

IN THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

County of San Luis Obispo, State of California

_____ day _____, 20__

PRESENT: Supervisors

ABSENT:

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PEDESTRIAN-BICYCLE BRIDGE OVER
SAN JUAN CREEK IN SHANDON PROJECT
AND ADOPTING THE MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
AND MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM
PURSUANT TO THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT**

The following resolution is now offered and read:

WHEREAS, the safety of pedestrian and bicycle traffic needs improvement over San Juan Creek in Shandon in order to meet current public road safety parameters; and

WHEREAS, the Pedestrian-Bicycle Bridge over San Juan Creek Project will construct a pedestrian-bicycle bridge and accommodate foot- and bicycle-traffic safely across San Juan Creek (the "Project"). Proposed activities under the Project include construction, staging, bank stabilization, and habitat restoration; and the Project includes elements to restore riparian habitat, and reduce erosion and sedimentation in San Juan Creek; and

WHEREAS, an Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration have been prepared for the Project and circulated for agency and public review and comment (the "Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration"), all in accordance with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, together with state and local guidelines implementing said Act, all as amended to date (collectively, "CEQA"); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has reviewed and considered the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and related Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Project and intends to take actions on the Project in compliance with CEQA; and

WHEREAS, the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and related Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Project are, by this reference, incorporated into this Resolution as if fully set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, local CEQA Guidelines adopted by the Board of Supervisors pursuant to Section 21082 of the Public Resources Code designate the Environmental Coordinator as the person to make environmental determinations and recommendations pursuant to CEQA, and the Environmental Coordinator has reviewed and recommended adoption of the Mitigated Negative Declaration and related Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Luis Obispo, State of California, as follows:

1. That the following findings are made:
 - a) The Board of Supervisors has reviewed the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and other information in the whole record and has considered the information contained therein; and
 - b) The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared for the Project has been completed in compliance with CEQA; and
 - c) The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration represents the independent judgment and analysis of the County as Lead Agency for the Project.
2. That the Mitigated Negative Declaration and the related Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program prepared for the Project, which are attached hereto collectively as Exhibit A and are incorporated herein by reference, are hereby adopted; and
3. That the Pedestrian-Bicycle Bridge Over San Juan Creek project described in the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration is hereby approved and the Public Works Department is hereby directed to complete associated project development activities, including but not limited to: right-of-way processes; environmental regulatory permits; and preparation of final plans and specifications

Upon motion of Supervisor _____, seconded by Supervisor _____, and on the following roll call vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINING:

the foregoing Resolution is hereby adopted on the ____ day of _____, 20__.

Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

[SEAL]

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL EFFECT:

RITA L. NEAL
County Counsel

By: 
Deputy County Counsel

Dated: January 27, 2015

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA, }
County of San Luis Obispo, } ss.

I, _____, County Clerk and ex-officio Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, in and for the County of San Luis Obispo, State of California, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a full, true and correct copy of an order made by the Board of Supervisors, as the same appears spread upon their minute book.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of said Board of Supervisors, affixed this _____ day of _____, 20__.

County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

(SEAL)

By _____
Deputy Clerk.

EXHIBIT A

Pedestrian-Bicycle Bridge Over San Juan Creek in Shandon
ED12-205/ WBS 300485

**MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION, NOTICE OF DETERMINATION, &
INITIAL STUDY**



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING
ENVIRONMENTAL & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

County File Number: ED12-205 (300485)

SCH Number: _____

**COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
PEDESTRIAN-BICYCLE BRIDGE OVER SAN JUAN CREEK IN SHANDON
COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION & INITIAL STUDY**

Abstract

San Luis Obispo County Department of Public Works is proposing to construct a new pedestrian-bicycle bridge over San Juan Creek in Shandon adjacent to the existing vehicle bridge on East Centre Street. The primary purpose of the project is to improve safety over the San Juan Creek by providing a bridge to accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists. The new bridge will be located north of and adjacent to the East Centre Street Bridge, and will be approximately the same height as the bridge. Widening the bridge to accommodate sidewalks and/or bike lanes was considered but dismissed due to funding issues. The project has been identified as a priority by the community and supported by San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) and the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors.

The project will result in the temporary disturbance of 0.7 acre and the permanent disturbance of approximately 0.35 acre. The project is located on the north side of the East Centre Street Bridge over San Juan Creek, between North 5th Street and Calle Carmelita, in the community of Shandon. The project is located in the Shandon/Carrizo subarea of the North County planning area in Supervisorial District 1. Comments on this document should be sent to Katie Drexhage, County Department of Public Works, County Government Center, San Luis Obispo, CA 93408.

The following persons may be contacted for additional information concerning this document:

Katie Drexhage, Environmental Programs Division
or
Genaro Dياز, Project Manager
County Department of Public Works
County Government Center, Room 206
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408
(805) 781-5279

This proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration has been issued by:

12-11-2014
Date

Ellen Carroll
Ellen Carroll, Environmental Coordinator
County of San Luis Obispo

The project proponent, who agrees to implement the mitigation measures for the project, is:

12/16/14
Date

Dave Flynn
Dave Flynn, Deputy Director of Public Works
County of San Luis Obispo



Initial Study Summary – Environmental Checklist

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING
976 OSOS STREET • ROOM 200 • SAN LUIS OBISPO • CALIFORNIA 93408 • (805) 781-5600

(ver 5.5) Initial Form

Project Title & No. Public Works - Pedestrian-Bicycle Bridge Over San Juan Creek in Shandon (ED12-205, 300485)

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: The proposed project could have a "Potentially Significant Impact" for at least one of the environmental factors checked below. Please refer to the attached pages for discussion on mitigation measures or project revisions to either reduce these impacts to less than significant levels or require further study.

<input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics	<input type="checkbox"/> Geology and Soils	<input type="checkbox"/> Recreation
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hazards/Hazardous Materials	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Circulation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Noise	<input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing	<input type="checkbox"/> Water /Hydrology
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Services/Utilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Land Use

DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation, the Environmental Coordinator finds that:

- The proposed project **COULD NOT** have a significant effect on the environment, and a **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.
- Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A **MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.
- The proposed project **MAY** have a significant effect on the environment, and an **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required.
- 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.
- 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.

Katie Drexhage
Prepared by (Print) _____ Signature _____ Date 12/11/14

Rob Fitzroy
Reviewed by (Print) _____ Signature _____ Date 12/11/14

Ellen Carroll,
Environmental Coordinator
(for)

Project Environmental Analysis

The County's environmental review process incorporates all of the requirements for completing the Initial Study as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines. The Initial Study includes staff's on-site inspection of the project site and surroundings and a detailed review of the information in the file for the project. In addition, available background information is reviewed for each project. Relevant information regarding soil types and characteristics, geologic information, significant vegetation and/or wildlife resources, water availability, wastewater disposal services, existing land uses and surrounding land use categories and other information relevant to the environmental review process are evaluated for each project. Exhibit A includes the references used, as well as the agencies or groups that were contacted as a part of the Initial Study. The County Planning Department uses the checklist to summarize the results of the research accomplished during the initial environmental review of the project.

Persons, agencies or organizations interested in obtaining more information regarding the environmental review process for a project should contact the County of San Luis Obispo Planning Department, 976 Osos Street, Rm. 200, San Luis Obispo, CA, 93408-2040 or call (805) 781-5600.

A. PROJECT

DESCRIPTION: Request by the San Luis Obispo County Public Works Department to construct a new pedestrian-bicycle bridge over San Juan Creek in Shandon adjacent to the existing vehicle bridge on East Centre Street. The project is located on the north side of the East Centre Street Bridge over San Juan Creek, between North 5th Street and Calle Carmelita, in the community of Shandon. The project is located in the Shandon/Carrizo subarea of the North County planning area in Supervisorial District 1 (refer to Appendix A).

