County of Santa Clara
Office of the County Clerk-Recorder
Business Division
County Government Center
70 West Hedding Street, E. Wing, 1st Floor
San Jose, California 95110 (408) 299-5688

CEQA DOCUMENT DECLARATION

ENVIROMENTAL FILING FEE RECEIT

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

1. LEAD AGENCY: County of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department

2. PROJECT TITLE: Los Gatos Creek Trail and Irrigation System Improvements Project in Vasona Lake County Park

3. APPLICANT NAME: County of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department

4. APPLICANT ADDRESS: 298 Garden Hill Drive, Los Gatos, CA 95032

5. PROJECT APPLICANT IS A: □ Local Public Agency □ School District □ Other Special District □ State Agency □ Private Entity

6. NOTICE TO BE POSTED FOR _____ 20 _____ DAYS.

7. CLASSIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

a. PROJECTS THAT ARE SUBJECT TO DFG FEES

   □ 1. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE §21152) $ 3,078.25 $ 0.00

   □ 2. NEGATIVE DECLARATION (PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE §21080(C)) $ 2,216.25 $ 0.00

   □ 3. APPLICATION FEE WATER DIVERSION (STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD ONLY) $ 850.00 $ 0.00

   □ 4. PROJECTS SUBJECT TO CERTIFIED REGULATORY PROGRAMS $ 1,046.50 $ 0.00

   □ 5. COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE FEE (REQUIRED FOR a-1 THROUGH a-4 ABOVE) $ 50.00 $ 0.00

   □ FEE (REQUIRED FOR a-5 THROUGH a-21 ABOVE)

b. PROJECTS THAT ARE EXEMPT FROM DFG FEES

   □ 1. NOTICE OF EXEMPTION ($50.00 COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE FEE REQUIRED) $ 50.00 $ 0.00

   □ 2. A COMPLETED "CEQA FILING FEE NO EFFECT DETERMINATION FORM" FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME, DOCUMENTING THE DFG'S DETERMINATION THAT THE PROJECT WILL HAVE NO EFFECT ON FISH, WILDLIFE AND HABITAT, OR AN OFFICIAL, DATED RECEIPT / PROOF OF PAYMENT SHOWING PREVIOUS PAYMENT OF THE DFG FILING FEE FOR THE "SAME PROJECT IS ATTACHED ($50.00 COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE FEE REQUIRED)"

   □ DOCUMENT TYPE: □ ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT □ NEGATIVE DECLARATION $ 50.00 $ 0.00

   □ NOTICES THAT ARE NOT SUBJECT TO DFG FEES OR COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE FEES

   □ NOTICE OF PREPARATION □ NOTICE OF INTENT NO FEE $ __________ NO FEE

8. OTHER:

   FEE (IF APPLICABLE): $ __________

9. TOTAL RECEIVED: $ 0.00

*NOTE: "SAME PROJECT" MEANS NO CHANGES. IF THE DOCUMENT SUBMITTED IS NOT THE SAME (OTHER THAN DATES), A "NO EFFECT DETERMINATION" LETTER FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME FOR THE SUBSEQUENT FILING OR THE APPROPRIATE FEES ARE REQUIRED.

THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED AND ATTACHED TO THE FRONT OF ALL CEQA DOCUMENTS LISTED ABOVE (INCLUDING COPIES) SUBMITTED FOR FILING. WE WILL NEED AN ORIGINAL (WET SIGNATURE) AND TWO (2) COPIES. (YOUR ORIGINAL WILL BE RETURNED TO YOU AT THE TIME OF FILING.)

CHECKS FOR ALL FEES SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO: SANTA CLARA COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER

PLEASE NOTE: FEES ARE ANNUALLY ADJUSTED (Fish & Game Code §711.4(b); PLEASE CHECK WITH THIS OFFICE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME FOR THE LATEST FEE INFORMATION.

"... NO PROJECT SHALL BE OPERATIVE, VESTED, OR FINAL, NOR SHALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT PERMITS FOR THE PROJECT BE VALID, UNTIL THE FILING FEES REQUIRED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION ARE PAID."

(Feves Effective 01-01-2017)
Notice of Intent to Adopt A Negative Declaration

A notice, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended (Public Resources Code 21,000, et sec.) that the following project when implemented will not have a significant impact on the environment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>File</th>
<th>APN(s)</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
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<td>424-26-008, 424-26-001, 424-26-009, 529-12-002, 529-12-022, 529-12-01</td>
<td>March 8, 2017</td>
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**Project Name**

Los Gatos Creek Trail and Irrigation System Improvements Project in Vasona Lake County Park

**Project Type**

Park Improvements

**Owner**

County of Santa Clara, Parks and Recreation Department

**Project Location**

Vasona Lake County Park, Los Gatos, CA

**Project Description** (attach additional pages as necessary)

The proposed *Los Gatos Creek Trail and Irrigation System Improvements Project in Vasona Lake County Park*, (also known in construction documents as the *Los Gatos Creek Trail and Irrigation Reconstruction Project in Vasona Lake County Park*) (Project) involves improvements to the segment of Los Gatos Creek Trail that runs through Vasona Lake southerly along the east shore of Vasona Lake from Vasona Lake dam to Blossom Hill Road. The Project also involves improvements and reconstruction of the park’s irrigation system. The project will be undertaken in two phases; trail improvements in Phase One tentatively beginning July 2017, and irrigation system replacement in Phase Two tentatively beginning in September 2017. The Project will result in a net reduction of 15% of total managed and irrigated turf areas.

Proposed trail improvements consist of modifications to the existing paved trail, which involves reconstruction and resurfacing of existing paved trail (approximately 4,900 linear feet); improvements to existing unpaved trail segments, including paving of approximately 870 linear feet of existing dirt trail to prevent erosion; trail widening with the addition of soft shoulders where feasible; regrading to prevent erosion; and construction of approximately 3,000 linear feet of new realigned segments of Los Gatos Creek Trail. The new realigned trail will be constructed within existing managed turf or disturbed areas. Existing realigned trail segments will be retained as soft surface trail. Trail improvements are consistent with the *Countywide Trails Master Plan and Uniform Interjurisdictional Trail Design, Use, and Management Guidelines*.

The existing paved trail widths vary averaging eight feet with no soft shoulder, and, as a result of erosion, tree roots, volunteer paths along the edge, and heavy use, have deteriorated over time. The proposed paved trail will have a 10 foot wide hard surface (asphalt or concrete) with one-foot soft shoulders of unpaved aggregate surface, where feasible. The vast majority of trail will be multi-use, however the unpaved segments, including the 870 linear foot paved trail will be pedestrian only. Segments of the existing trail will be realigned in order to facilitate faster moving bicycle traffic and in some locations, moved further away from Los Gatos Creek. The existing trail segments that are realigned will be retained as soft surface trail to accommodate use by slower moving foot traffic. In two sections, an existing k-rail wall will be replaced with an 18”-30” tall dry-stack concrete block wall totaling approximately 265 linear feet on the high side of the trail and concrete curb with railing on the low side totaling approximately 115 linear feet. The purpose of the walls is to widen the trail to standard widths without encroaching into the lakeshore, stabilize the trail bed, and prevent erosion.

Proposed improvements to the irrigation system consist of replacement and reconstruction of the entire irrigation system including new irrigation lines/pipes, valves and control system facilities and will result in a net reduction of approximately 15% of total managed and irrigated turf areas. The old irrigation system has deteriorated and is
beyond repair. The project also involves relocations and replacement of a total of eight (8) old fire hydrants within the park. Five (5) of the fire hydrants are connected to the old irrigation water mains and are inadequate for fire protection. All fire hydrants will be connected to city water mains. Ground disturbance including approximately 471 linear feet of trenching will occur in order to lay the irrigation pipes, and install valves, pumps, and other irrigation equipment. All ground disturbances will be limited to the managed turf areas. Trenching will be backfilled, and all disturbed areas will be restored to previous condition and revegetated when the construction is completed.

### Purpose of Notice

The purpose of this notice is to inform you that the County of Santa Clara Parks & Recreation Department Staff has recommended that a Mitigated Negative Declaration be adopted for this project. Action is **tentatively** scheduled on this proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration before the County of Santa Clara **Board of Supervisors** on **April 11, 2017** in the **Board Chambers, 70 W. Hedding, San Jose**. It should be noted that the adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration does not constitute approval of the project under consideration. The decision to approve or deny the project will be made separately. Meeting information will be posted on the County of Santa Clara’s website at [www.sccgov.org](http://www.sccgov.org) under Board Agendas or contact the Office of the Clerk of the Board at (408) 299-5001.

### Review Period

The public review period for this document **begins March 9, 2017** and **ends March 29, 2017**. Public comments regarding the correctness, completeness, or adequacy of this Mitigated Negative Declaration are invited. Such comments should be **based on specific environmental concerns**. Written comments must be received on or before the close of the public review period and should be addressed to the **County of Santa Clara, Department of Parks and Recreation, Planning and Development Section, 298 Garden Hill Drive, Los Gatos, CA 95032, Tel (408) 355-2235**, attention **Antoinette Romeo, Senior Planner** or by email at **Antoinette.Romeo@prk.sccgov.org**. Oral comments may be made at the meeting.

A file containing additional information on this project and the full text of the Initial Study/Negative Declaration is available for review at the following locations:

- County of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department  
  298 Garden Hill Drive Los Gatos, CA 95032-7669

- County of Santa Clara Clerk Recorders Office  
  County Government Center, 70 West Hedding, E. Wing, 1st Floor  
  San Jose, CA 95110

- County of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department website  
  [www.parkhere.org](http://www.parkhere.org) under Plans and Projects

When requesting to view this file, please refer to the project title appearing at the top of this form.

### Responsible Agencies sent copy of this document

There are no responsible agencies for this project.
Basis for Negative Declaration Recommendation

The Planning and Development Section of the Department of Parks and Recreation has reviewed the initial study for the project and, based upon substantial evidence in the record, finds that the proposed project could not have a significant effect on the environment, or although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case since the mitigation measures have been incorporated into the project.

