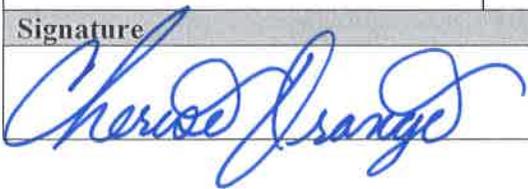


Notice of Exemption from CEQA

To: County Clerk Recorder
 County of Santa Clara

Office of Planning & Research
 1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Title	File	
Alviso Safari Tour Boat Storage	None	
Project Location	APN (s)	
Alviso Marina County Park 1195 Hope Street San Jose, CA 95111	015-01-034; 015-01-040; 015-33-054	
Public Agency Approving Project	Person or Agency Carrying out Project	
County of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department	County of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department	
Project Description (including purpose and beneficiaries of project)		
<p>The County Parks Department proposes to construct a covered Boat Storage Structure at Alviso Marina County Park to house the Alviso Safari Tour Boat. The proposed structure would be 15' high x 50' long x 17' wide and would be located in the westernmost parking lot of the Park. The structure would be comprised of a structural steel frame secured to the parking lot surface via six (6) 3' deep x 8" wide concrete piers and covered by chain link fence with expanded metal mesh backing. No asbestos, lead, and other hazardous materials would be used in the construction of the storage structure. Gasoline (flammable liquid) will be stored within the boat. The structure location would not impact use of Alviso Marina County Park's existing Boat Launch Facility, circulation within the park, or parking. The Department has found the structure necessary to protect the Alviso Safari Tour Boat from vandalism and degradation that would result from exposure to the elements. An expanded project description is available on page 2.</p> <p>The proposed Boat Storage Structure will be erected by a certified County contractor who will be managed by the Alviso Marina County Park Senior Ranger. A certified County Parks biologist will also be on site during construction activities to ensure no natural resources are impacted. The project will not require the removal of any existing trees or riparian vegetation, and all disturbed areas will be restored upon completion of the project.</p>		
Exempt Status (check one / Indicate type and State CEQA Guidelines section number):		
<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Exemption:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Categorical Exemption: Article 19, Section 15303, Class 3(e) New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:		
Reasons why project is Exempt:		
The Department has determined the covered Boat Storage Structure is considered an accessory structure and falls under Article 19, Section 15303, Class 3(e) New Construction or Conversion of Small Structure. The project involves no or negligible expansion of the existing use.		
County Contact Person	Title	Telephone Number
Cherise Orange	Park Planner	(408) 355-2228
Signature	Date	
	10/12/2018	

PROJECT NEED

The Alviso Boat Tour, a vision of County of Santa Clara Board Supervisor Dave Cortese, offers educational programming to the general public and school groups regarding the natural history of the Bay shoreline, the importance of salt marsh habitat, and the effects of climate change in Santa Clara County. The County Parks Department, with funding provided by the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, purchased the boat in 2017. The boat was delivered to Alviso Marina County Park (Park) in June 2018. The boat is currently stored unsecured and uncovered within the Park's westernmost parking lot and occupies six (6) parking spaces.

Without a designated structure at Alviso Marina County Park, the Alviso Safari Tour Boat would need to be stored in an enclosure off site in order to protect it from exposure to weather, vandalism, etc. An off-site location would make retrieval and launching of the boat more difficult, time-consuming, would increase the potential for accidents, and would generate additional greenhouse gases (GHGs) unnecessarily. Locating the structure in the proposed location is preferable for reasons of convenience, efficiency and sustainability.

PROJECT LOCATION

Alviso Marina County Park is located at the southern edge of the San Francisco Bay, within the 100-foot shoreline band, and at the northern edge of the community of Alviso, a neighborhood of the City of San Jose. The 20-acre park consists of three parcels, APN 015-01-034, 015-01-040, and 015-33-054. The Park includes a former marina, two parking lots, a boat launch facility for recreational boating, fishing, hunting, kayaking and provides access to San Francisco Bay, the Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge, and the San Francisco Bay Trail, the San Francisco Bay Water Trail, and the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail. The Park's recreational amenities include trails, picnic areas, a restroom building, three boardwalks and an observation deck on the northeast side of the Park that offers views of the adjacent wetlands. The Park provides the only Bay access in the South Bay. (See Attachment 1: Vicinity Map, Attachment 2: Existing Conditions Map).

The proposed boat storage structure would be located within an existing 51,124 square foot (sf) parking lot on property owned by the County of Santa Clara and operated by the Parks and Recreation Department. The structure would occupy approximately 1,000 square feet (sf) or 1.9% of the parking lot. The structure would be located within an existing boat tie-down lane approximately 100 feet east of the Park's existing Launch Ramp. The boat tie-down is rarely in use by multiple boats at one time, and as such, little change to the existing use is expected to occur by locating the storage structure there. Circulation lanes can be re-striped to go around the new structure and thus circulation would not be impeded. No other parking spaces, turning lanes, or recreational amenities will be removed or impacted as a result of the project. (See Attachment 3: Alviso Safari Tour Boat Storage Structure Location)

LOCATION DETERMINATION

Prior to selection of this site for boat storage, the Department considered several other storage option locations which were vetted by staff. All options were weighed based on the following considerations:

REASON FOR CEQA DETERMINATION

The proposed Project falls under Article 19, Section 15303, Class 3(e) New Construction or Conversion of Small Structure. *Class 3 [projects]* consists of *construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures. Examples of this exemption include but are not limited to: (e) Accessory (appurtenant) structures including garages, carports, patios, swimming pools, and fences.* The proposed semi-permanent structure will not expand the existing use of the Alviso Marina Boat Launch Ramp Parking Lot (parking lot).