The purpose of the project is to improve safety over the San Juan Creek by providing a bridge to accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists. The new bridge will be approximately the same height as the existing bridge and will be approximately 12 feet wide to accommodate foot and bicycle traffic. The project will consist of an approximately 270-foot pre-engineered and pre-fabricated pedestrian-bike bridge supported by four bents. Widening the bridge to accommodate sidewalks and/or bike lanes was considered but dismissed due to funding issues. Staging will occur within County right-of-way and/or on adjacent private property. The project will result in approximately 0.7 acre of temporary disturbance and 0.35 acre of permanent disturbance. Impacts to San Juan Creek will occur during the construction of bridge footings and pilings. Construction will occur during the dry season when water is not present within the creek. Three to four willows and/or cottonwoods over 4 inches in diameter-breast height (DBH) may be removed as a result of project activities. The project has been identified as a priority by the community and supported by San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) and the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors.

ASSESSOR PARCEL NUMBER(S): County ROW, 017-183-039, 017-182-042, 017-182-053

Latitude: 35 degrees 39' 20.11" N Longitude: 120 degrees 22' 15.67" W **SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT # 1**

B. EXISTING SETTING

PLAN AREA: North County **SUB:** Shandon/Carrizo

COMB. DESIGNATION: Flood Hazard
Sensitive Resource Area Geologic Study

LAND USE CATEGORY: Residential Single Family
Commercial Retail Commercial Service

VEGETATION: Grasses, Riparian

TOPOGRAPHY: Nearly level

PARCEL SIZE: Not applicable

EXISTING USES: Undeveloped; single-family residence(s)

SURROUNDING LAND USE CATEGORIES AND USES:

<i>North:</i> Residential Single Family; undeveloped	<i>East:</i> Commercial Retail; multi-family residences
<i>South:</i> Residential Single Family; multi-family residences	<i>West:</i> Commercial Retail; single-family residence(s)

C. ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

During the Initial Study process, at least one issue was identified as having a potentially significant environmental effects (see following Initial Study). Those potentially significant items associated with the proposed uses can be minimized to less than significant levels.



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

1. AESTHETICS <i>Will the project:</i>	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Create an aesthetically incompatible site open to public view?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Introduce a use within a scenic view open to public view?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Change the visual character of an area?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Create glare or night lighting, which may affect surrounding areas?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>Impact unique geological or physical features?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) <i>Other: _____</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting. The project will be visible from East Centre Street and Calle Carmelita. The project will not silhouette against any ridgelines as viewed from public roadways. The project will occur within a sensitive resource area for visual resources as identified within the Shandon Community Plan. However, the project would be compatible with the surrounding uses and would not impact the visual character of the area because the new pedestrian-bike bridge will be located adjacent to and in alignment with the existing bridge and roadway right-of-way. Thus the project would be an extension of similar existing facilities. The project would be relatively low profile with the new bridge approximately the same height as the existing adjacent bridge, and 12 feet in width. No construction will occur at night and the project is considered compatible with the surrounding uses. Lighting will be present on the pedestrian-bicycle bridge for safety purposes; however, this lighting will be at foot-level or mid-level on the bridge and directed in towards the footpath, away from San Juan Creek. This lighting will illuminate the walking path while minimizing lighting into the Creek itself.

Impact. No significant visual impacts are expected to occur.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No mitigation measures are necessary.

2. AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES <i>Will the project:</i>	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Convert prime agricultural land, per NRCS soil classification, to non-agricultural use?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to non-agricultural use?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Impair agricultural use of other property or result in conversion to other uses?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

2. AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES
Will the project:

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
d) <i>Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or Williamson Act program?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>Other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting. Project Elements. The following area-specific elements relate to the property's importance for agricultural production:

Land Use Category: Residential Single Family, Commercial Retail, Commercial Service Historic/Existing Commercial Crops: None

State Classification: Not prime farmland, prime farmland if irrigated In Agricultural Preserve? Yes, Shandon Ag Preserve Area

Under Williamson Act contract? No

The soil type(s) and characteristics on the subject property include:

Pico fine sandy loam (0 - 2% slope). This nearly level soil is considered moderately drained. The soil has moderate erodibility and low shrink-swell characteristics, as well as having potential septic system constraints due to: no severe limitations identified. The soil is considered Class IV without irrigation and Class I when irrigated.

Xerofluvents-Riverwash association. This variably sloping soil's drainage is not rated. The soil's erodibility and shrink-swell characteristics are not rated, as well as having potential septic system constraints due to: is not rated. The soil is considered Class VIII without irrigation and Class is not rated when irrigated.

The proposed project was referred to the San Luis Obispo County Agricultural Commissioner's Office on September 24, 2014, for review and determination of any agricultural resources impacts potentially resulting during the project's construction. The Agricultural Commissioner's office indicated "no concerns" in response to the referral notice.

Impact. Although the project is located within the Shandon Ag Preserve Area, the project is located in a non-agricultural area with no agricultural activities occurring on the property or immediate vicinity. No significant impacts to agricultural resources are anticipated.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No mitigation measures are necessary.

3. AIR QUALITY
Will the project:

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Violate any state or federal ambient air quality standard, or exceed air quality emission thresholds as established by County Air Pollution Control District?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. AIR QUALITY

Will the project:

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
b) <i>Expose any sensitive receptor to substantial air pollutant concentrations?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Create or subject individuals to objectionable odors?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Be inconsistent with the District's Clean Air Plan?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant either considered in non-attainment under applicable state or federal ambient air quality standards that are due to increased energy use or traffic generation, or intensified land use change?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

GREENHOUSE GASES

f) <i>Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) <i>Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
) <i>Other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting. The Air Pollution Control District (APCD) has developed and updated their [CEQA Air Quality Handbook \(2012\)](#) to evaluate project specific impacts and help determine if air quality mitigation measures are needed, or if potentially significant impacts could result. To evaluate long-term emissions, cumulative effects, and establish countywide programs to reach acceptable air quality levels, a Clean Air Plan has been adopted (prepared by APCD).

Asbestos / Naturally Occurring Asbestos

Naturally occurring asbestos (NOA) has been identified by the state Air Resources Board as a toxic air contaminant. Serpentine and ultramafic rocks are very common throughout California and may contain naturally occurring asbestos. The closest serpentine rock outcrops are approximately 6.75 miles northeast of the project site.

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions are said to result in an increase in the earth's average surface temperature. This is commonly referred to as global warming. The rise in global temperature is associated with long-term changes in precipitation, temperature, wind patterns, and other elements of the earth's climate system. This is also known as climate change. These changes are now thought to be broadly attributed to GHG emissions, particularly those emissions that result from the human production and use of fossil fuels.

Referral. As required by Section 22.10.030 of the County's LUO, the proposed project was referred to the County of San Luis Obispo Air Pollution Control District (APCD) on September 24, 2014, for review and determination of any air quality impacts potentially resulting during the project's

construction. Staff consulted with APCD via telephone.

Impact.

As proposed, the Project will result in the temporary disturbance of approximately 0.7 acre (28,200 square feet). This will result in the creation of construction dust, as well as short-term vehicle emissions associated with construction activities.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

GHGs from construction projects must be quantified and amortized over the life of the project. Based on the parameters of this road improvement project, the construction phase impacts will be less than the APCD's significance threshold values as identified in Table 2-1 of the CEQA Air Quality Handbook. Therefore, with the exception of the requirements below, the APCD is not recommending other construction phase mitigation measures for this project.

Dust Control Measures

The project, as described in the referral, will not exceed the APCD's CEQA significance threshold for construction phase emissions. However, construction activities can generate fugitive dust, which could be a nuisance to local residents and businesses in close proximity to the proposed construction site. Implementing dust control measures will avoid potential fugitive dust impacts.