This finding is based on the following considerations (See Note below):

The proposed project is located in an existing County Park; all proposed Project activities will occur in areas that have been previously disturbed. The project involves improvements to the segment of the existing Los Gatos Creek Trail that runs through Vasona Lake County Park which has deteriorated due to erosion and heavy use; and improvements and reconstruction of the park’s deteriorated irrigation system.

A Biotic Review was conducted in September 2012 that included a field assessment of the existing biological resources in the project area, and an evaluation of habitat suitability for listed species and species of concern. The focus of the field assessment, additionally, was to identify existing conditions and sensitive biotic resources within the project area that may be affected by the proposed Project. The Biotic Review determined that:

- no special status plant species are considered to have the potential to occur in the project area, and
- no Federally listed wildlife species are known to occur in Vasona Park.
- Based on the Biotic Review, Vasona Lake could potentially support western pond turtle (Clemmys marmorata), a State species of special concern. However Vasona Lake and Los Gatos Creek were evaluated as poor habitat and the occurrence of the western pond turtle determined to be unlikely due to the lack of sufficient vegetative cover and high human use of the area.

The Initial Study prepared for the proposed Project and a review of the Project activities found that the Project would not have significant adverse environmental impacts. To further ensure that potential effects on the environment are avoided and minimized, Best Management Practices (BMP) and measures to avoid or minimize impacts to biotic resources or riparian woodlands and trees will be implemented. These are in addition to County construction BMP which are included in the project and construction documents to ensure that soil erosion, or siltation as a result of project implementation would be minimized; and best management practices for trail siting, trail construction, and trail maintenance included in the County’s Trails Master Plan and Uniform Interjurisdictional Trail Design, Use, and Management Guidelines which will be used to avoid or reduce impacts to natural resources and to sensitive receptors.

Vasona Lake County Park is part of the permit area for the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Communities Conservation Plan. A review of the Project for compliance with the Habitat Plan found:

- There are no known occurrences of habitat that could support plant species covered by the Habitat Plan.
- Western pond turtle (Clemmys marmorata), which is a species covered by the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Plan. Vasona Lake, however, was evaluated as poor habitat and therefore, are unlikely to occur in the project area and would not be affected by the proposed Project actions.
- The proposed Project would not have any impact on riparian habitat within the stream setback area.
- There are no mitigation measures required for compliance with the Habitat Plan.

Note: Those measures necessary to mitigate or avoid significant environmental effects are identified by an asterisk. A reporting or monitoring program must be adopted for measures to mitigate significant impacts at the time the Negative Declaration is approved, in accord with the requirements of Section 21081.6 of the Public Resources Code.

Prepared by:
Antoinette Romeo, Senior Planner
Santa Clara County Parks

Approved by:
Don Rocha, Deputy Director
Santa Clara County Parks
Los Gatos Creek Trail and Irrigation System Improvements Project in Vasona Lake County Park

Initial Study / Negative Declaration

Prepared by
County of Santa Clara
Parks and Recreation Department
Los Gatos, CA

March 8, 2017
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I - INTRODUCTION

1. Introduction and Regulatory Guidance

Vasona Lake County Park (Vasona Park) is one of the most popular and heavily used of the County of Santa Clara’s regional parks and recreation areas. Vasona Park includes picnic facilities; large turf areas; restrooms; a playground; paved parking areas; Los Gatos creek; Vasona Lake reservoir (Vasona Lake); and a network of trails, principal among these is Los Gatos Creek Trail. Los Gatos Creek Trail (Trail) is an approximately 13 mile regional trail roughly paralleling Los Gatos Creek originating in downtown San Jose and terminating at Lexington Reservoir County Park in the Santa Cruz mountain range. The Trail passes through multiple jurisdictions that manage and maintain the trail including the Cities of San Jose and Campbell, the Town of Los Gatos, and unincorporated portions of Santa Clara County. Los Gatos Creek Trail traverses Vasona Park, Los Gatos Creek County Park which lies to the north, and Lexington Reservoir County Park to the south. The Trail is identified as a regional trail route in the Santa Clara County Countywide Trails Masterplan Update (1995). Portions of the Trail are listed as a bicycle commuter route. Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for management and maintenance of the trail within County parkland including the approximately 7,000 linear foot long segment that lies within the limits of Vasona Lake County Park.

The County Board of Supervisors adopted the Countywide Trails Master Plan in 1995, and approved the Uniform Interjurisdictional Trail Design, Use, and Management Guidelines in 1999. Both of these documents establish the County Parks Departments best management practices for trail siting, trail construction, and trail maintenance and are incorporated into the proposed Project.

The proposed project (Project), Los Gatos Creek Trail and Irrigation System Improvements Project in Vasona Lake County Park, (also known in construction documents as the Los Gatos Creek Trail and Irrigation Reconstruction Project in Vasona Lake County Park) involves improvements to the segment of Los Gatos Creek Trail that runs through Vasona Lake County Park southerly along the east shore of Vasona Lake from Vasona Lake Dam to Blossom Hill Road. The Project also involves improvements and reconstruction of the Vasona Park’s deteriorated irrigation system. The project location and project description are expanded within the Project Description section of this document.

1.1. Lead Agency

The lead agency is the public agency with primary approval authority over the proposed Project. The County of Santa Clara, the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), §15051(b)(1), must evaluate the potential environmental effects/impacts of a project when considering whether to approve a project. This Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND) is a public document that provides the environmental review and assessment of potential environmental effects/impacts of the proposed Los Gatos Creek Trail and Irrigation System Improvements Project in Vasona Lake County Park (Project) as required by CEQA. This IS/ND has been prepared by the County of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department (County Parks) in accordance with CEQA, Public Resources Code section §21000 et seq., and the State CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 14, section §15000 et seq. and conforms to the content requirements under CEQA Guidelines §15071.

1.2. Decision to Prepare a Negative Declaration

An Initial Study is conducted by the lead agency to determine if the project may have significant effect on the environment (CEQA Guidelines §15063(a)). If there is substantial evidence that a project may have significant effects on the environment, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) must be prepared in accordance with CEQA Guidelines §15064(a). However, if the lead agency determines the impacts are to a less than significant level, a Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration may be prepared instead of an EIR (CEQA Guidelines

Los Gatos Creek Trail and Irrigation System improvements Project in Vasona Lake County Park Negative Declaration
March 8, 2017
The Initial Study completed for this project identified no potentially significant impacts/effects on the environment and therefore, a Negative Declaration has been prepared.

2. Public Review Process

The CEQA review process in intended to inform the public, government agencies, and responsible agencies about the potential environmental effects of the proposed Project and provide them with an opportunity to comment. There are no responsible agencies for this project as defined by CEQA §15381. The Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD) owns approximately 74 acres of Vasona Park which is leased to County Parks for parks purposes, is considered a local agency for the purposes of this project.

The recording and posting of the Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration (NOI) and this document (IS/ND) will commence the 20 day public review (circulation) period per CEQA Guidelines §15105(b). This IS/ND will also be circulated to local agencies, and the public who may wish to review and provide comments.

Written comments regarding the correctness, completeness, or adequacy of the Negative Declaration should be submitted to the name and address indicated below. Such comments should be based on specific environmental concerns and must be received on or before the close of the public review period.

Submittal of written comments via e-mail would greatly facilitate the response process.

Antoinette Romeo, Senior Planner
County of Santa Clara, Parks and Recreation Department
298 Garden Hill Drive
Los Gatos, CA 95032-7669
(408) 355-2235
Email: Antoinette.Romeo@prk.sccgov.org

The Initial Study/Negative Declaration is available for review at:

County of Santa Clara
Parks and Recreation Department
298 Garden Hill Drive
Los Gatos, CA 95032-7669

County of Santa Clara
Clerk Recorders Office
County Government Center
70 West Hedding, E. Wing, 1st Floor
San Jose, CA 95110

County of Santa Clara
Parks and Recreation Department website
www.parkhere.org under Plans and Projects
II - Project Location, and Surrounding Land Uses
The project site is located within Vasona Lake County Park, located in the Town of Los Gatos in the southwest portion of Santa Clara County. Vasona Lake County Park (Vasona Park) is an approximately 152 acre regional park owned by the County of Santa Clara and managed by the County of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department (County Parks). Prominent features of the park include large turf areas, picnic areas, paved roads and parking lots, trails, Los Gatos Creek and Vasona reservoir ("Lake"). Approximately 74 acres of land, encompassing the Lake and land along its shore, is owned by Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD), and leased to the County for park purposes. Vasona Park is bounded to the west by University Avenue, to the east by State Highway 17, to the north by Vasona Lake dam and residential properties, and to the south by Blossom Hill Road. Los Gatos Creek Trail (Trail) connects Vasona Park and Los Gatos Creek County Park located to the north in the neighboring City of Campbell. The park is in an urbanized setting, adjacent to the Town of Los Gatos’ Oak Meadow Park to the southwest, and the Los Gatos Creek Parkway to the north which connects to Los Gatos Creek County Park. Surrounding land uses include Oak Meadow Park, residential properties, office buildings and business complexes, and light industrial facilities. The main entrance to Vasona Park is located at 333 Blossom Hill Road. The County of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Administrative Offices are located at the north end of the park at 298 Garden Hill Drive. Los Gatos.

III - Project Description
The proposed Los Gatos Creek Trail and Irrigation System Improvements Project in Vasona Lake County Park, (also known in construction documents as the Los Gatos Creek Trail and Irrigation Reconstruction Project in Vasona Lake County Park) (Project) involves improvements to the segment of Los Gatos Creek Trail that runs through Vasona Park southerly along the east shore of Vasona Lake from Vasona Lake dam to Blossom Hill Road. The Project also involves improvements and reconstruction of the park’s irrigation system. The project will be undertaken in two phases; trail improvements in Phase One tentatively beginning July 2017, and irrigation system replacement in Phase Two tentatively beginning in September 2017. The Project will result in a net reduction of 15% of total managed and irrigated turf areas.

