

FILED**February 3, 2026**KRISTIN B. CONNELLY
CLERK-RECORDERBy *ASm*F. Shepard
Deputy Clerk

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

Notice of Exemption

To: ☒ Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

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

☒ County Clerk, County of Contra Costa

Project Title: License Agreement, East Bay Regional Park District, Iron Horse Trail Extension
Project # WO8315, CP#: 25-28

Project Applicant: Contra Costa County Flood Control District, 255 Glacier Drive, Martinez CA 94553
(925) 313-2000, Contact: Claudia Gemberling, (925) 313-2192
claudia.gemberling@pw.cccounty.us

Project Location: Flood Control District levee along Walnut Creek and Grayson Creek from Marsh Drive to Pacheco Creek, Concord, and within the Flood Control District's existing Drainage Easement on private property APN 159-250-019-1

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

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The Contra Costa County Flood Control District will amend an existing 1995 License Agreement with the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) to add five segments (non-continuous) on Flood Control District-owned property to extend the existing EBRPD Iron Horse Trail along the levee on the west side of Walnut and Grayson Creeks to allow the construction of a 12-foot-wide asphalt trail with 4-foot shoulders on each side and routine maintenance of the trail extension. The segments are as follows:

1. Marsh Drive to Imhoff Drive
2. Imhoff Drive to Grayson Creek Channel
3. Grayson Creek Channel to the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe (BNSF) Railroad right-of-way
4. BNSF Railroad right-of-way to the eastern boundary of the Gonsalves & Santucci Property
5. Northern boundary of the Gonsalves & Santucci property west and south along Pacheco Creek approximately 630 ft south of the boundary of the State-owned parcel (APN 380-030-033).

Additionally, the Flood Control District will amend the 1995 License Agreement to issue third-party encroachment permits for the Iron Horse Trail. This would ease liability concerns and enhance trail safety, facilities protection, and public notifications regarding trail closures.

The Flood Control District will also enter into a Joint Use Agreement with EBRPD for a planned 1,750-foot-long sixth extension of the Iron Horse Trail along the District's future levee in Gonsalves & Santucci property (APN 159-250-019-1), integrating the trail into the District's existing Drainage Easement.

This Notice of Exemption only covers the License Agreement amendment and Joint Use Agreement between the Flood Control District and EBRPD. The EBRPD will be responsible for CEQA and applicable regulatory agency permits for the construction and maintenance of the trail extension.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Contra Costa County

Exempt Status:

- ☐ Ministerial Project (Sec. 21080[b][1]; 15268) ☐ Categorical Exemption (Sec.)
- ☐ 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 activity is not subject to CEQA as it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question (issuance of amended License Agreement and Joint Use Agreement) may have a significant effect on the environment pursuant to Article 5, Section 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines.

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: Aug. 20, 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 2-3-26 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

DEPUTY CLERK

Title

Applicant

Contra Costa County Flood Control District
255 Glacier Drive
Martinez, CA 94553
Attn: Claudia Gemberling
Environmental Services Division
Phone: (925) 313-2192

Department of Fish and Wildlife Fees Due

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

Total Due: _____ Receipt #: _____