Mitigation/Conclusion. APCD staff recommended the incorporating minimization measures into the project to control dust (Tim Fuhs, personal communication, October 6, 2014 & Andrew Mutziger, electronic mail, October 17, 2014):

[AQ-1] To manage fugitive dust emissions such that they do not exceed the APCD 20% opacity limit (APCD Rule 401) and minimize nuisance impacts:

- a. Reduce the amount of the disturbed area where possible;
- b. Use water trucks, APCD approved dust suppressants (see Section 4.3 in the CEQA Air Quality Handbook), or sprinkler systems in sufficient quantities to prevent airborne dust from leaving the site and from exceeding the District's limit of 20% opacity for greater than 3 minutes in any 60 minute period. Increased watering frequency would be required whenever wind speeds exceed 15 mph. Reclaimed (non-potable) water should be used whenever possible;
- c. All dirt stock-pile areas should be sprayed daily and covered with tarps or other dust barriers as needed;
- d. All roadways, driveways, sidewalks, etc. to be paved should be completed as soon as possible, and building pads should be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding, soil binders or other dust controls are used;
- e. All of these fugitive dust mitigation measures shall be shown on grading and building plans; and,
- f. The contractor or builder shall designate a person or persons to monitor the fugitive dust emissions and enhance the implementation of the measures as necessary to minimize dust complaints, reduce visible emissions below 20% opacity. Their duties shall include holidays and weekend periods when work may not be in progress.

[AQ-2] Construction Permit Requirements

Portable equipment, 50 horsepower (hp) or greater, used during construction activities may require California statewide portable equipment registration (issued by the California Air Resources Board) or an APCD permit.

The following list is provided as a guide to equipment and operations that may have permitting requirements, but should not be viewed as exclusive. For a more detailed listing, refer to the Technical Appendices, page 4-4, in the APCD's 2012 CEQA Handbook.

- Power screens, conveyors, diesel engines, and/or crushers;
- Portable generators and equipment with engines that are 50 hp or greater;
- Internal combustion engines;
- Rock and pavement crushing;
- Unconfined abrasive blasting operations;
- Tub grinders; and
- Trommel screens.

[AQ-3] To minimize potential delays, prior to the start of the project, the contractor must contact the APCD Engineering Division at (805) 781-5912 for specific information regarding permitting requirements.

4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES <i>Will the project:</i>	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Result in a loss of unique or special status species* or their habitats?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Reduce the extent, diversity or quality of native or other important vegetation?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Impact wetland or riparian habitat?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Interfere with the movement of resident or migratory fish or wildlife species, or factors, which could hinder the normal activities of wildlife?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>Conflict with any regional plans or policies to protect sensitive species, or regulations of the California Department of Fish & Wildlife or U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) <i>Other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

* Species – as defined in Section 15380 of the CEQA Guidelines, which includes all plant and wildlife species that fall under the category of rare, threatened or endangered, as described in this section.

Setting. The project is within the U.S.G.S. Cholame quadrangle. This area of San Luis Obispo County experiences arid climate. The project site is bordered by commercial and residential development on the west and east, while the stream channel extends to the south and north. Work will not occur if water is present within the project area. Construction activities will occur within the creek channel to construct bridge footings and pilings. The following are existing elements on or near the proposed project relating to potential biological concerns:

On-site Vegetation: non-native grassland, ruderal, riparian

Name and distance from blue line creek(s): San Juan Creek runs through project site

Habitat(s): Ruderal and disturbed riparian.

Based on the CNDDDB search, the following listed and/or sensitive species have been discovered within approximately five miles of the proposed project (Table1):

Table 1: CNDDDB results within 5 miles of project site

Scientific & Common Name	Habitat	Listing Status*	Habitat Present/Absent
<i>Ammospermophilus nelsoni</i> Nelson's antelope squirrel	Inhabit dry flat or rolling terrain, with slopes less than 10-14 degrees, on alluvial and loamy soils, soils with sandy or gravelly texture, or fine-grained soils that are nearly brick-hard when dry; inhabit grassy, sparsely shrubby ground (shrubs include saltbush, ephedra, bladder pod, goldenbush, snakeweed, etc.); it also occurs in areas lacking shrubs where giant kangaroo rats are present.	ST	A
<i>Antrozous pallidus</i> Pallid bat	Frequents arid or semi-arid locations; day roost is usually in a warm, horizontal opening such as in attics or rock cracks; the night roost is usually in the open, near foliage; and the hibernation roost, which is often in buildings, caves, or cracks in rocks.	SSC	A
<i>Buteo swainsoni</i> Swainson's hawk	Seen on prominent perches overlooking open areas or soaring; often nest in grasslands but also use sage flats and even swaths of agriculture intermixed with native habitat; nests are placed in trees.	ST	P
<i>Dipodomys ingens</i> Giant kangaroo rat	Inhabits gently sloping and level piedmont plains and (formerly) areas supporting saltbush and perennial grasses; habitat now is dominated by introduced annuals, with many shrubs in some areas; prefer semi-arid slopes at the head of draws in barren shrubless areas, with loose, easily diggable, sandy loam soils. Feed on seeds, gather dry grass into "haystacks" to cure, later removing seeds for storage in underground burrows; also temporarily bury seeds in the ground before storing in burrows.	FE, SE	A
<i>Actinemys pallida</i> Southern western pond turtle	Often seen basking above the water; when water sources dry up summer, some turtles that inhabit creeks will travel along the creek until they find an isolated deep pool, others stay within moist mats of algae in shallow pools while many turtles move to woodlands above the creek or pond and bury themselves in loose soil where they will overwinter.	SSC	A
<i>Eriogonum temblorense</i> Temblor buckwheat	Typically occurs on white, shattered shale and occasionally on sandstone.	1B.2	A
<i>Falco mexicanus</i> Prairie falcon	Grasslands, shrub-steppe, deserts, and other open areas. During the winter, they also reside in cultivated fields, lakeshores, desert scrub, as well as feedlots.	SSC	P
<i>Masticophis flagellum ruddocki</i> San Joaquin whipsnake	Occurs in open, dry, treeless areas, including grassland and saltbush scrub. The San Joaquin whipsnake takes refuge in rodent burrows, under shaded vegetation, and under surface objects.	SSC	P

<i>Onychomys torridus tularensis</i> Tulare grasshopper mouse	Inhabit burrows found in arid shrubland communities in hot, arid grassland and shrubland associations.	SSC	P
<i>Perognathus inornatus inornatus</i> San Joaquin pocket mouse	Inhabit dry, open, grassy or weedy ground, and arid annual grasslands, savanna, and desert-shrub associations with sandy washes or finely textured soil; on the Carrizo Plain, it occurs in areas with <i>Erodium</i> , <i>Amsinckia</i> , <i>Astragalus</i> , and <i>Bromus</i> .	SSC	P
<i>Riparia riparia</i> Bank swallow	Vertical cliffs or banks; natural bluffs or eroding streamside banks.	ST	A
<i>Taxidea taxus</i> American badger	Prefers open areas and may also frequent brushlands with little groundcover; when inactive, occupies underground burrow; they are usually found in relative dry, grasslands and open forests.	SSC	A
<i>Vulpes macrotis mutica</i> San Joaquin kit fox	Inhabits the chaparral, grasslands, and scrublands; live in dens; they also live in man-made structures such as irrigation pipes, drainage culverts, spaces under buildings and storm drains.	FE, ST	A

*Federally Endangered = FE Sate Endangered = SE Federally Threatened = FT State Threatened = ST State Rare = SR State Species of Special Concern = SSC California Rare Plant Rank = 1B.2, 1B.3

Additional sensitive species that have been detected within 10 miles of the project site that could be present based on the presence suitable habitat include: burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*), coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma coronatum*), straight-awned spineflower (*Chorizanthe rectispina*), and western spadefoot (*Spea hammondi*) (CNDDDB, Caltrans 2003).