Proposed trail improvements consist of modifications to the existing paved trail, which involves reconstruction and resurfacing of existing paved trail (approximately 4,900 linear feet); improvements to existing unpaved trail segments, including paving of approximately 870 linear feet of existing dirt trail to prevent erosion; trail widening with the addition of soft shoulders where feasible; regrading to prevent erosion; and construction of approximately 3,000 linear feet of new realigned segments of Los Gatos Creek Trail. The new realigned trail will be constructed within existing managed turf or disturbed areas. Existing realigned trail segments will be retained as soft surface trail. Trail improvements are consistent with the Countywide Trails Master Plan and Uniform Interjurisdictional Trail Design, Use, and Management Guidelines.

The existing paved trail widths vary averaging eight feet with no soft shoulder, and, as a result of erosion, tree roots, volunteer paths along the edge, and heavy use, have deteriorated over time. The proposed paved trail will have a 10 foot wide hard surface (asphalt or concrete) with one-foot soft shoulders of unpaved aggregate surface, where feasible. The vast majority of trail will be multi-use, however the unpaved segments, including
the 870 linear foot paved trail will be pedestrian only. Segments of the existing trail will be realigned in order to facilitate faster moving bicycle traffic and in some locations, moved further away from Los Gatos Creek. The existing trail segments that are realigned will be retained as soft surface trail to accommodate use by slower moving foot traffic. In two sections, an existing k-rail wall will be replaced with an 18"-30" tall dry-stack concrete block wall totaling approximately 265 linear feet on the high side of the trail and concrete curb with railing on the low side totaling approximately 115 linear feet. The purpose of the walls is to widen the trail to standard widths without encroaching into the lakeshore, stabilize the trail bed, and prevent erosion.

Proposed improvements to the irrigation system consist of replacement and reconstruction of the entire irrigation system including new irrigation lines/pipes, valves and control system facilities and will result in a net reduction of approximately 15% of total managed and irrigated turf areas. The old irrigation system has deteriorated and is beyond repair. The project also involves relocations and replacement of a total of eight (8) old fire hydrants within the park. Five (5) of the fire hydrants are connected to the old irrigation water mains and are inadequate for fire protection. All fire hydrants will be connected to city water mains. Ground disturbance including approximately 471 linear feet of trenching will occur in order to lay the irrigation pipes, and install valves, pumps, and other irrigation equipment. All ground disturbances will be limited to the managed turf areas. Trenching will be backfilled, and all disturbed areas will be restored to previous condition and revegetated when the construction is completed.

IV - Environmental Setting and landscapes

Vasona Park is an urbanized landscaped park characterized by large areas of managed and irrigated turf, groves of trees most which edge the creek, Los Gatos Creek, and Vasona Lake. The most prevalent land cover type are areas of managed turf composed of non-native grasses. Other land cover features include picnic areas with gravel, paved or compacted dirt surfaces; paved parking lots; trails, the majority of which are paved; and native and non-native tree groves. Vasona Lake is a man made reservoir used for percolation into the underlying aquifer. Trails within Vasona Park are hard surfaced paved trails which predominate and include Los Gatos Creek Trail, and soft surface trails of compacted dirt or gravel. Trail grades are relatively flat throughout. Trail widths vary, averaging eight feet with no soft shoulder. A biotic review of the project area completed in 2012 noted that the project area is largely disturbed and consists of four primary plant communities. They include riparian woodland, freshwater marsh, ruderal/disturbed developed areas, and upland landscaping. The Los Gatos Creek corridor supports riparian woodland. The riparian woodland found along the edges of the creek and lake are of native and non-native tree species with an understory of native and non-native species which predominate. Native tree species include oak, sycamore, bay, and coast redwood. Non-native tree species include acacia, weeping willow, walnut, juniper, pine and eucalyptus. Patches of freshwater marsh is limited to the lake’s edge. Ruderal developed areas are largely disturbed areas that support non-native weedy plants as well as turf fields composed of non-native plant species; paved parking areas, paved roads, trails, areas of bare ground and non-native weedy plants, and upland turf fields. Upland landscaping includes the picnic areas, upland turf fields, and areas along the lakeshore which have been landscaped with native and non-native plant species. There are also dense groves of eucalyptus and other non-native trees and shrubs.

1. Biotic resources and special status species

A review of pertinent literature, and-Federal and State regulations for listed species and species of concern was conducted in addition to a search of the California Native Plant Society inventory (CNPS) and California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) for the Los Gatos and surrounding 7.5' quadrangle. A Biotic Review was conducted in September 2012 that included a field assessment of the existing biological resources in the project area, and an evaluation of habitat suitability for listed species and species of concern. The focus of the field assessment, additionally, was to identify existing conditions and sensitive biotic resources within the
project area that may be affected by the proposed Project. The following summarizes the findings of the Biotic Review.

**Sensitive Habitats**

The Biotic Review completed in 2012 found that the riparian woodland and freshwater marsh wetlands in the project area are considered sensitive habitats under Federal, State and/or local policies and regulations. The biotic survey identified areas of riparian woodland at various locations adjacent to Los Gatos Creek and Vasona Lake; however, no removal of riparian vegetation is proposed for the project. Patches of freshwater marsh wetland are limited to the lake edge. The proposed Project focuses on the trail segments, which are outside of the wetted perimeter of Vasona Lake, and would not impact any existing aquatic vegetation.

**Special status plant species**

Plant species of concern include those listed by either the Federal or State resource agencies as well as those identified as rare by the CNPS and identified in the CNDDB. Based on review of regulations and literature, the biotic review determined that no special status plant species are considered to have the potential to occur in the project area.

**Special status wildlife species**

Special status wildlife species include those listed, or proposed or considered for listing as threatened or endangered as well as those identified as State species of concern. The biotic review evaluated special status wildlife species for their potential to occur in the project area. No Federally listed wildlife species are known to occur in Vasona Park. Based on the biotic review, Vasona Lake could potentially support western pond turtle (*Clemmys marmorata*), a State species of special concern. However Vasona Lake and Los Gatos Creek were evaluated as poor habitat and the occurrence of the western pond turtle determined to be unlikely due to the lack of sufficient vegetative cover and high human use of the area.

**Wildlife species - Nesting Birds and Raptors**

Vasona Park landscapes support several bird species many which may nest or breed within the park. Vegetation in the project area provides suitable foraging and nesting opportunities for bird species protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. In addition, all raptor nests are protected by the State Fish and Game Code. Bird species include hawks, herons, egrets, cormorants, Canada geese and other waterfowl, and passerine bird species. A heron rookery exists in a grove of trees located along the creek in the southern part of the park. There is a moderate to high probability that nesting birds, including raptors, could occur in and/or adjacent to the proposed Project area during the breeding bird season which for most species, is February 1 to August 31 and February 1 – July 31 for raptors. Human disturbance, such as proximity to the nest, excessive noise around the nest, and loss of foraging grounds, may lead to nest failure.

2. **Best Management Practices to avoid or minimize impacts to biotic resources**

The following Best Management Practices (BMP) will be implemented to avoid or minimize any significant effects on biotic resources as a result of the proposed Project. These are in addition to County construction BMP which are included in the project and construction documents and the best management practices for trail siting, trail construction, and trail maintenance included in the County’s *Trails Master Plan and Uniform Interjurisdictional Trail Design, Use, and Management Guidelines* that will be used to avoid or reduce impacts to natural resources and to sensitive receptors.

A. Project construction activities should not begin prior to July 1. The project will be undertaken in two phases, trail improvements in Phase One tentatively beginning July 2017, and irrigation system replacement in Phase Two tentatively beginning in September 2017.
B. To avoid or minimize potential impacts to nesting birds and particularly to raptors and to the existing heron nesting site, a qualified biologist or County natural resource staff will conduct preconstruction surveys for breeding/nesting birds at least five days prior to the start of construction activities. If active nests are detected, a buffer zone shall be established by placement of visible fencing or flagging. The buffer shall be at least 50-feet wide. California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) generally accepts a 50-foot radius buffer around passerine and non-passerine land bird nests, and up to a 250-foot radius for raptors; however, County natural resource staff or biologist shall have flexibility to reduce or expand the buffer depending on the specific circumstances. No construction activities shall occur within the buffer zone until the biologist or County natural resource staff has confirmed that all young have fledged the nest. In addition, in order to minimize potential impacts to the heron rookery, Phase One construction activities would start at the northern end of the project area or furthest distance away from the rookery.

3. Measures to avoid or minimize impacts to riparian woodlands and trees
The proposed Project will occur within riparian woodland along Los Gatos Creek and along the shore of Vasona Lake. The following measures will be implemented to protect riparian trees that are adjacent to construction activities:
A. Barricades should be placed around tree trunks (tree protection zone) prior to site grubbing, grading, or water line trenching prevent injury to trees which make them susceptible to disease.
B. When working within the dripline of trees, work should be done carefully and preferably under the observation of an arborist or qualified County natural resource staff. Any root pruning required for construction purposes should receive prior approval.
C. Trail construction activities are likely to occur within the dripline of several trees and work may require minor limbing or pruning of trees for construction clearances.
Knowledgeable maintenance staff under the direction of a qualified arborist or County natural resource staff, should undertake the pruning. All pruning should be done in accordance with the best management practices for tree pruning and other vegetation in accordance with the International Society of Arboriculture and adhere to the Santa Clara County Tree Preservation and Removal Ordinance.
D. Three trees, one oak and two eucalyptus, may need to be removed, however, these trees are not considered protected under Santa Clara County Tree Preservation and Removal Ordinance. Trees with a diameter at breast height (DBH) of greater than 12" or greater than 20' tall are considered protected per Santa Clara County Tree Preservation and Removal Ordinance. Should trees considered protected need to be removed, they will be replaced at a 1:1 ratio if they are non-native and 3:1 ratio if they are native.

