County of Santa Clara - Clerk-Recorder's Office
State of California

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LOUIS CHIARAMONTE, Clerk-Recorder
By: Corinne Vasquez, Deputy Clerk-Recorder

SANTA CLARA COUNTY CLERK
CEQA FILING COVER SHEET

THIS SPACE FOR CLERK'S USE ONLY

Complete and attach this form to each CEQA Notice filed with the County Clerk

TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY

Check Document being Filed:

- ☐ Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
  - ☐ Filing Fee (new project)
  - ☐ Previously Paid F&W **(must attach F&W receipt and project titles must match)**
  - ☐ No Effect Determination **(F&W letter must be attached)**
- ☐ Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) or Negative Declaration (ND)
  - ☐ Filing Fee (new project)
  - ☐ Previously Paid F&W **(must attach F&W receipt and project titles must match)**
  - ☐ No Effect Determination **(F&W letter must be attached)**
- ☑ Notice of Exemption (NOE)
- ☐ Other (Please fill in type):

1. LEAD AGENCY: Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
2. LEAD AGENCY EMAIL: mottoboni@openspace.org
3. PROJECT TITLE: Stevens Creek Shoreline Nature Study Area Geotechnical Study
4. APPLICANT NAME: Mattea Ottoboni PHONE: (650)772-3647
5. APPLICANT EMAIL: mottoboni@openspace.org
6. APPLICANT ADDRESS: 5050 El Camino Real, Los Altos, CA 94022
7. PROJECT APPLICANT IS A: ☐ Local Public Agency ☐ School District ☑ Other Special District ☐ State Agency ☐ Private Entity
8. NOTICE TO BE POSTED FOR 30 DAYS.

Filing fees are due at the time a Notice of Determination/Exemption is filed with our office. For more information on filing fees and No Effect Determinations, please refer to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 753.5.

Rev_8/2023

Notice of Exemption

To: County Clerk
County of Santa Clara

From: Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
5050 El Camino Real
Los Altos, CA 94022

Project Title: Stevens Creek Shoreline Nature Study Area Geotechnical Study

Project Location: Stevens Creek Shoreline Nature Study Area Open Space Preserve (APN: 015-36-041)

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Same

City: Mountain View **County:** Santa Clara

Project Description

The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) proposes to conduct a geotechnical study to support the Stevens Creek Shoreline Nature Study Area Restoration Project (Project). The Project site is located within the City of Mountain View in Santa Clara County and is located west of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Ames Research Center, east of Stevens Creek, and south of the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge. A segment of the San Francisco Bay Trail travels along levees to the north and west of the property.

The 55-acre Stevens Creek Shoreline Nature Study Area Open Space Preserve (Preserve) is owned and managed by the District. The Preserve is not hydrologically connected to Stevens Creek or the San Francisco Bay, and acts as a stormwater retention basin for runoff from the NASA facility during wet months. The District's consultants would perform a geotechnical technical study to help assess the feasibility of future restoration of the Preserve into either a tidal marsh or managed pond. The study would require approximately 3 borings, 10 core penetrometer tests (CPTs), and 5 vibracore (VC) / direct push core (DP) samples at depths ranging from 15 to 100 feet. Borings would be conducted using: (1) a mud-rotary drill mounted on a tracked rig positioned on the levees surrounding the basin; (2) a 2-inch steel rod pushed into the ground using a hydraulic system; and (3) a 2.5 or 4-inch aluminum pipe with plastic liner that is vibrated or directly pushed into the material using a hydraulic system from the back of a pontoon boat. Bore holes will be backfilled with approved sealing materials and using a tremie pipe when applicable, in accordance with Santa Clara Valley Water District standards. During the geotechnical investigation, several sediment samples will be taken from the pond bottom for screening and lab testing.

All work will occur outside of the western snowy plover nesting season (March 1 to September 1). All staff and contractors will receive biological awareness training and worksite supervision from a qualified biologist prior to beginning work. Work will not occur if special status species are detected within the work area, consistent with the District's Resource Management Policies and best management practices.

CEQA Compliance

In accordance with the State CEQA guidelines, the project is categorically exempt from CEQA under the following section. Furthermore, none of the exceptions to the categorical exemptions identified under CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 apply to the proposed project.

Section 15304 - Minor Alterations to Land
This exemption consists of minor alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees. Project activities would be limited to the drilling of geologic bores, sediment sample collection, and the backfill of bore holes.