The project contains non-native grasses such as rip-gut brome (*Bromus diandrus*) as well as mulefat (*Baccharis salicifolia*), arroyo willow (*Salix lasiolepis*), Fremont cottonwood (*Populus fremontii* ssp. *fremontii*), Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*), western ragweed (*Ambrosia psilostachya*), fiddleneck (*Amsinckia menziesii* var. *intermedia*), jimsonweed (*Datura wrightii*), tamarisk (*Tamarix parviflora*), and big saltbush (*Atriplex lentiformis*). Footprints identified under the bridge include darkling beetle, unidentified rodent, domestic dog (*Canis familiaris*) and cat (*Felis catus*). The project site experiences a high level of human activity including off-road vehicles and foot traffic. Trash is scattered below and adjacent to the East Centre Street Bridge.

Special Status Plant Species

Of the special status plant species identified by the CNDDDB search and identified during Caltrans' surveys conducted for the widening of State Highway 46, suitable habitat for the straight-awned spineflower and Temblor buckwheat is present within the project site. However, neither species was identified during surveys conducted by County Public Works Environmental Resource Specialists in July of 2013 and September and October of 2014.

Special Status Wildlife

Of the special status plant species identified by the CNDDDB search and identified during Caltrans' surveys conducted for the widening of State Highway 46, the project site contains potentially suitable habitat for: burrowing owl, bank swallow, prairie falcon, Swainson's hawk, Tulare grasshopper mouse, San Joaquin pocket mouse, Nelson's antelope squirrel, giant kangaroo rat, coast horned lizard, western spadefoot, southern western pond turtle, San Joaquin whipsnake, San Joaquin kit fox and American badger. No burrows large enough to facilitate American badgers and/or San Joaquin kit fox were detected within the project site during field surveys conducted in 2013 and 2014.

The project is located within an area identified by the San Luis Obispo County Planning and Building Department as kit fox habitat. Although no suitable burrows are present for kit fox, the project will need to follow the County's mitigation process and will pay a fee to offset permanent impacts to habitat at a 4:1 ratio per the County's guidance which can be found at:

http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/planning/environmental/San_Joaquin_Kit_Fox.htm.

Burrowing owl

This California Species of Special Concern is found in grassland and desert habitats and usually claims burrows that have been abandoned by ground squirrels or pocket gophers but is quite capable of digging its own (<http://birds.audubon.org/birds/burrowing-owl>). However, the project site is so disturbed that few burrows appear throughout the project site. Very few burrows appear to be actively used by wildlife within the project site and this species was not detected during field surveys. It is unlikely that this species is present within the project site.

Bank swallow

This species is State listed as threatened and its territories usually include vertical cliffs or banks where it nests in colonies. Though in the past bank swallows were most commonly found around natural bluffs or eroding streamside banks, more and more often these swallows populate human-made sites, such as sand and gravel quarries or road cuts (http://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Bank_Swallow/id). The project site does not contain any bluffs or streamside banks that would provide habitat for this species and this species was not detected during field surveys. Therefore, it is unlikely that this species is present within the project site.

Prairie falcon

This California Species of Special Concern nests in cliff faces and rock outcrops facing open habitat. Prairie falcons inhabit grasslands, shrub-steppe, deserts, and other open areas. During the winter, they also reside in cultivated fields, lakeshores, desert scrub, as well as feedlots where European Starlings may provide a steady food source (http://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/prairie_falcon/lifehistory). Although nesting habitat is not present within the project site, this species could use the project site for foraging purposes.

Swainson's hawk

This species is State listed as threatened and is often seen on prominent perches overlooking open areas or soaring. They often nest in grasslands but also use sage flats and even swaths of agriculture intermixed with native habitat. Nests are placed in trees, often in the only tree visible for miles (http://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Swainsons_Hawk/id). There are no nesting records of this species in San Luis Obispo County. It is possible that this species could use the project site for nesting or foraging purposes.

Tulare grasshopper mouse

This species is a California Species of Special Concern and is a subspecies of the southern grasshopper mouse. It has a stout body with a short, club-like tail. They are sharply bicolored with the head and upperparts pale brown to gray or pinkish-cinnamon and the underparts white. The feet of the southern grasshopper mouse have five tubercles (knob-like fleshy bumps) on the sole of each forefoot and four on the hindfeet. The grasshopper mouse is primarily a carnivore, with a particular appetite for small mammals and insects; it also eats other invertebrates and seeds. The adult males are highly territorial and frequently vocalize at night. They emit a high-pitched call, lasting several seconds, while standing on their hind legs with head raised and mouth open. They inhabit burrows found in arid shrubland communities

in hot, arid grassland and shrubland associations (<http://esrp.csustan.edu/speciesprofiles/profile.php?sp=onto>). Although few burrows were detected during field surveys, it is possible that this species could inhabit the project site.

San Joaquin pocket mouse

This species is a California Species of Special Concern and inhabits dry, open, grassy or weedy ground, and arid annual grasslands, savanna, and desert-shrub associations with sandy washes or finely textured soil. On the Carrizo Plain, it occurs in areas with *Erodium*, *Amsinckia*, *Astragalus*, and *Bromus* (<http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/42609/0>). Although few burrows were detected during field surveys, it is possible that this species could inhabit the project site which contains two of the four floral species that this species identifies with: *Amsinckia* and *Bromus*.

Nelson's antelope squirrel

This species is State listed as threatened and lives in habitat consisting of dry flat or rolling terrain, with slopes less than 10-14 degrees, on alluvial and loamy soils, soils with sandy or gravelly texture, or fine-grained soils that are nearly brick-hard when dry. The species inhabits grassy, sparsely shrubby ground (shrubs include saltbush, ephedra, bladder pod, goldenbush, snakeweed, etc.); it also occurs in areas lacking shrubs where giant kangaroo rats are present (<http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/1149/0>). However, the project site is so disturbed that few burrows appear throughout the project site. Very few burrows appear to be actively used by wildlife within the project site and no ground squirrel tracks were identified within the site during surveys. The few burrows that were present appear to be sized for reptiles or mice. It is unlikely that this species is present within the project site.

Giant kangaroo rat

This species is both State and Federal listed as endangered. The kangaroo rats form colonies of burrows called precincts in which multiple individuals reside. They are primarily nocturnal and are active all year in all types of weather. Precincts are highly visible from the air as these areas surrounding kangaroo rat burrows have been grazed nearly bare by the rodents (USFWS 2010). The project site is located within the San Juan Creek Valley geographic unit of the giant kangaroo rat. However, few active small mammal burrows occur within the project site and no seed caches were identified. This species was not detected during field surveys and it is not expected to be present within the project site.

Coast horned lizard

The coast horned lizard is an endemic species to California and a California Species of Special Concern. This species inhabits open areas of sandy soil and low vegetation in valleys, foothills and semiarid mountains from sea level to 8,000 feet in elevation. They can be found in grasslands, coniferous forests, woodlands, and chaparral, with open areas and patches of loose soil, and are often found in lowlands along sandy washes with scattered shrubs and along dirt roads, and frequently found near ant hills (www.CaliforniaHerps.com). The project site contains suitable habitat for this species.

Western spadefoot

The western spadefoot is a federal species of concern and a California Species of Special Concern. The species occurs primarily in grassland habitats, but can be found in valley-foothill hardwood woodlands. This species breeds pools or ponds and they frequent washes, alluvial fans, playas, river floodplains, alkali flats, and vernal pools. They prefer areas of open vegetation with soil that is sandy or gravelly, and can also be found in open chaparral and pine-oak woodlands (Stebbins 1985). Breeding habitat is not present but it is possible that this

species could inhabit the soils within the project site.