The proposed Project is not expected to impact and/or involve:

- Bathymetric features and hydrology of Alviso Slough, the Guadalupe River, or the San Francisco Bay
- Any endangered or threatened species identified in the Alviso Marina County Park Master Plan and Environmental Impact Report (EIR) approved by the County of Santa Clara Board of Supervisors on May 5, 1997 and the Final EIR Addendum approved by the County of Santa Clara Board of Supervisors on March 3, 2009
- Subtidal areas that are scarce or that have an abundance of fish, aquatic organisms and wildlife
- Any release of pollutants nor have the potential for accidental pollutant discharge into the Bay
- Any suspected or known sites of toxic contamination, as none are in the vicinity

OUTSIDE AGENCY COORDINATION

San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC)

The project is consistent with all BCDC laws and policies. All Best Management Practices (BMPs) and other requirements outlined in approved Permit No. M2003.017.00 for Alviso Marina County Park, would be adhered to the greatest extent possible to protect marsh and upland plants, and the Bay. **Following the recordation of this Notice of Exemption, the Department will apply for a BCDC Permit to erect the structure.**

San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)

RWQCB requirements are **not** applicable to the project. The Agency reviews activities that affect water quality and has jurisdiction over the disposal of dredge material. The proposed project does not include dredging and would be located within an existing developed area.

National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS)

NMFS requirements are **not** applicable to the project. NMFS is responsible for the stewardship of the nation's ocean resources and their habitat. The Agency provides vital services for the nation: productive and sustainable fisheries, safe sources of seafood, the recovery and conservation of protected resources, and healthy ecosystems. The proposed project is located on an existing surface and not within waterways or wetlands.

- Size of the structure
- Ease of accessing and maneuvering the boat
- Impact on existing public access and amenities
- Impact or potential removal of public parking

Based on these criteria, one option; erecting the structure on Mill Street nearer to the Park entrance and away from the shoreline; was determined to be the optimal storage location. However, the ability to move the boat to and from that location would likely be significantly constrained as a result of traffic associated with the South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Project (Shoreline Project) for which construction activities are expected to occur until at least 2024. As such, the location currently proposed in the Alviso Boat Launch Ramp Parking lot was selected as the preferred option.

The location proposed is within Park boundaries and is approximately 100 feet east of the existing boat launch ramp. The closest neighboring parcel to the proposed site is approximately 112 feet away; APN 015-01-025 is owned by the State of California, a portion of which is currently leased to the County to support the development and operation of the boat launch.

This location:

- Allows the Boat Tours to occur without interruption both before and during construction activity related to the Shoreline Project.
- Allows Park Staff to avoid driving the boat through the Park to the launch area
- Does not take away existing public parking
- Is accessible from the San Francisco Bay Trail
- Is more accessible by park users and provides an additional opportunity to serve as an interpretive feature.

DETAILED PROJECT DESCRIPTION

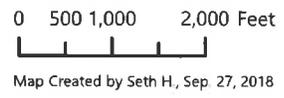
The boat storage structure would be 15' high x 50' long x 17' wide. The structure's external material would be chain-link fence with expanded metal mesh backing. An internal structural steel frame including cross-beams to attach the expanded metal mesh would be secured to the ground via six (6) 3' deep x 8" wide concrete piers set into the parking lot surface. At either end, the boat storage structure would have 15' double-swing gates secured with locks. The Department envisions using the structure as an interpretive feature to highlight the various themes of the Boat Tour program. (See Attachments 4-7: Boat Storage Mock Up). The outside of the structure could incorporate interpretive panels or other features that contribute to the educational nature of the program. The boat and any interpretive components of the structure would be used during the annual Day on the Bay Event, hosted by Supervisor Cortese's office in partnership with the Department, as well as in the Salt Marsh Safari program (offered to the public, community groups and schools) and other interpretive and recreational programs and events held at the Park. Outside of formal programming and events, the structure's interpretive components could provide a valuable passive educational opportunity to park users.

Attachment 1



This map generated by the County of Santa Clara Department of Parks and Recreation. The GIS files were compiled from various sources. While deemed reliable, the Department assumes no liability.

Alviso Marina County Park Boat Storage - Project Vicinity



Elevation contours reflect terrain shape prior to construction of launch ramp and parking lot.



-  County Park Trails
-  Elevation Contours (1 ft interval)
-  Alviso Marina Park Boundary
-  Shoreline (6 ft Elevation)

County of Santa Clara, The Sanborn Map Company



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Alviso Marina County Park Boat Storage - Existing Conditions



Map Created by Seth H., Oct 2, 2018



Elevation contours reflect terrain shape prior to construction of launch ramp and parking lot.

Alviso Marina Pathway

Proposed location for boat storage structure.
17' x 50' h = 15'



Alviso Marina Pathway

Approximately 65' from proposed structure location to marsh area

- Potential Structure
- Turf
- County Park Trails
- Elevation Contours (1 ft interval)
- Marsh
- Shallow Bay
- Alviso Marina Park Boundary
- Shoreline (6 ft Elevation)

County of Santa Clara, The Sanborn Map Company



This map generated by the County of Santa Clara Department of Parks and Recreation. The GIS files were compiled from various sources. While deemed reliable, the Department assumes no liability.

Alviso Marina County Park Boat Storage - Project Site



Map Created by Seth H., Oct 2, 2018



Proposed Alviso Safari Tour Boat Storage with Interpretive Features

Attachment 4



Proposed Alviso Safari Tour Boat Storage without Interpretive Features Attachment 5



View of the Alviso Boat Launch Parking Lot looking west Attachment 6



**SANTA CLARA
COUNTY PARKS**

View of the Alviso Boat Launch Parking Lot looking east from the
Boat Launch Ramp
Attachment 7