V - Santa Clara Valley Habitat Plan/ Natural Communities Conservation Plan
Vasona Lake County Park is part of the permit area for the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Communities Conservation Plan. The entire park is designated as either Golf Courses/Urban Parks or Pond land cover types. Based on a biotic review completed in 2012, Vasona Lake could potentially support western pond turtle (Clemmys marmorata), which is a species covered by the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Plan (Habitat Plan). Vasona Lake, however, was evaluated as poor habitat due to the lack of vegetative cover and the frequent daytime use by pedestrians, bicyclists, and dogs on leash. Western pond turtle use upland areas to nest. Land disturbance under the proposed Project is limited to the existing Los Gatos Creek Trail and non-native landscaping typically associated with urban parks (e.g., turf, non-native tree groves, etc.). Western pond turtles would not be affected by the proposed action.
There are no known occurrences of habitat that could support plant species covered by the Habitat Plan.
The Habitat Plan identifies stream and stream setbacks to protect stream corridors and riparian habitat throughout the permit area. In Vasona Lake County Park, a stream setback of 200 feet from the top of the
streambank was identified for Los Gatos Creek. Where Los Gatos Creek is part of Vasona Lake, the setback was measured from the historic channel. Less than 100 feet of the existing Los Gatos Creek Trail would fall within the stream setback. Construction activities would be limited to resurfacing the existing trail and improving any drainage issues. The biotic survey identified some areas of riparian woodland at various locations adjacent to Los Gatos Creek and Vasona Lake, but no removal of riparian vegetation is proposed for the project. The proposed Project would not have any impact on riparian habitat within the stream setback area.

There are no mitigation measures required for compliance with the Habitat Plan. As part of the Habitat Plan reporting process for public projects, the proposed Project will be evaluated and permanent and temporary impacts associated with the trail realignment will be submitted to the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Agency prior to implementation.
INITIAL STUDY
Environmental Evaluation Checklist for Santa Clara County

Project Title: Los Gatos Creek Trail and Irrigation System Improvements Project in Vasona Lake County Park

Date: March 8, 2017

File Number: Not Applicable

APN(s): 424-26-008, 424-26-001, 424-26-009, 529-12-002, 529-12-022, 529-12-018

500" Map #: 126

Zoning: Resource Conservation (Town of Los Gatos Zoning)

General Plan Designation: Open Space (Los Gatos), Regional Park, existing (County)

Project Type: Park Improvements

USA (if any): Los Gatos

Lead Agency Name & Address: County of Santa Clara
298 Garden Hill Drive, Los Gatos, CA 95032-7669

Applicant Name & Address: County of Santa Clara, Parks and Recreation Department
298 Garden Hill Drive, Los Gatos, CA 95032-7669

Owner Name & Address: County of Santa Clara, Parks and Recreation Department
298 Garden Hill Drive, Los Gatos, CA 95032-7669

Telephone: (408) 355-2200

Project Location and Surrounding Land Uses:
The project site is located within Vasona Lake County Park, located in the Town of Los Gatos in the southwest portion of Santa Clara County. Vasona Lake County Park (Vasona Park) is an approximately 152 acre regional park owned by the County of Santa Clara and managed by the County of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department (County Parks). Prominent features of the park include large turf areas, picnic areas, paved roads and parking lots, trails, Los Gatos Creek and Vasona reservoir ("Lake"). Approximately 74 acres of land, encompassing the Lake and land along its shore, is owned by Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD), and leased to the County for park purposes. Vasona Park is bounded to the west by University Avenue, to the east by State Highway 17, to the north by Vasona Lake dam and residential properties, and to the south by Blossom Hill Road. Los Gatos Creek Trail (Trail) connects Vasona Park and Los Gatos Creek County Park located to the north in the neighboring City of Campbell. The park is in an urbanized setting, adjacent to the Town of Los Gatos’ Oak Meadow Park to the southwest, and the Los Gatos Creek Parkway to the north which connects to Los Gatos Creek County Park. Surrounding land uses include Oak Meadow Park, residential properties, office buildings and business complexes, and light industrial facilities. The main entrance to Vasona Park is located at 333 Blossom Hill Road. The County of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Administrative Offices are located at the north end of the park at 298 Garden Hill Drive. Los Gatos.
Project Description:
The proposed Los Gatos Creek Trail and Irrigation System Improvements Project in Vasona Lake County Park, (also known in construction documents as the Los Gatos Creek Trail and Irrigation Reconstruction Project in Vasona Lake County Park) [Project] involves improvements to the segment of Los Gatos Creek Trail that runs through Vasona Park southerly along the east shore of Vasona Lake from Vasona Lake dam to Blossom Hill Road. The Project also involves improvements and reconstruction of the park’s irrigation system. The project will be undertaken in two phases; trail improvements in Phase One tentatively beginning July 2017, and irrigation system replacement in Phase Two tentatively beginning in September 2017. The Project will result in a net reduction of 15% of total managed and irrigated turf areas.

Proposed trail improvements consist of modifications to the existing paved trail, which involves reconstruction and resurfacing of existing paved trail (approximately 4,900 linear feet); improvements to existing unpaved trail segments, including paving of approximately 870 linear feet of existing dirt trail to prevent erosion; trail widening with the addition of soft shoulders where feasible; regrading to prevent erosion; and construction of approximately 3,000 linear feet of new realigned segments of Los Gatos Creek Trail. The new realigned trail will be constructed within existing managed turf or disturbed areas. Existing realigned trail segments will be retained as soft surface trail. Trail improvements are consistent with the Countywide Trails Master Plan and Uniform Interjurisdictional Trail Design, Use, and Management Guidelines.

The existing paved trail widths vary averaging eight feet with no soft shoulder, and as a result of erosion, tree roots, volunteer paths along the edge, and heavy use, have deteriorated. The proposed paved trail will have a 10-foot wide hard surface (asphalt or concrete) with one-foot soft shoulders of unpaved aggregate surface, where feasible. The vast majority of trail will be multi-use, however, the unpaved segments including the 870 linear foot paved trail will be pedestrian only. Segments of the existing trail will be realigned in order to facilitate faster moving bicycle traffic, and in some locations, move the trail further away from Los Gatos Creek. The existing trail segments which are realigned will be retained as soft surface trail to accommodate use by slower moving foot traffic. In two sections, an existing k-rail wall will be replaced with an 18”-30” tall dry-stack concrete block wall totaling approximately 265 linear feet on the high side of the trail and concrete curb with railing on the low side totaling approximately 115 linear feet. The purpose of the walls is to widen the trail to standard widths without encroaching into the lakeshore, stabilize the trail bed, and prevent erosion.

Proposed improvements to the irrigation system consist of replacement and reconstruction of the entire irrigation system including new irrigation lines/pipes, valves and control system facilities and will result in a net reduction of approximately 15% of total managed and irrigated turf areas. The old irrigation system has deteriorated and is beyond repair. The Project also involves relocations and replacement of eight (8) old fire hydrants within the park. Five (5) of the fire hydrants are connected to the old irrigation water mains and are inadequate for fire protection. All fire hydrants will be connected to city water mains. Ground disturbance including approximately 471 linear feet of trenching will occur in order to lay the irrigation pipes, and install valves, pumps, and other irrigation equipment. All ground disturbances will be limited to the managed turf areas. Trenching will be backfilled, and all disturbed areas will be restored to previous condition and revegetated when the construction is completed.

Environmental Setting and Landscapes
Vasona Park is an urbanized landscaped park characterized by large areas of managed and irrigated turf, groves of trees most which edge the creek, Los Gatos Creek, and Vasona Lake. The most prevalent land cover type are areas of managed turf composed of non-native grasses. Other land cover features include picnic areas with gravel, paved or compacted dirt surfaces; paved parking lots; trails, the majority of which are paved; and native and non-native tree groves. Vasona Lake is a man made reservoir used for percolation into the underlying aquifer. Trails within Vasona Park are hard surfaced paved trails which predominate and include Los
Gatos Creek Trail; and soft surface trails of compacted dirt or gravel. Trail grades are relatively flat throughout. Trail widths vary averaging eight feet with no soft shoulder. A biotic review of the project area completed in 2012 noted that the project area is largely disturbed and consists of four primary plant communities; including riparian woodland, freshwater marsh, ruderal/disturbed developed areas, and upland landscaping. The Los Gatos Creek corridor supports riparian woodland. The riparian woodland found along the edges of the creek and lake are of native and non-native tree species with an understory of native and non-native species which predominate. Native tree species include oak, sycamore, bay, and coast redwood. Non-native tree species include acacia, weeping willow, walnut, juniper, pine and eucalyptus. Patches of freshwater marsh are limited to the lake’s edge. Ruderal developed areas are largely disturbed areas that support non-native weedy plants as well as turf fields composed of non-native plant species; paved parking areas, paved roads, trails, areas of bare ground and non-native weedy plants, and upland turf fields. Upland landscaping includes the picnic areas, upland turf fields, and areas along the lakeshore, which have been landscaped with native and non-native plant species. There are also dense groves of eucalyptus and other non-native trees and shrubs.

Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement): None. Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD), which owns approximately 74 acres of Vasona Lake County Park which is leased to County Parks for parks purposes, and is considered a local agency for the purposes of this project. Under the agreement, an encroachment permit will be sought for portions of the project within SCVWD property.
The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

**ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED**

- [ ] Aesthetics
- [ ] Agriculture and Forestry Resources
- [ ] Air Quality
- [X] Biological Resources
- [ ] Cultural / Historical / Archaeological Resources
- [ ] Energy
- [ ] Geology / Soils
- [ ] Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- [ ] Hazards & Hazardous Materials
- [X] Hydrology / Water Quality
- [ ] Land Use & Planning
- [ ] Mineral Resources
- [ ] Noise
- [ ] Population / Housing
- [ ] Public Services / Utilities
- [ ] Recreation
- [ ] Transportation / Traffic
- [ ] Mandatory Findings of Significance

**ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST AND DISCUSSION OF IMPACTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A. AESTHETICS</th>
<th>IMPACT</th>
<th>SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WOULD THE PROJECT:</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No Impact</td>
<td>Less Than Significant Impact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. If subject to ASA, be generally in non-compliance with the Guidelines for Architecture and Site Approval?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Create an aesthetically offensive site open to public view?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Substantially damage scenic resources, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Obstruct scenic views from existing residential areas, public lands, public water body or roads?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Be located on or near a ridgeline visible from the valley floor?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Adversely affect the architectural appearance of an established neighborhood?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DISCUSSION:**
The proposed project consists of improvements to an existing trail and irrigation system within an existing County park in an urbanized setting. The project will have no impacts to the aesthetics.
1. The Proposed Project is not subject to ASA. No Impact
2. The Proposed Project would result in no impact on public views. No Impact
3. There are no State-designated scenic highways in the vicinity of the park. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not cause damage to scenic resources within a state scenic highway. No Impact
4. The Proposed Project would not obstruct scenic views from residential or public facilities. The project involves improvements to existing park facilities would not obstruct scenic views. No Impact
5. The Proposed Project is not located on or near a ridgeline. No Impact
6. The Proposed Project would not adversely affect the architectural appearance of an established neighborhood as the Proposed Project would be consistent with park boundaries and recreational uses identified in the Approved Project. No Impact
7. The Proposed Project does not include any lighting on the trail or any new source of substantial light or glare that would affect views in the area. No Impact

MITIGATION: None

### B. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES

In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project, and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WOULD THE PROJECT:</th>
<th>NO Impact</th>
<th>Less Than Significant Impact</th>
<th>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</th>
<th>Potentially Significant Impact</th>
<th>Cumulative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>3,20, 21, 23, 24, 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>9, 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Conflict with an existing Williamson Act Contract or the County's Williamson Act Ordinance?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>1, 49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>3, 4, 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526) or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>5, 33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6. Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use? ☒ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 33

DISCUSSION:
The Proposed Project would not change any of the existing land uses. The Proposed Project is within an existing County Park in an urbanized setting and is consistent with the Town of Los Gatos zoning. There would be no conversions of land designated for agricultural use or forest land. No Impact.

MITIGATION: None

C. AIR QUALITY
Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPACT</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>YES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Source</td>
<td>No Impact</td>
<td>Less Than Significant Impact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Violate any ambient air quality standard, contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☒</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Create objectionable dust or odors affecting a substantial number of people?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☒</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Alter air movement, moisture, or temperature, or cause any change in climate?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DISCUSSION:
The project site is located within the San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin. The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) is the local agency authorized to regulate stationary air quality sources in the Bay Area. The Federal Clean Air Act and the California Clean Air Act mandate the control and reduction of specific air pollutants. Under these Acts, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the California Air Resources Board have established ambient air quality standards for specific "criteria" pollutants, designed to protect public health and welfare. Primary criteria pollutants include carbon monoxide (CO), reactive organic gases (ROG), nitrogen oxides (NOX), particulate matter (PM10), sulfur dioxide (SO2), and lead (Pb). Secondary criteria pollutants include ozone (O3), and fine particulate matter.

Air quality in the region is controlled by the rate of pollutant emissions and meteorological conditions.
Meteorological conditions such as wind speed, atmospheric stability, and mixing height may all affect the atmosphere’s ability to mix and disperse pollutants. Long-term variations in air quality typically result from changes in air pollutant emissions, while frequent, short-term variations result from changes in atmospheric conditions. The San Francisco Bay Area is considered to be one of the cleanest metropolitan areas in the country with respect to air quality. BAAQMD monitors air quality conditions at more than 30 locations throughout the Bay Area. The Air District has adopted several plans in an attempt to achieve state and federal air quality standards. The most recent plan is the Bay Area 2010 Clean Air Plan, finalized in September 2010. Sensitive receptors consist of groups of people more affected by air pollution than others. Sensitive air quality receptors (segments of the population susceptible to adverse effects of poor air quality) near the Proposed Project are surrounding residences and park users.

The Proposed Project would generate emissions during construction from dust and operation of construction equipment. However, the impacts would be short term and temporary. Implementation of the County’s construction BMPs that are included in the project construction documents would reduce potential impacts to less than significant. These BMPs are in accordance with BAAQMD’s Basic Construction Mitigation Measures Recommended for All Proposed Projects.

1. The Proposed Project would not conflict with the applicable air quality plan or implementation of control measures contained in the Bay Area 2010 Clean Air Plan. **No Impact**

2. The Proposed Project would not violate any ambient air quality standard, or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation. **No Impact**

3. The Bay Area is considered a non-attainment area for ground-level ozone and fine particulate matter (PM2.5) and for PM10. The area has attained both State and Federal ambient air quality standards for carbon monoxide. The short-term construction related activities would be minor and would not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment. **No Impact**

4. Construction activities for the proposed Project could result in short-term air quality impacts generated primarily by particulates (i.e., dust). Construction-related impacts will be intermittent and temporary and would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. Construction related dust and diesel emissions will be minor and will not exceed the BAAQMD significance thresholds. Project and construction BMPs would be included in the project design and construction documents and implemented during construction would ensure that the proposed project impacts would be less than significant. **Less than significant Impact**

5. During construction, the various diesel-powered vehicles and equipment in use onsite may create localized dust and odors. Construction related activities these activities would be intermittent and temporary and with implementation of construction BMPs these impacts would be less than significant. In addition, park users will be blocked from construction areas and trail users will be provided with detours which will minimize the impact and the number of people potentially affected. **Less than significant Impact**

6. The proposed Project would not alter air movement, moisture, or temperature, or cause any change in climate. **No Impact**

**MITIGATION: None**

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Los Gatos Creek Trail and Irrigation System improvements Project in Vasona Lake County Park Negative Declaration

March 8, 2017
## D. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WOULD THE PROJECT:</th>
<th>IMPACT</th>
<th>SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Less Than Significant Impact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☒</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) or tributary to an already impaired water body, as defined by section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Have a substantial adverse effect on oak woodland habitat as defined by Oak Woodlands Conservation Law (conversion/loss of oak woodlands) – Public Resource Code 21083.4?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional or state habitat conservation plan?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☒</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Impact a local natural community, such as a fresh water marsh, oak forest or salt water tide land?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☒</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Impact a watercourse, aquatic, wetland, or riparian area or habitat?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☒</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Adversely impact unique or heritage trees or a large number of trees over 12” in diameter?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☒</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Tree Preservation Ordinance?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Wetland Habitat?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii) Riparian Habitat?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DISCUSSION:

A review of pertinent literature, and Federal and State regulations for listed species and species of concern was conducted in addition to a search of the California Native Plant Society inventory (CNPS) and California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) for the Los Gatos and surrounding 7.5' quadrangle.

A Biotic Review was conducted in September 2012 that included a field assessment of the biological resources and existing conditions, and an evaluation of habitat suitability for listed species and sensitive biotic resources within the project area that may be affected by the proposed Project.

1. Based on a search of the CNPS, CNDDB, Federal and State regulations, and the field assessment conducted as part of the Biotic Review, no special status plant or animal species were considered to have the potential to occur in the project area. The Biotic Review found that the area may be suitable for the western pond turtle, a State species of special concern, however, the assessment found that the project area provides poor habitat due to the lack of sufficient vegetative cover for the species and the frequent daytime use by pedestrians, bicyclists, and dogs on leash. As a result, use of the project area by the turtles is unlikely. **No Impact**

2. The Biotic Review identified areas of riparian woodland at various locations adjacent to Los Gatos Creek and Vasona Lake, and segments of the existing trail is within areas of riparian woodland habitat. However, the Proposed Project would not have any impact on riparian habitat within the stream setback area and no removal of riparian vegetation is proposed for the project. The Biotic Review identified patches of freshwater marsh wetland which are limited to the lake edge. The proposed Project focuses on the trail segments, which are outside of the wetted perimeter of Vasona Lake, and would not impact any existing aquatic vegetation. In addition, BMP are included in the Project to avoid or minimize impacts to biotic resources. Potential impacts are considered **Less than significant Impact**

3. The proposed Project is not in federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The proposed Project is not within the creek bank, or the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) as defined by Section 404 of the Clean water Act of the creek or Vasona lake, and is outside of the wetted perimeter of Vasona Lake. Therefore, the proposed project will have no impacts on wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. **No Impact**

4. The proposed Project area does not contain oak woodland habitat as defined by Oak Woodlands Conservation Law. **No Impact**

5. The proposed Project would not substantially Interfere with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites. **No Impact**

6. Vasona Park is part of the permit area for the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Communities Conservation Plan. The entire park is designated as either Golf Courses/Urban Parks or Pond land cover types. There are no mitigation measures or best management practices required for compliance with conditions of the Habitat Plan. **Less than significant Impact**

7. The Biotic Review identified patches of freshwater marsh wetland which are limited to the lake edge. The proposed Project focuses on the trail segments, which are outside of the wetted perimeter of Vasona Lake, and would not impact any existing aquatic vegetation. **Less than significant Impact**

8. The proposed Project would not impact a watercourse, aquatic, or wetland, habitat. The Biotic Review identified areas of riparian woodland at various locations adjacent to Los Gatos Creek and Vasona Lake, and segments of the existing trail are within areas of riparian woodland habitat, however, the proposed Project would not have any impact on riparian habitat within the stream setback area and no removal of riparian vegetation is proposed for the project. The Biotic Review identified patches of freshwater marsh wetland which are limited to the lake edge. The proposed Project focuses on the trail segments, which are...
outside of the wetted perimeter of Vasona Lake, and would not impact existing aquatic vegetation. **Less than significant Impact**

9. The proposed Project would not impact unique or heritage trees or a large number of trees over 12” in diameter. There are no heritage trees located in the project area. Three trees, one oak and two eucalyptus, may need to be removed, however, none of the trees are considered unique or protected. **No impact**

10. The proposed Project would not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources. See discussion under 2, 3, 7, 8, 9. **No impact**

Based on a Biotic Review completed in 2012, Vasona Lake could potentially support western pond turtle (*Clemmys marmorata*), which is a species covered by the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Plan (Habitat Plan). Vasona Lake, however, was evaluated as poor habitat due to the lack of vegetative cover and the frequent daytime use by pedestrians, bicyclists, and dogs on leash. Western pond turtle use upland areas to nest. Land disturbance under the proposed Project is limited to the existing Trail and non-native landscaping typically associated with urban parks (e.g., turf, non-native tree groves, etc.). Western pond turtles would not be affected by the proposed action.