Southern Western pond turtle

This species is a California Species of Special Concern. It is often seen basking above the water, but will quickly slide into the water when it feels threatened. When creeks and ponds dry up in summer, some turtles that inhabit creeks will travel along the creek until they find an isolated deep pool, others stay within moist mats of algae in shallow pools while many turtles move to woodlands above the creek or pond and bury themselves in loose soil where they will overwinter until temperatures warm up enough for them to become active and the heavy winter flows of the creek subside, and then they return to the creek in spring (www.CaliforniaHerps.com). This species is not anticipated to be within the project site during construction since no water will be present within San Juan Creek and upland habitat is not suitable for overwintering.

San Joaquin whipsnake

This species is a California Species of Special Concern and it occurs in open, dry, treeless areas, including grassland and saltbush scrub. The San Joaquin whipsnake takes refuge in rodent burrows, under shaded vegetation, and under surface objects (www.CaliforniaHerps.com). Although few burrows were detected during field surveys, it is possible that this species could inhabit the project site.

REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

The project will permanently impact a drainage that falls within the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) jurisdiction; therefore, authorization from the Corps is required. Impacts to this drainage will also require permits or agreements from the California Regional Water Quality Control Board and California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Prior to commencement of work, permits from these agencies must be secured.

Impact. The project site provides suitable habitat for 1 state-listed species and 6 special-status wildlife species; therefore, project activities could impact these species and/or their habitat. Additionally, vegetation removal will occur to facilitate bridge construction activities. Approximately two arroyo willows and two Fremont cottonwoods over 4 inches in diameter-breast height (DBH) may be removed as a result of project activities.

Tulare grasshopper mouse, San Joaquin pocket mouse, San Joaquin whipsnake, coast horned lizard, western spadefoot, Swainson's hawk, and prairie falcon and their habitats may be impacted by proposed construction activities. Removal of riparian habitat could impact Swainson's hawks or prairie falcons if present and using the habitat for perching purposes. Work within the channel of San Juan Creek could result in direct take, injury, or disturbance of species within the sandy soils or burrows including: Tulare grasshopper mouse, San Joaquin pocket mouse, San Joaquin whipsnake, coast horned lizard, and western spadefoot. Pre-construction surveys for sensitive wildlife species will minimize potential impacts to these species as a result of the project (BR-6).

The proposed project will also create temporary and/or permanent impacts to vegetation along the creek, which may offer shading and microhabitat temperature regulation in the channel; however, the loss of trees will be mitigated with replacement trees (BR-12).

The project will temporarily introduce potentially hazardous materials into the area in the form of fuel in construction equipment. A spill and clean-up kit will be stored onsite at all times. All fueling and maintenance of vehicles and other equipment and staging areas will occur at least 20 meters from any riparian habitat or water body. Prior to the onset of work, the County will ensure that the



contractor has prepared a plan to allow a prompt and effective response to accidental spills. All workers will be informed of the importance of preventing spills and of the appropriate measures to take should a spill occur (BR-8 and -9).

As a part of the County Planning and Building Department's kit fox mitigation program, 2.8 acres of kit fox habitat will be preserved to offset impacts to kit fox habitat as a result of the project. Although dens are not present within the project site, habitat impacts are still mitigated through this program. As a result, suitable habitat for western spadefoot, coast horned lizards, and San Joaquin coachwhip would be preserved as well (<http://paloprietoconservationbank.com/>).

Mitigation/Conclusion. Because the project site has potential to support state-listed and sensitive species, the following mitigation measures will ensure that impacts to biological resources resulting from the project are less than significant.

[BR-1] Prior to construction, the County shall obtain all necessary permits, approvals, and authorizations from jurisdictional agencies. These may include, but may not be limited to: (1) ACOE, Section 404 Nationwide Permit 43; (2) RWQCB, Section 401 Water Quality Certification; and (3) CDFW, Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement for activities within the tops of banks or outer edges of riparian canopies (whichever is furthest from the streambed) of San Juan Creek. The County shall adhere to all conditions included within these permits, approvals, and authorizations.

[BR-2] In-stream work shall take place between June 1 and October 31 in any given year, when the surface water within San Juan Creek is likely to be at seasonal minimum.

[BR-3] Prior to construction, exclusionary fencing shall be erected by the contractor at the boundaries of all construction areas to avoid equipment and human intrusion into adjacent creek/wetland habitats. The fencing shall remain in place throughout construction.

[BR-4] During project activities, all trash that may attract predators shall be properly contained, removed from the work site and disposed of regularly. Following construction, all trash and construction debris shall be removed from work areas.

[BR-5] During construction, no pets will be allowed on the construction site.

[BR-6] Prior to construction, a biologist shall conduct a pre-construction survey for sensitive wildlife species including: Tulare grasshopper mouse, San Joaquin pocket mouse, San Joaquin whipsnake, coast horned lizard, western spadefoot, Swainson's hawk, and prairie falcon. If any of these species are detected, work activities will halt until the species has vacated the site. County Environmental Resource Specialists covered by Scientific Collecting Permit #10925 may relocate San Joaquin whipsnake, coast horned lizard, and/or western spadefoot out of harm's way. All other species would require further coordination with CDFW if they do not move out of the project area on their own accord.

[BR-7] Before any construction activities begin on the project, a biologist shall conduct a training session for all construction personnel. The training session shall include a description of species that may be encountered during construction, the importance of these species and their habitat, the general measures that are being implemented to conserve these species as they relate to the project, and the boundaries within which the project may be accomplished. Brochures, books, and briefings may be used in the training session, provided that a qualified

person is on hand to answer any questions.

[BR-8] All fueling and maintenance of vehicles and other equipment and staging areas shall occur at least 20 meters from any riparian habitat or water body. The County shall ensure contamination of habitat does not occur during such operations.

[BR-9] Prior to the onset of work, the County shall ensure that the contractor has prepared a plan to allow a prompt and effective response to accidental spills. All workers shall be informed of the importance of preventing spills and of the appropriate measures to take should a spill occur.

[BR-10] Prior to site disturbance, the County shall print Best Management Practices (BMPs) on all applicable construction plans. BMPs shall be implemented prior to, during, and following construction activities. Measures shall include, but not be limited to the following:

- a. Silt fencing shall be placed along the down-slope side of the construction zone.
- b. A spill and clean-up kit shall be stored onsite at all times.
- c. Temporary and permanent erosion and sedimentation measures shall be implemented (e.g., silt fencing, straw wattles, etc.).

[BR-11] If construction activities are conducted during the typical nesting bird season (February 15 – September 15th), preconstruction surveys shall be conducted by the County-approved biologist or County Environmental Resource Specialist prior to any construction activity or vegetation trimming to identify potential bird nesting activity, and:

- a. If active nest sites of bird species protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) are observed within the vicinity of the Project site, then the Project shall be modified and/or delayed as necessary to avoid direct take of the identified nests, eggs, and/or young;
- b. If active nest sites of raptors and/or bird species of special concern are observed within the vicinity of the Project site, then CDFW shall be contacted to establish the appropriate buffer around the nest site. Construction activities in the buffer zone shall be prohibited until the young have fledged the nest and achieved independence; and
- c. Active nests shall be documented by a qualified biologist and a letter-report shall be submitted to the County and Caltrans who will submit the information to USFWS and CDFW, documenting Project compliance with the MBTA and applicable Project mitigation measures.

[BR-12] A Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan will be prepared and will include specific measures for restoration and revegetation of all temporarily disturbed areas. The Plan will include protection measures, standards for revegetation, a monitoring program to ensure proper implementation and maintenance of restored areas, and performance criteria to determine success. Permanent disturbance will be mitigated via restoration and enhancement at a 3:1 ratio and temporarily disturbed areas will be restored at a 1:1 ratio. Native trees over 4" DBH will be mitigated onsite or adjacent to the project site at a 3:1 ratio, per CDFW regulations.

[BR-13] Any equipment or vehicles driven and/or operated in or adjacent to the stream shall be checked and maintained daily to prevent leaks of materials that, if introduced to the waterway, could be deleterious to aquatic and terrestrial life.

