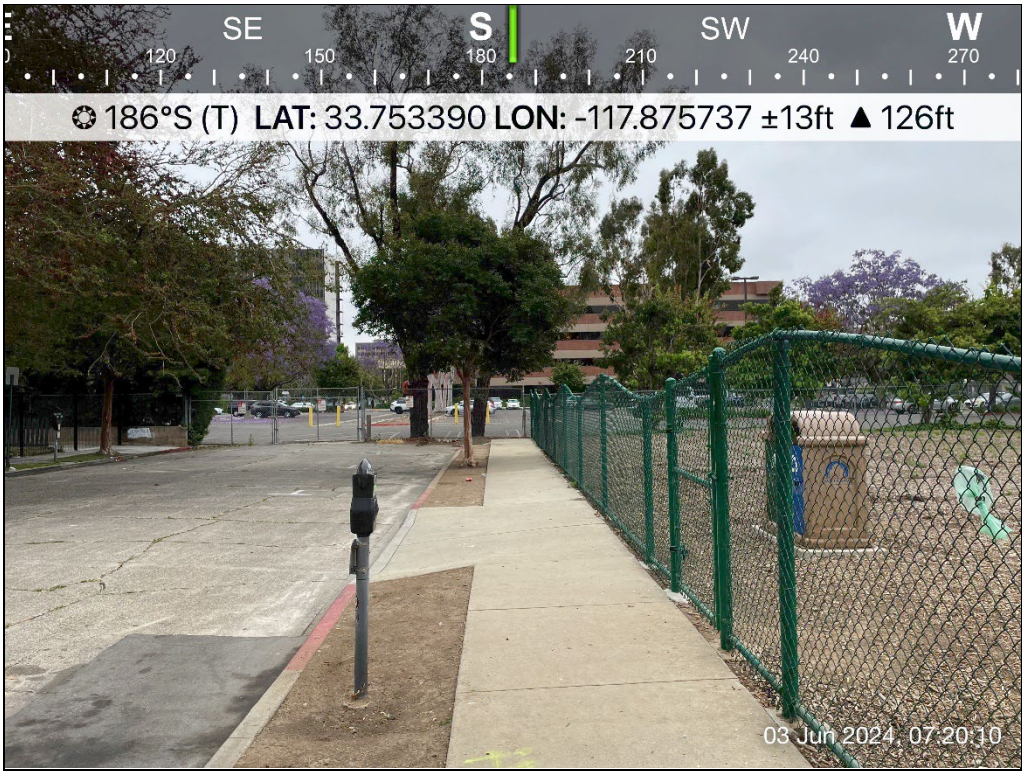

Photo 4. View of the Access Road between the Vacant Lot and Eastern Residences.

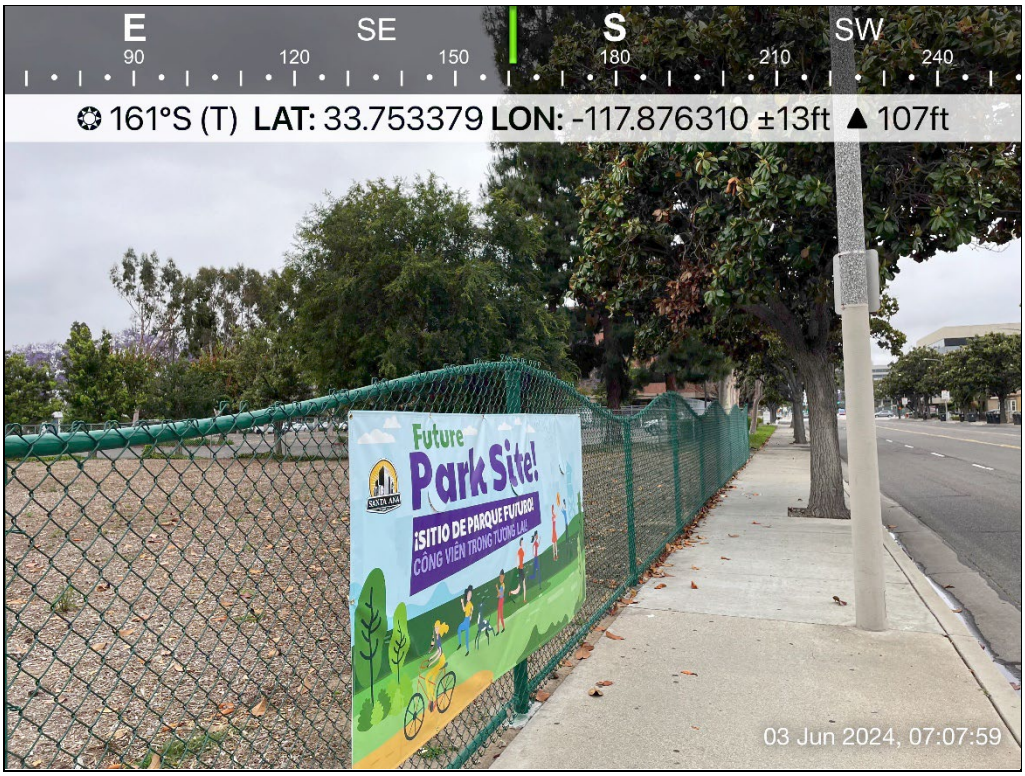

Photo 5. View of the Eastern Boundary of the Project Site from Flower Street.

Photo 6. View of the Northern Apartments. Several Active Nests are Located in the roof.