There are no known occurrences of habitat that could support plant species covered by the Habitat Plan.

The Habitat Plan identifies stream and stream setbacks to protect stream corridors and riparian habitat throughout the permit area. In Vasona Lake County Park, a stream setback of 200 feet from the top of the streambank was identified for Los Gatos Creek. Where Los Gatos Creek is part of Vasona Lake, the setback was measured from the historic channel. Less than 100 feet of the existing Los Gatos Creek Trail would fall within the stream setback. Construction activities would be limited to resurfacing the existing trail and improving any drainage issues. The Biotic Review identified some areas of riparian woodland at various locations adjacent to Los Gatos Creek and Vasona Lake, but no removal of riparian vegetation is proposed for the Project. The proposed Project would not have any impact on riparian habitat within the stream setback area.

**MITIGATION: None**

### E. CULTURAL/ HISTORICAL/ ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WOULD THE PROJECT:</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>YES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Impacts</td>
<td>Source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines, or the County’s Historic Preservation Ordinance (i.e. relocation, alterations or demolition of historic resources)?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource as defined in §15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Be located in a Historic District (e.g., New Almaden Historic District)?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. Disturb a historic resource or cause a physical change which would affect unique ethnic cultural values or restrict existing religious or sacred uses within the potential impact area? 
6. Disturb potential archaeological resources? 
7. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

**DISCUSSION:**

Vasona Park is a highly developed park in an urbanized setting, and there are no known historic resources in the park. The proposed Project involves improvements to the existing paved Los Gatos Creek Trail and replacement of the deteriorated irrigation system. All proposed Project activities will occur in areas that have been previously disturbed. Based on the existing conditions and project area, it is unlikely that project activities will disturb historic or cultural resources.

1. Vasona Park does not contain any historic resources. **No Impact**
2. There are no known archaeological resources within the proposed project area or Vasona Park **No Impact**
3. The proposed Project activities will occur in previously disturbed areas and are not expected to encounter human remains. In the unlikely event that human remains are discovered during ground disturbing activities, the following measures will be incorporated into the Project specifications and the following procedures shall be followed. **No Impact**

Pursuant to Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code of the State of California and in accordance with County Ordinance (Ordinance NS-508.2, § 3, 10-7-75; Ord. No. NS-508.3, § 1, 8-11-87 Sections B6-16 through 23. Section B6-18), in the event human remains, including skeletal remains, graves, or Native American burial sites or graves, are discovered, all work in the area shall immediately cease and there shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or area in the vicinity of the discovery.

The Santa Clara County Medical Examiner/Coroner shall be notified (County Ordinance No. B6-18) and shall make a determination as to whether the remains are Native American. If the County Coroner determines that the remains are or maybe of a Native American, the Coroner shall contact the California Native American Heritage Commission pursuant to subdivision (c) of the State Health and Safety Code. The Native American Heritage Commission has various powers and duties to provide for the ultimate disposition of Native American remains. If the County Coroner determines that the remains are not those of a Native American, the Coroner would make recommendations for the treatment and disposition of the remains.

4. Vasona Park is not located in a Historic District. **No Impact**
5. There are no unique paleontological resources or sites within the project area. There are no unique geologic features in the project area. **No Impact**
6. Proposed Project activities will occur in previously disturbed areas and it is unlikely that any unknown archaeological resources will be disturbed. In the unlikely event that unknown archaeological resources are discovered during ground disturbing activities, measures outlined in the Parks and Recreation Departments’ policy “Protection of Cultural and Archaeological Resources in County Parks” would be followed. **No Impact**
7. The project site is not located in an area of any known or recorded paleontological resources or unique geologic features and no impact to such resources is anticipated. **No Impact**

Los Gatos Creek Trail and Irrigation System improvements Project in Vasona Lake County Park Negative Declaration
March 8, 2017
Page 18
MITIGATION: None

DISCUSSION:
Proposed Project activities consist of improvements to existing trails and irrigation systems and will occur in previously disturbed areas. There are no buildings in the project area and the site is not suitable for solar access. Project activities will not use non-renewable resources nor involve the removal of vegetation capable of providing summer shade. **No Impact**

MITIGATION: None

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**F. ENERGY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WOULD THE PROJECT:</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>IMPACT</th>
<th>SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No Impact</td>
<td>Less Than Significant Impact</td>
<td>Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated</td>
<td>Potentially Significant Impact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Use non-renewable resources in large quantities or in a wasteful manner?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Involve the removal of vegetation capable of providing summer shade to a building or significantly affect solar access to adjacent property?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**G. GEOLOGY AND SOILS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WOULD THE PROJECT:</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>IMPACT</th>
<th>SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No Impact</td>
<td>Less Than Significant Impact</td>
<td>Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated</td>
<td>Potentially Significant Impact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>iv) Landslides?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Result in substantial soil erosion or siltation or the loss of topsoil?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, collapse, shrink/swell potential, soil creep or serve erosion?  
4. Be located on expansive soil, as defined in the report, Soils of Santa Clara County or California Building Code, creating substantial risks to life or property?  
5. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?  
6. Cause substantial compaction or over-covering of soil either on-site or off-site?  
7. Cause substantial change in topography or unstable soil conditions from excavation, grading, or fill?  
8. Be located in an area designated as having a potential for major geological hazard?  
9. Be located on, or adjacent to a known earthquake fault?  
10. Be located in a Geologic Study Zone?  
11. Involve construction of a building, road or septic system on a slope of:
   a. 30% or greater?  
   b. 20% to 30%?  
   c. 10% to 20%?  

<p>| | | | | | | |</p>
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**DISCUSSION:**

Vasona Lake County Park (Vasona Park) and the lake was constructed on an existing quarry site. The lake itself is a man made reservoir used for percolation into the underlying aquifer. The proposed Project involves improvements to the existing trail and irrigation system in previously disturbed areas. The park has a rather flat topography, predominantly less than 2% slope and has granular well drained soils. The soils are identified as urban disturbed land- Flaskin complex which has been human transported. Due to the proximity to the lake, and Los Gatos Creek, and because of the soils, the park is subject to flooding and the soils to liquefaction. A known earthquake fault, the Shannon fault, runs perpendicular to and to the north of the dam and park boundary. Two minor unnamed faults, also running perpendicular to the park, travers through the middle and south end of the park. Of these, only the fault which runs through the middle of the park transects a small segment of the project area, specifically a segment of the existing Los Gatos Creek Trail.

1. The proposed Project is not located in a seismically active area active, however park users would be exposed to seismic and earthquake related hazards. In the event of a major earthquake, a number of potential impacts could happen region-wide, including seismic ground shaking, damage to structures, rupture of utilities, and earthquake induced-flooding and landslides. Park users may be exposed to potential impacts, but seismic events are impossible to predict and impact large areas. The proposed Project involves improvements to existing facilities and park users would not be exposed to an increased level of danger in the event of an earthquake. The impact is considered to be **less than significant impact**

2. The proposed Project would not result in substantial soil erosion or siltation or the loss of topsoil. Construction BMPs incorporated into the Project design and construction documents would ensure that soil erosion, siltation or the loss of topsoil as a result of project implementation would be minimized. In
addition, to minimize the mobilization of sediment to creeks and other water bodies erosion- and sediment-control measures would be included in a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) prepared for the project after final design. The trail would be designed in accordance with the Countywide Trails Master Plan Design and Management Guidelines. In addition, segments of the compacted dirt trail will be paved to prevent erosion and siltation due to flooding or heavy use. Implementation of these measures would ensure that the proposed Project effects would be less than significant. Less than significant impact

3. The proposed Project area is not on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project. No Impact

4. The proposed Project is not located on expansive soil, as defined in the report, Soils of Santa Clara County or California Building Code. No Impact

5. The proposed Project does not include septic tanks or waste water disposal systems. No Impact

6. The proposed Project would not cause substantial compaction or over-covering of soil either on-site or off-site. No Impact

7. The proposed Project involves improvements to existing trails and irrigation systems would not change the area’s topography and is not located in areas with unstable soil conditions. Therefore, implementation of the Project would not cause substantial change in topography or unstable soil conditions from excavation, grading, or fill. No Impact

8. The proposed Project is not located in an area designated as having a potential for major geological hazard, however, park user would be exposed to seismic and earthquake related hazards, which have been described under Item 1. No Impact

9. The proposed Project is not located on a known earthquake fault. A minor fault runs perpendicular and through the midsection of Vasona Park and a portion of the proposed Project is located in the same area. Park users would be exposed to seismic and earthquake related hazards, which have been described under Item 1; however, park users would not be exposed to an increased level of danger in the event of an earthquake. The impact is considered less than significant impact

10. The proposed Project is not located in a Geologic Study Zone. No Impact

11. The proposed Project does not involve the construction of a building, road, or septic system. No Impact.

MITIGATION: None

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>H. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS</th>
<th>IMPACT</th>
<th>SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WOULD THE PROJECT:</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No Impact</td>
<td>Less Than Significant Impact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment.</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☒</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DISCUSSION:

The project site is located within the San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin. The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) is the local agency authorized to regulate stationary air quality sources in the Bay Area. The Federal Clean Air Act and the California Clean Air Act mandate the control and reduction of specific air pollutants. Under these Acts, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the California Air Resources Board have established ambient air quality standards for specific "criteria" pollutants, designed to protect public health and welfare. Primary criteria pollutants include carbon monoxide (CO), reactive organic gases (ROG), nitrogen oxides (NOX), particulate matter (PM10), sulfur dioxide (SO2), and lead (Pb). Secondary criteria pollutants include ozone (O3), and fine particulate matter.