[BR-14] Prior to any activity within the creek, the contractor shall identify the limits of the required access routes and encroachment into the creek.

[BR-15] If any general wildlife is encountered during the course of project-related activities, it shall be

allowed to leave the construction area unharmed.

[BR-16] Clearing of vegetation for construction shall be limited to the minimal amount necessary to complete the project.

5. CULTURAL RESOURCES

<i>Will the project:</i>	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Disturb archaeological resources?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Disturb historical resources?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Disturb paleontological resources?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting. The project is located in an area historically occupied by the Salinan. No historic structures are present and no paleontological resources are known to exist in the area.

Impact. A Phase I (surface) survey was conducted by Albion Environmental, Inc. on November 3, 2014 and an Archaeological Survey Report (ASR) was prepared. One potential isolated artifact, a chert core, was identified during the field review of the project Area of Potential Effects (APE). The artifact was identified in a disturbed context and does not appear to be associated with any archaeological site. The isolated artifact was observed within the proposed staging area.

It is Caltrans policy to avoid cultural resources whenever possible. Although the isolated artifact does not appear to be associated with any archaeological site, it may be associated with an unknown subsurface archeological deposit. If buried cultural materials are encounter during construction, then it is Caltrans' policy that work will stop in that area until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the find. The potential for buried resources is low based on being located within poorly developed alluvial deposits associated with San Juan Creek (Albion Environmental, Inc. 2014). Additional survey will be required if the project changes to include area not previously surveyed.

Mitigation/Conclusion. The following mitigation measure will be implemented, per the ASR prepared for the project, to avoid significant impacts to Cultural Resources:

[CR-1] If buried cultural materials are encounter during construction, work will stop in that area until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the find.

6. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

<i>Will the project:</i>	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Result in exposure to or production of unstable earth conditions, such as landslides, earthquakes, liquefaction, ground failure, land subsidence or other similar hazards?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Will the project:

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
b) <i>Be within a California Geological Survey "Alquist-Priolo" Earthquake Fault Zone", or other known fault zones*?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Result in soil erosion, topographic changes, loss of topsoil or unstable soil conditions from project-related improvements, such as vegetation removal, grading, excavation, or fill?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Include structures located on expansive soils?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>Be inconsistent with the goals and policies of the County's Safety Element relating to Geologic and Seismic Hazards?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) <i>Preclude the future extraction of valuable mineral resources?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) <i>Other: _____</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

* Per Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication #42

Setting. The following relates to the project's geologic aspects or conditions:

Topography: Nearly level to gently rolling

Within County's Geologic Study Area?: Yes

Landslide Risk Potential: Low

Liquefaction Potential: Moderate

Nearby potentially active faults?: Yes Distance? 11.08 miles

Area known to contain serpentine or ultramafic rock or soils?: No

Shrink/Swell potential of soil: Low

Other notable geologic features? None

The project is within the Geologic Study area designation.

The project is in an area that requires USGS Seismic Design Standards D2. Earth Mechanics, Inc. performed a geotechnical survey for the project site. Based on this data, the site is located in a seismically active region and is subject to shaking from both local and distant earthquakes. No major faults traverse through the site area. The California Division of Mines and Geology has not identified Alquist-Priolo Fault Zones through the site; therefore, the risk of ground surface rupture and related hazards is considered low (Earth Mechanics, Inc. 2014).

Impact. As proposed, the project will result in the disturbance of approximately 28,200 square feet. Although the Project area contains moderately liquefiable soils, no new buildings or major underground utilities are proposed as a part of the project; therefore, mitigation is not warranted

above and no mitigation measures beyond those described under the Biological Resources section relating to erosion control (BR-10, BR-12).

Mitigation/Conclusion. No significant impacts to Geology and Soils were identified; therefore, no mitigation measures are necessary.

7. HAZARDS & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Create a hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within ¼-mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on, or adjacent to, a site which is included on a list of hazardous material/waste sites compiled pursuant to Gov't Code 65962.5 ("Cortese List"), and result in an adverse public health condition?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Impair implementation or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response or evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) If within the Airport Review designation, or near a private airstrip, result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Increase fire hazard risk or expose people or structures to high wildland fire hazard conditions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h) Be within a 'very high' fire hazard severity zone?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) Be within an area classified as a 'state responsibility' area as defined by CalFire?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

7. HAZARDS & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS - Will the project:

Potentially Significant Impact can & will be mitigated Insignificant Impact Not Applicable

j) Other: _____

Setting.

The majority of the project is within the 100-year Flood Hazard Combining designation (FH).

With regards to potential fire hazards, the project is not within a Fire Hazard Severity Zone. Based on the County’s fire response time map, it will take approximately 0-5 minutes to respond to a call regarding fire or life safety. The project is not within the Airport Review area.

The project is not located in an area of known hazardous material contamination. The project does not involve land that falls under Government Code Section 65962.5 (known as the “Cortese List”), which includes hazardous waste facilities, land designated as hazardous waste property, hazardous waste disposal sites, and/or is not subject to the Hazardous Waste Substances Statement required under subsection (f) of that Section. The site is 0.25 mile west of a 500-foot buffer surrounding a Regional Water Quality Control Board clean-up site.

The Project will temporarily introduce potentially hazardous materials into the area in the form of fuel in construction equipment. All equipment will be staged on the road. A spill and clean-up kit will be stored onsite at all times. All fueling and maintenance of vehicles and other equipment and staging areas will occur at least 20 meters from any riparian habitat or water body. Prior to the onset of work, the County will ensure that the contractor has prepared a plan to allow a prompt and effective response to accidental spills. All workers will be informed of the importance of preventing spills and of the appropriate measures to take should a spill occur (refer to BR-8, -9, and -10).

Impact. The project does not propose the use of hazardous materials, nor the generation of hazardous wastes. The proposed project is not found on the ‘Cortese List’ (which is a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5). The project does not present a significant fire safety risk. The project is not expected to conflict with any regional emergency response or evacuation plan. The new pedestrian-bicycle bridge has been designed to handle a 100-year storm event and associated flooding.

Mitigation/Conclusion. The following mitigation measure will further reduce potential fire related risks:

[HM-1] Any staging or equipment/vehicle parking areas shall be free of combustible vegetation and work crews shall have shovels and a fire extinguisher on site during all construction activities.

8. NOISE

Will the project:

Potentially Significant Impact can & will be mitigated Insignificant Impact Not Applicable

a) *Expose people to noise levels that exceed the County Noise Element thresholds?*

b) *Generate permanent increases in the ambient noise levels in the project vicinity?*

8. NOISE

<i>Will the project:</i>	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
c) <i>Cause a temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise in the project vicinity?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Expose people to severe noise or vibration?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>If located within the Airport Review designation or adjacent to a private airstrip, expose people residing or working in the project area to severe noise levels?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) <i>Other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting. The project is not within close proximity of loud noise sources, and will not conflict with any sensitive noise receptors (e.g., residences). Based on the Noise Element's projected future noise generation from known stationary and vehicle-generated noise sources, the project is within an acceptable threshold area. The project will not increase vehicular traffic in the area but will redirect current pedestrian and bicycle traffic onto a separate bridge adjacent to the existing vehicle bridge.

Noise impacts resulting from construction will be of a short duration, during normal work hours, and temporary in nature. It is not expected that County noise standards will be exceeded as a result of the project. The following is one of the exceptions to the Noise Standards from the LUO: Noise sources associated with construction provided such activities do not take place before 7 a.m. or after 9 p.m. on any day except Saturday or Sunday, or before 8 a.m. or after 5 p.m. on Saturday or Sunday. The County will abide by this time-frame during all project activities. Additionally, pile driving will not be used as a method of construction for this project. The project is not expected to conflict with the surrounding uses.

Impact. The project is not expected to conflict with the surrounding uses.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No significant noise impacts are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are necessary beyond limiting construction to the time-frames listed above.