Section 15306 – Information Collection
This exemption consists of basic data collection and research that do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. All studies included in this work will contribute to an action that the District as a public agency will consider in the future.

No exceptions pursuant to Section 15300.2 of the CEQA Guidelines are applicable to the proposed project.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Mattea Ottoboni, mottoboni@openspace.org, (650) 772-3647

Attachments: Figure 1 – Project Area
Figure 2 – Proposed Bore Locations

Signature: _____ Date: 10/06/2025

Jane Mark, AICP
Planning Manager

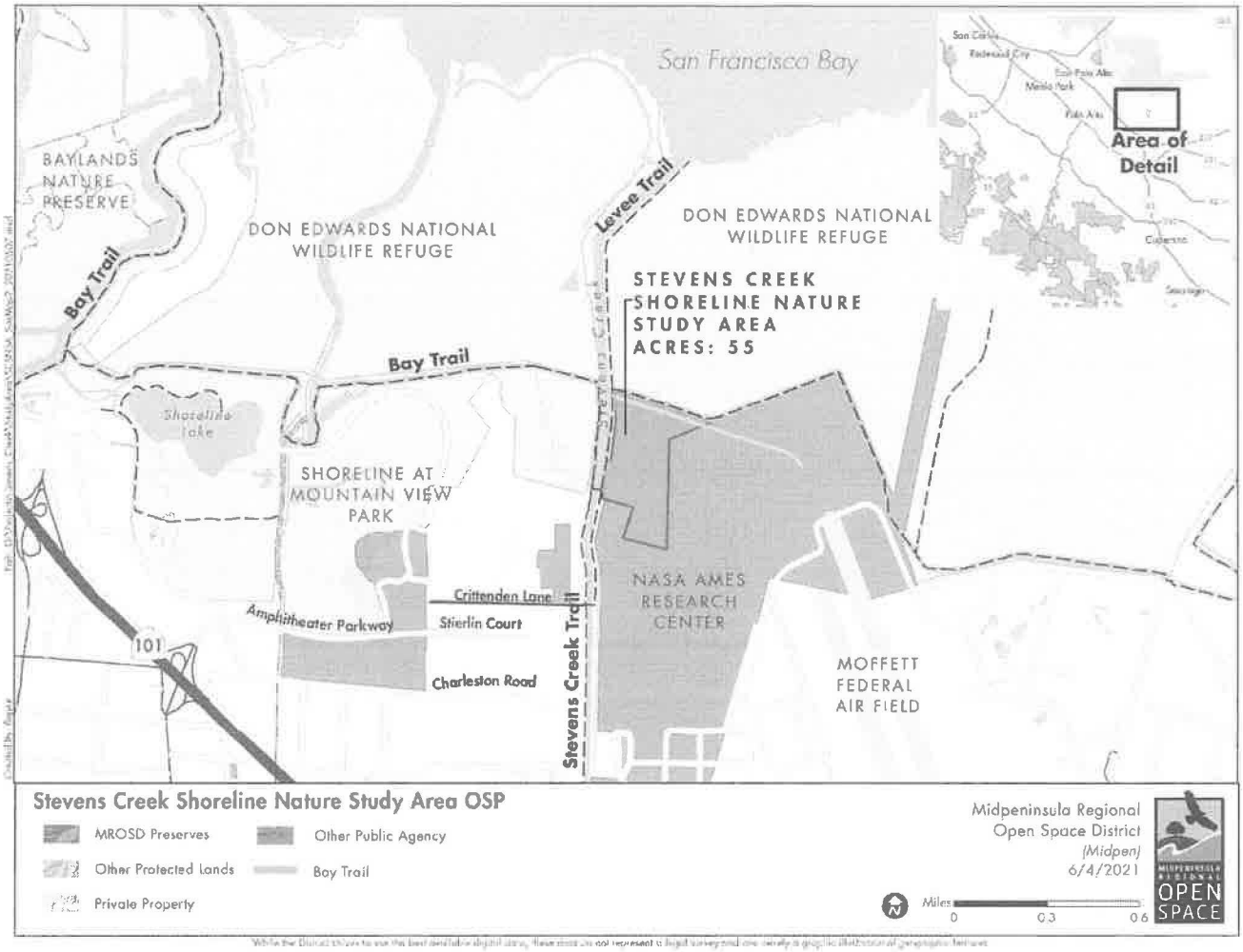

Figure 1 - Project Area

DRAFT



ANCHOR QEA

Figure 2
Vicinity Map
Geotechnical Report
Stevens Creek Shoreline Nature Study Area Project