Air quality in the region is controlled by the rate of pollutant emissions and meteorological conditions. Meteorological conditions such as wind speed, atmospheric stability, and mixing height may all affect the atmosphere’s ability to mix and disperse pollutants. Long-term variations in air quality typically result from changes in air pollutant emissions, while frequent, short-term variations result from changes in atmospheric conditions. The San Francisco Bay Area is considered to be one of the cleanest metropolitan areas in the country with respect to air quality. BAAQMD monitors air quality conditions at more than 30 locations throughout the Bay Area. The Air District has adopted several plans in an attempt to achieve state and federal air quality standards. The most recent plan is the Bay Area 2010 Clean Air Plan, finalized in September 2010. Sensitive receptors consist of groups of people more affected by air pollution than others. Sensitive air quality receptors (segments of the population susceptible to adverse effects of poor air quality) near the Proposed Project are surrounding residences and park users.

The application of BAAQMD recommended Basic Construction Measures identified below would minimize fugitive PM dust generated during construction.

- All exposed surfaces (e.g., parking areas, staging areas, soil piles, graded areas, and unpaved access roads) shall be watered two times per day.
- All haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material off-site shall be covered.
- All visible mud or dirt track-out onto adjacent public roads shall be removed using wet power vacuum street sweepers at least once per day. The use of dry power sweeping is prohibited.
- All vehicle speeds on unpaved roads shall be limited to 15 mph.
- All roadways, driveways, and sidewalks to be paved shall be completed as soon as possible. Building pads shall be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used.
- Idling times shall be minimized either by shutting equipment off when not in use or reducing the maximum idling time to 5 minutes (as required by the California airborne toxics control measure Title 13, Section 2485 of California Code of Regulations [CCR]). Clear signage shall be provided for construction workers at all access points.
- All construction equipment shall be maintained and properly tuned in accordance with manufacturer's specifications. All equipment shall be checked by a certified mechanic and determined to be running in proper condition prior to operation.
- A publicly visible sign with the telephone number and person to contact at the Lead Agency regarding dust complaints will be posted onsite. This person shall respond and take corrective action within 48 hours. The Air District’s phone number shall also be visible to ensure compliance with applicable regulations.
1. The proposed Project would generate emissions during construction from dust and operation of construction equipment. However, the impacts would be short term and temporary. Implementation of the County’s construction BMPs which are included in the construction documents would reduce potential impacts to less than significant. These BMPs are in accordance with BAAQMD’s Basic Construction Measures Recommended for All Proposed Projects. **Less than significant impact**

2. The proposed Project does not conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases. **No impact**

3. The proposed Project would not increase greenhouse gas emissions that hinder or delay the State’s ability to meet the reduction target. Emissions during construction from dust and operation of construction equipment would be short term and temporary. **No impact**

**MITIGATION:** None

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### I. HAZARDS & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WOULD THE PROJECT:</th>
<th>IMPACT</th>
<th>SOURCE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No Impact</td>
<td>Less Than Significant Impact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Involve risk of explosion or release of hazardous substances (including pesticides, herbicides, toxic substances, oil, chemicals or radioactive materials)?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Provide breeding grounds for vectors?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Proposed site plan result in a safety hazard (i.e., parking layout, access, closed community, etc.)?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Los Gatos Creek Trail and Irrigation System improvements Project in Vasona Lake County Park Negative Declaration

March 8, 2017
10. Involve construction of a building, road or septic system on a slope of 30% or greater? □ □ □ □ □ 1, 3, 17n
11. Involve construction of a roadway greater than 20% slope for a distance of 300' or more? □ □ □ □ □ 1, 3, 17n
12. Be located within 200' of a 230KV or above electrical transmission line □ □ □ □ □ 2, 4
13. Create any health hazard? □ □ □ □ □ 1, 3, 4, 5
14. Expose people to existing sources of potential health hazards? □ □ □ □ □ 2, 3, 4
15. Be located in an Airport Land Use Commission Safety Zone? □ □ □ □ □ 31
16. Increase fire hazard in an area already involving extreme fire hazard? □ □ □ □ □ 10g
17. Be located on a cul-de-sacs over 800 ft. in length and require secondary access which will be difficult to obtain? □ □ □ □ □ 1, 3, 4, 32, 3, 3
18. Employ technology which could adversely affect safety in case of a breakdown? □ □ □ □ □ 1, 3, 5

**DISCUSSION:**

The proposed Project is in an existing County park in an urban setting, and would not create any new hazards to public safety. The project area is not considered a high hazard zone. The only hazardous materials used for the proposed Project would be fuels, oils, and lubricants associated with on-site construction equipment. Handling of these hazardous materials would follow construction BMPs which have been incorporated into the project and construction documents. The proposed Project would not result in any hazardous materials impacts. No impact.

**MITIGATION:** None

**J. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WOULD THE PROJECT:</th>
<th>IMPACT</th>
<th>SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Less Than Significant Impact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted?)</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river in a manner which would result in substantial erosion</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Create or contribute increased impervious surfaces and associated runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Degrad surface or ground water quality or public water supply? (Including marine, fresh and wetland waters.)</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Place a structure within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?</td>
<td>☒</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Result in an increase in pollutant discharges to receiving waters?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Be located in an area of special water quality concern (e.g., Los Gatos or Guadalupe Watershed)?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12. Result in use of well water previously contaminated by nitrates, mercury, asbestos, etc. existing in the groundwater supply?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>13. Result in a septic field being constructed on soil with severe septic drain field limitations or where a high water table extends close to the natural land surface?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Result in a septic field being located within 50 feet of a drainage swale; 100 feet of any well, water course or water body or 200 feet of a reservoir at capacity?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Conflict with Water Resources Protection Collaborative Guidelines and Standards for Land Uses near Streams?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>16. Result in extensions of a sewer trunk line with capacity to serve new development?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Require a NPDES permit for construction [Does it disturb one (1) acre or more]?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Result in significant changes to receiving waters quality during or following construction?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Is the project a tributary to an already impaired water body? If so will the project result in an increase in any existing pollutants?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Los Gatos Creek Trail and Irrigation System improvements Project in Vasona Lake County Park Negative Declaration
March 8, 2017
DISCUSSION:
The proposed Project involves improvements to the existing segment of Los Gatos Creek Trail that runs through Vasona Lake County Park along the east side of Vasona Lake and Los Gatos Creek from Vasona Lake dam to Blossom Hill Road. The Project also involves improvements and reconstruction of the park’s irrigation system located in areas of existing irrigated turf.
The proposed Project is not within the creek bank, or the Ordinary High Water Mark (as defined by Section 404 of the Clean water Act) of the creek or Vasona lake, and is outside of the wetted perimeter of Vasona Lake. Therefore the project would not effect an existing water course or water body. The proposed Project would not effect existing drainage patterns of the site or area and would not alter runoff. Construction BMPs incorporated into the project design and construction documents would ensure that soil erosion, runoff, or the loss of topsoil as a result of project implementation would be minimized. In addition, to minimize the mobilization of sediment to creeks and other water bodies erosion- and sediment-control measures would be included in a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) prepared for the project. These measures are based on standard County measures and standard dust-reduction measures.

1. The proposed Project would not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements. **No Impact**

2., 3., 4., 6., 20., 21. The proposed Project will not effect ground water or substantially alter existing drainage patterns or effect surface or groundwater quality or effect public water supply. **No Impact**

5. The proposed Project involves improvements to the existing paved trail, approximately 7900 linear feet) which will be repaved, and a small segment of un-paved trail (approximately 800 linear feet) will be paved to prevent erosion. The proposed project will not create or contribute to new impervious surfaces or effect stormwater drainage systems. **No Impact**

7., 8., 9. The proposed Project site is within a 100-year flood area, however, the project does not involve construction of a structure or expose 9 people or existing structures to significant risk due to flooding. **No Impact**

10. The proposed Project would not result in an increase in pollutant dischargers to receiving waters. Construction BMPs incorporated into the project design and construction documents would ensure that soil erosion, siltation or the loss of topsoil as a result of project implementation would be minimized. In addition, to prevent or minimize the mobilization of sediment or other pollutant discharges (stormwater runoff) to creeks and other water bodies, a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) will be prepared for the project. **Less than significant impact**

11. The proposed Project is within an existing County park in an urban setting and is not located in an area of special water quality concern. **No Impact**

12., 13., 14., 16. The proposed Project will not effect well water, septic fields, or sanitary systems. **No Impact**
15. The proposed Project does not conflict with Water Resources Protection Collaborative guidelines or standards. **No Impact**

17. The proposed Project will disturb more than 1 acre. An NPDES permit/Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) will be prepared for the project. In addition, Construction BMPs incorporated into the project design and construction documents would ensure that soil erosion, and siltation as a result of project implementation would be prevented or minimized. **Less than significant impact**

18.,19.,22 The proposed Project is not within the creek bank of Los Gatos Creek, or the OHWM of Vasona Lake and would not result in changes to surface waters, stream beds or a watercourse. **No Impact**

MITIGATION: None

### K. LAND USE AND PLANNING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WOULD THE PROJECT:</th>
<th>IMPACT</th>
<th>SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mitigation</td>
<td>Cumulative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Physically divide an established community?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>2, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Conflict with general plan designation or zoning?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>5, 7, 9a, 10a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Conflict with special policies?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>6, 10a, 44, 45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. San Martin and/or South County</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>6, 10a, 44, 45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Los Gatos Specific Plan or Lexington Watershed</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>6, 10a, 13, 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. East Foothills Policy Area</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>6, 10a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. New Almaden Historic Area/Guadalupe Watershed</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>6, 7, 10a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Stanford</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>6, 15, 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. San Jose</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>8, 10a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Be incompatible with existing land use in the vicinity?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 12b</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DISCUSSION:**

The proposed Project consists of improvements to existing trail and irrigation system in an existing County park located in an urbanized setting. The Proposed Project would not change any of the existing land uses or conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project. The proposed project is consistent with the Town of Los Gatos zoning and general plan and the County General Plan. The proposed project would have no effect on Land Use and Planning. **No Impact**

MITIGATION: None
## L. Mineral Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WOULD THE PROJECT:</th>
<th>IMPACTS</th>
<th>SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No Impact</td>
<td>Less Than Significant Impact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region or the residents of the state?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Result in substantial depletion of any non-renewable natural resource?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DISCUSSION:**
The proposed Project would not effect mineral resources nor deplete any nonrenewable natural resources. **No Impact.**

**MITIGATION:** None

## M. Noise

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WOULD THE PROJECT:</th>
<th>IMPACTS</th>
<th>SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No Impact</td>
<td>Less Than Significant Impact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Result in exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☒</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Result in exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Result in a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Result in a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Increase substantially the ambient noise levels for adjoining areas during and/or after construction?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DISCUSSION:**
The proposed Project is within an existing heavily used County park in an urban setting. Construction activities may increase noise levels in the park, however, they will not exceed allowable levels and would be intermittent and temporary. Noise effects would be less than significant impact.