9. POPULATION/HOUSING

<i>Will the project:</i>	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Induce substantial growth in an area either directly (e.g., construct new homes or businesses) or indirectly (e.g., extension of major infrastructure)?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Displace existing housing or people, requiring construction of replacement housing elsewhere?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

9. POPULATION/HOUSING

Will the project:

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
c) <i>Create the need for substantial new housing in the area?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting The construction of a pedestrian-bicycle bridge adjacent to the East Centre Street Bridge is not anticipated to result in substantial growth, development, or create a need for substantial housing in the community of Shandon. The project is not anticipated to displace existing housing or people or require construction of replacement housing. Additionally, the project will not result in substantial use of fuel or energy.

Impact. The Project will not result in a need for a significant amount of new housing, and will not displace existing housing.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No significant population and housing impacts are anticipated. No significant impacts are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are necessary

10. PUBLIC SERVICES/UTILITIES

Will the project have an effect upon, or result in the need for new or altered public services in any of the following areas:

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Fire protection?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Police protection (e.g., Sheriff, CHP)?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Schools?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Roads?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>Solid Wastes?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) <i>Other public facilities?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) <i>Other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting. The project area is served by the following public services/facilities:

Police: County Sheriff

Location: Paso Robles

Fire: Cal Fire (formerly CDF), San Luis Obispo County

Hazard Severity: Not Applicable

Response Time: 0 - 5 minutes

Location: Approximately 0.5 miles to the east

School District: Shandon Joint Unified School District.

For additional information regarding fire hazard impacts, go to the 'Hazards and Hazardous Materials' section.

Impact. No significant project-specific impacts to utilities or public services were identified. An AT&T line will be relocated to facilitate construction of the pedestrian-bicycle bridge. This project will not have an effect on police/sheriff and fire protection, or schools. The route for vehicle traffic will not be impacted as the new bridge will be constructed adjacent to the existing bridge and staging will occur on adjacent County right-of-way and private property outside of the roadway.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No significant public services/utilities impacts are anticipated and no mitigation measures are necessary.

11. RECREATION

<i>Will the project:</i>	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Increase the use or demand for parks or other recreation opportunities?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Affect the access to trails, parks or other recreation opportunities?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Other _____</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting. The County’s Parks and Recreation Element does not show that a potential trail goes through the proposed project. The project is not proposed in a location that will affect any trail, park, recreational resource, coastal access, and/or Natural Area.

Impact. The proposed project will not create a significant need for additional park, Natural Area, and/or recreational resources.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No significant recreation impacts are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are necessary.

12. TRANSPORTATION/CIRCULATION

<i>Will the project:</i>	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Increase vehicle trips to local or areawide circulation system?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Reduce existing “Level of Service” on public roadway(s)?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Create unsafe conditions on public roadways (e.g., limited access, design features, sight distance, slow vehicles)?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Provide for adequate emergency access?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>Conflict with an established measure of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system considering all modes of transportation (e.g. LOS, mass transit, etc.)?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) <i>Conflict with an applicable congestion management program?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

12. TRANSPORTATION/CIRCULATION

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
<i>Will the project:</i>				
g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Result in a change in air traffic patterns that may result in substantial safety risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting. The purpose of the project is to provide a bridge crossing to accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists and improve alternative modes of transit. The new pedestrian-bicycle bridge will be constructed adjacent to the existing vehicle bridge, across San Juan Creek. Staging will occur within County right-of-way and on private property. Traffic will not be impacted as construction and staging will occur off of the roadway. Surrounding roadways and the East Centre Street Bridge will remain open to traffic. Caltrans and SLOCOG are providing funding for the development of this project.

Impact. The project does not conflict with adopted policies, plans and programs on transportation.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No significant traffic impacts were identified, and no mitigation measures are necessary.

13. WASTEWATER

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
<i>Will the project:</i>				
a) Violate waste discharge requirements or Central Coast Basin Plan criteria for wastewater systems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Change the quality of surface or ground water (e.g., nitrogen-loading, day-lighting)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Adversely affect community wastewater service provider?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting/Impact. The project involves constructing a pedestrian-bicycle bridge which is not anticipated to generate waste or wastewater or adversely affect wastewater facilities and solid waste capacity. A portable chemical toilet will be available for use by construction crews. No impacts resulting from wastewater would occur as a result of the project.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No significant impacts are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are necessary.

14. WATER & HYDROLOGY

Will the project:

QUALITY

a) *Violate any water quality standards?*

Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

b) *Discharge into surface waters or otherwise alter surface water quality (e.g., turbidity, sediment, temperature, dissolved oxygen, etc.)?*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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c) *Change the quality of groundwater (e.g., saltwater intrusion, nitrogen-loading, etc.)?*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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d) *Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide additional sources of polluted runoff?*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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e) *Change rates of soil absorption, or amount or direction of surface runoff?*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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f) *Change the drainage patterns where substantial on- or off-site sedimentation/ erosion or flooding may occur?*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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g) *Involve activities within the 100-year flood zone?*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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QUANTITY

h) *Change the quantity or movement of available surface or ground water?*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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i) *Adversely affect community water service provider?*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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j) *Expose people to a risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding (e.g., dam failure, etc.), or inundation by seiche, tsunami or mudflow?*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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k) *Other:* _____

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Setting.

The project is within the 100-year flood zone and is located in the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin.

The topography of the project is nearly level to gently rolling. San Juan Creek runs through the project site. As described in the NRCS Soil Survey, the soil surface is considered to have moderate or unrated erodibility.

Projects involving more than one acre of disturbance are subject to preparing a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) to minimize on-site sedimentation and erosion. When work is done in the rainy season, the County's Land Use Ordinance requires that temporary erosion and sedimentation measures to be installed.

DRAINAGE – The following relates to the project’s drainage aspects:

Within the 100-year Flood Hazard designation? Yes

Closest creek? San Juan Creek Distance? Project is within the creek

Soil drainage characteristics: Moderately drained to not rated

Water quality within San Juan Creek may be impacted by proposed construction activities; however, conducting construction activities during the dry season will reduce potential impacts to the water quality within the creek.

SEDIMENTATION AND EROSION –The project’s soil types and descriptions are listed in the previous Agriculture section under “Setting”. As described in the NRCS Soil Survey, the project’s soil erodibility is as follows:

Soil erodibility: Moderate

Impact – Water Quality/Hydrology

With regards to project impacts on water quality the following conditions apply:

- ✓ Approximately 28,200 square feet of site disturbance is proposed;
- ✓ The project will be disturbing over an acre and will be required to prepare a SWPPP, which will be implemented during construction;
- ✓ The project is not on highly erodible soils, nor on moderate to steep slopes;
- ✓ Stockpiles will be properly managed during construction to avoid material loss due to erosion;
- ✓ All hazardous materials and/or wastes will be properly stored on-site, which include secondary containment should spills or leaks occur.

The Project could result in water quality impacts through the discharge of sediments during construction or the accidental spill of petroleum based fuels or lubricants. The Project will not affect groundwater levels.

Mitigation/Conclusion. Degradation to water quality within San Juan Creek before and during construction activities would be mitigated by the implementation of best management practices to prevent erosion/sedimentation. The County is also required to obtain a permit from the Regional Water Quality Control Board prior to commencement of site disturbance (Mitigation Measure BR-1). Additional minimization and avoidance measures in the Biological Resources section will further reduce potential impacts to water and hydrology; specifically, BR-2, BR-3, BR-8, BR-9, BR-10, and BR-12.

Based on the discussion above and implementation of all recommended mitigation measures, all on-site, off-site, direct, in-direct, and cumulative hydrology and water quality impacts associated with the proposed Project are less than significant.