MITIGATION: None

---

**N. POPULATION AND HOUSING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WOULD THE PROJECT:</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>YES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No Impact</td>
<td>Less Than Significant Impact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DISCUSSION:**
The proposed Project is within an existing County park and would have no effect on population or housing. No Impact

MITIGATION: None

---

**O. PUBLIC SERVICES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WOULD THE PROJECT:</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>YES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No Impact</td>
<td>Less Than Significant Impact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered government facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Fire Protection?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Police Protection?</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii) School facilities?</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv) Parks?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v) Other public facilities?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Induce substantial growth or concentration of population? (Growth inducing?)</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. Employ equipment which could interfere with existing communications or broadcast systems? [x] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] 1, 3, 5

4. Increase the need for new systems or supplies, or cause substantial alterations to the following utilities:
   a. Electricity or Natural gas [x] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] 1, 3, 5
   b. Local or regional water treatment or distribution facilities [x] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] 1, 3, 5
   c. Local or regional water supplies [x] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] 1, 3, 5
   d. Sewage disposal [x] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] 1, 3, 5
   e. Storm water drainage [x] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] 1, 3, 5
   f. Solid waste or litter [x] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] 1, 3, 5

DISCUSSION:
The proposed Project is within an existing County park and would not result in impacts to public services or existing government facilities.

1. The proposed Project is within an existing park and proposed improvements would not result in any substantial adverse effects to existing government facilities. The proposed Project consists of improvements to existing trails and the replacement of the deteriorated irrigation system. The Project also involves relocations and replacement of eight (8) old fire hydrants within the park. The proposed Project would improve existing facilities and have a positive impact. No Impact

2. The proposed Project would have no impact on population or induce growth. No Impact

3. The proposed Project would not effect existing communication or broadcasting systems nor increase the need for or alter utilities. No Impact

MITIGATION: None

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>P. RECREATION</th>
<th>IMPACT</th>
<th>SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WOULD THE PROJECT:</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No Impact</td>
<td>Less Than Significant Impact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?</td>
<td>[x]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Be on, within or near a public or private park, wildlife reserve, or trail (includes those proposed for the future) or affect existing or future recreational opportunities?</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Result in loss of open space rated as high priority for acquisition in the “Preservation 20/20” report?</td>
<td>[x]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DISCUSSION:
The proposed Project is located within an existing County park and does not involve an expansion or change of use. The proposed Project involves improvements to the existing segment of Los Gatos Creek Trail that runs through Vasona Park and improvements and reconstruction of the park’s existing deteriorated irrigation system. The proposed Project would have a positive effect on recreation as it will improve park facilities. **No Impact**

MITIGATION: None

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q. TRANSPORTATION / TRAFFIC</th>
<th>IMPACT</th>
<th>SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WOULD THE PROJECT:</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including, but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeway, pedestrian and bicycle paths and mass transit.</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Result in a change in air traffic patterns including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Result in inadequate emergency access?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities.</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Not provide safe access, obstruct access to nearby uses or fail to provide for future street right of way?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Increase traffic hazards to pedestrians, bicyclists and vehicles?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Cause increases in demand for existing on or off-street parking because of inadequate project parking?</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DISCUSSION:
The proposed Project is located within an existing County park and does not involve an expansion or change of use. The proposed Project involves improvements to the existing segment of Los Gatos Creek Trail that runs through Vasona Park and improvements and reconstruction of the park's existing deteriorated irrigation system. A segment of Los Gatos Creek Trail is considered a bicycle commuter route. The proposed Project would have no effect on existing vehicular traffic or transportation. No Impact

MITIGATION: None

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>R. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WOULD THE PROJECT:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMPACT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOURCE</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPACT</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>YES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No Impact</td>
<td>Less Than Significant Impact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DISCUSSION:
The proposed Project is located within an existing County Park and does not involve an expansion or change of use. The proposed Project involves improvements to the existing segment of Los Gatos Creek Trail that runs through Vasona Park and improvements and reconstruction of the park's existing deteriorated irrigation system. The proposed Project would have no effect on vehicular traffic or transportation. No Impact
### 5. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Does the Project:</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>YES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Have the potential to achieve short-term environmental goals, to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals? (A short-term impact on the environment is one which occurs in a relatively brief, definitive period of time, while long-term impacts will endure well into the future.)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Have environmental impacts which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (&quot;Cumulatively considerable&quot; means that the incremental effects of an individual project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probably future projects.)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION

Discuss on attached sheet(s) all "yes" answers and any "no" answers that are potentially controversial or require clarification. Describe any potential impacts and discuss possible mitigations. For source, refer to attached "Initial Study Source List". When a source is used that is not listed on the form or an individual is contacted, that source and/or individual should be cited in the discussion.
DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Agency) On the basis of this initial evaluation:

☑ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because mitigation measures are included as part of the proposed project. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect (1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and (2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Signature  Antoinette Romeo  Date  3-09-2017

Print Name & Title:  Antoinette Romeo  Senior Planner
INITIAL STUDY RECOMMENDED SOURCE LIST

1. Field Inspection
2. Project Plans
3. Planner’s Knowledge of Area
4. Experience With Other Project of This Size and Nature
5. County General Plan
6. The South County Joint Area Plan
7. County Zoning Regulations (Ordinance)
8. Second Amendment to Agreement [with San Jose] for Allocation of Tax Increment Funds
9. MAPS (various scales)
   a. County Zoning (500’ or 1,000’)
   b. ABAG “On Shaky Ground” - Santa Clara County Map Set (2 miles)
   c. Barclay’s Santa Clara County Locaide Street Atlas (2631’)
   d. County Regional Parks, Trails and Scenic Highways Map (10,000’)
10. 5000’ or one mile Scale MAPS
    a. County General Plan Land Use
    b. Natural Habitat Areas
    c. Relative Seismic Stability
    d. Archaeological Resources
    e. Water Resources & Water Problems
    f. Viewsheid and Scenic Road
    g. Fire Hazard
    h. Parks and Public Open Space
    i. Heritage Resources
    j. Slope Constraint
    k. Serpentine soils
11. 2000’ Scale MAPS
    a. State of California, Special Studies Zones [Revised Official Map]
    b. Water Problem/Resource
    c. USGS Topo Quad (7-1/2 minutes)
    d. Dept. of Fish & Game, Natural Diversity Data Base Map Overlays & Textual Reports
    e. Natural Resources [Key to map found in: Natural Resource Sensitivity Areas- Locality Data, Harvey & Stanley Associates-Contact County staff]
12. 1000’ Scale MAPS/Air Photos
    a. Geologic Hazards
    b. Color Air Photos (MPSI)
    c. Santa Clara valley Water District-Maps of Flood Control Facilities & Limits of 1% Flooding
    d. Soils Overlay Air Photos
    e. “Future Width Line” map set
13. County Lexington Basin Ordinance Relating to Sewage Disposal
14. Los Gatos Hillsides Specific Area Plan
15. Stanford University General Use Permit and Environmental Impact Report [EIR]
17. County Geologist
18. Site Specific Geologic Report
19. State Department of Mines and Geology, Special Report #146
20. USDA, SCS, “Soils of Santa Clara County”
22. County Environmental Health/Septic Tank Sewage Disposal System - Bulletin “A”
23. San Martin Water Quality Study
24. County Environmental Health Department Tests and Reports
25. Santa Clara County Heritage Resource (including Trees) Inventory [computer database]
26. Official County Road Book
27. County Transportation Agency
29. Public Works Departments of Individual Cities
30. County Off-street Parking Standards
31. ALUC Land Use Plan for Areas Surrounding Airports [1992 version]
32. County Fire Marshal
33. California Department of Forestry
35. Architectural and Site Approval Committee Secretary
36. County Guidelines for Architecture and Site Approval
37. County Development Guidelines for Design Review
40. Section 21151.4 of California Public Resources Code.
41. Site Specific Archaeological Reconnaissance Report
42. State Archaeological Clearinghouse, Sonoma State University
44. Design Guidelines for Non-residential Development in San Martin.
45. Southwest San Martin Area Interim Development Guidelines
46. 2009 NPDES Storm Water Discharge Permit
47. 2002 Clean Water Act Section 303(d)
49. County of Santa Clara Ordinance Code
50. Santa Clara Countywide Trails Master Plan Update, November 1995
51. Santa Clara Valley Water District Water Resources Protection Collaborative Guidelines and Standards for Land Use Near Streams
REPORT PREPARATION

This Initial Study / Negative Declaration was prepared by:

Antoinette Romeo, Senior Planner
County of Santa Clara, Parks and Recreation Department

Individuals who contributed to the preparation of this document include:

Jim Schul, Project Manager
Ruggeri – Jensen -Azar

Ubaldo Perez, P.E, Associate Civil Engineer – Project Manager
County of Santa Clara, Parks and Recreation Department

Jeremy Farr, Natural Resource Planner
County of Santa Clara, Parks and Recreation Department

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