15. LAND USE

Will the project:

Inconsistent Potentially Inconsistent Consistent Not Applicable

a) ***Be potentially inconsistent with land use, policy/regulation (e.g., general plan [County Land Use Element and Ordinance], local coastal plan, specific plan, Clean Air Plan, etc.) adopted to avoid or mitigate for environmental effects?***

15. LAND USE

Will the project:

	Inconsistent	Potentially Inconsistent	Consistent	Not Applicable
b) <i>Be potentially inconsistent with any habitat or community conservation plan?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Be potentially inconsistent with adopted agency environmental plans or policies with jurisdiction over the project?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Be potentially incompatible with surrounding land uses?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>Other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting/Impact. Surrounding uses are identified on Page 2 of the Initial Study. The proposed project was reviewed for consistency with policy and/or regulatory documents relating to the environment and appropriate land use (e.g., County Land Use Ordinance, Local Coastal Plan, etc.). Referrals were sent to outside agencies to review for policy consistencies (e.g., APCD for Clean Air Plan, etc.). The project was found to be consistent with these documents (refer also to Exhibit A on reference documents used).

The project is not within or adjacent to a Habitat Conservation Plan area. The project is consistent or compatible with the surrounding uses as summarized on page 2 of this Initial Study.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No inconsistencies were identified and therefore no additional measures above what will already be required were determined necessary.

16. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Will the project:

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Have the potential to 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 pre-history?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

For further information on CEQA or the County's environmental review process, please visit the County's web site at "www.sloplanning.org" under "Environmental Information", or the California Environmental Resources Evaluation System at: http://www.ceres.ca.gov/topic/env_law/ceqa/guidelines for information about the California Environmental Quality Act.

Exhibit A - Initial Study References and Agency Contacts

The County Planning Department has contacted various agencies for their comments on the proposed project. With respect to the subject application, the following have been contacted (marked with an ☒) and when a response was made, it is either attached or in the application file:

<u>Contacted</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Response</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	County Public Works Department	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/>	County Environmental Health Services	Not Applicable
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	County Agricultural Commissioner's Office	In File**
<input type="checkbox"/>	County Airport Manager	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/>	Airport Land Use Commission	Not Applicable
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Air Pollution Control District	In File**
<input type="checkbox"/>	County Sheriff's Department	Not Applicable
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Regional Water Quality Control Board	None
<input type="checkbox"/>	CA Coastal Commission	Not Applicable
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CA Department of Fish and Wildlife	None
<input type="checkbox"/>	CA Department of Forestry (Cal Fire)	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/>	CA Department of Transportation	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Services District	Not Applicable
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other _____ Francisco)	Army Corps of Engineers (San Francisco) None
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____	Not Applicable

** "No comment" or "No concerns"-type responses are usually not attached

The following checked ("☒") reference materials have been used in the environmental review for the proposed project and are hereby incorporated by reference into the Initial Study. The following information is available at the County Planning and Building Department.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project File for the Subject Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Design Plan
<u>County documents</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Specific Plan
<input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Plan Policies	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual Resource Summary Report
<input type="checkbox"/> Framework for Planning (Coastal/Inland)	<input type="checkbox"/> Circulation Study
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General Plan (Inland/Coastal), includes all maps/elements; more pertinent elements:	<u>Other documents</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture Element	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clean Air Plan/APCD Handbook
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation & Open Space Element	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional Transportation Plan
<input type="checkbox"/> Economic Element	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uniform Fire Code
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Housing Element	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Quality Control Plan (Central Coast Basin – Region 3)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise Element	<input type="checkbox"/> Archaeological Resources Map
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation Element/Project List	<input type="checkbox"/> Area of Critical Concerns Map
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Safety Element	<input type="checkbox"/> Special Biological Importance Map
<input type="checkbox"/> Land Use Ordinance (Inland/Coastal)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CA Natural Species Diversity Database
<input type="checkbox"/> Building and Construction Ordinance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fire Hazard Severity Map
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Facilities Fee Ordinance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flood Hazard Maps
<input type="checkbox"/> Real Property Division Ordinance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey for SLO County
<input type="checkbox"/> Affordable Housing Fund	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GIS mapping layers (e.g., habitat, streams, contours, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/> Airport Land Use Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input type="checkbox"/> Energy Wise Plan	
<input type="checkbox"/> Carrizo Area Plan/Shandon-Carrizo sub area	

In addition, the following project specific information and/or reference materials have been considered as a part of the Initial Study:

Albion Environmental, Inc. 2014. Archaeological Survey Report for the San Juan Creek Pedestrian Bridge Project: RPSTPLE-5949(144). 48 pp.

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). 2003. Highway 46 Corridor improvement Project, Natural Environmental Study including Section 7 Biological Assessments, Wetland Delineation Report, and Conceptual Mitigation in Northern San Luis Obispo County, East of Paso Robles, from Airport Road through the Cholame Valley, 05-SLO-46-51.8/90.6.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Biogeographic Information and Observation System (BIOS). Version 5. Accessed on September 26, 2014.

Earth Mechanics, Inc. 2014. Preliminary Geotechnical Engineering Data for Bridge Type Selection, San Juan Creek Pedestrian Bridge, Shandon, San Luis Obispo County, California. EMI Project No: 14-129. Prepared for Mr. Doug Fredericks, PE/CH2M HILL. 20 pp.

Mutziger, Andrew. "APCD Comments Regarding Pedestrian-Bike Bridge Over San Juan Creek in Shandon, 300485." Message to Katie Drexhage. October 17, 2014. E-mail.

Stebbins, R. C. 1985. A Field Guide to Western Reptiles and Amphibians. Second Edition. Peterson Field Guide Series, Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 1998. Recovery Plan for Upland Species of the San Joaquin Valley, California. Region 1, Portland, OR. 319 opp.

USFWS. 2010. Giant Kangaroo Rat (*Dipodomys ingens*) 5-Year Review: Summary and Evaluation. Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office, Sacramento, California. 50 pp.

Exhibit B - Mitigation Summary Table

Per Public Resources Code Section 21081.6, the following measures also constitute the mitigation monitoring and/or reporting program that will reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels. These measures will become conditions of approval (COAs) should the project be approved. The Lead Agency (County) or other Responsible Agencies, as specified in the following measures, are responsible to verify compliance with these COAs.

AIR QUALITY

[AQ-1] To manage fugitive dust emissions such that they do not exceed the APCD 20% opacity limit (APCD Rule 401) and minimize nuisance impacts:

- a. Reduce the amount of the disturbed area where possible;
- b. Use water trucks, APCD approved dust suppressants (see Section 4.3 in the CEQA Air Quality Handbook), or sprinkler systems in sufficient quantities to prevent airborne dust from leaving the site and from exceeding the District's limit of 20% opacity for greater than 3 minutes in any 60 minute period. Increased watering frequency would be required whenever wind speeds exceed 15 mph. Reclaimed (non-potable) water should be used whenever possible;
- c. All dirt stock-pile areas should be sprayed daily and covered with tarps or other dust barriers as needed;
- d. All roadways, driveways, sidewalks, etc. to be paved should be completed as soon as possible, and building pads should be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding, soil binders or other dust controls are used;
- e. All of these fugitive dust mitigation measures shall be shown on grading and building plans; and,
- f. The contractor or builder shall designate a person or persons to monitor the fugitive dust emissions and enhance the implementation of the measures as necessary to minimize dust complaints, reduce visible emissions below 20% opacity. Their duties shall include holidays and weekend periods when work may not be in progress.

[AQ-2] Construction Permit Requirements

Portable equipment, 50 horsepower (hp) or greater, used during construction activities may require California statewide portable equipment registration (issued by the California Air Resources Board) or an APCD permit.

The following list is provided as a guide to equipment and operations that may have permitting requirements, but should not be viewed as exclusive. For a more detailed listing, refer to the Technical Appendices, page 4-4, in the APCD's 2012 CEQA Handbook.

- Power screens, conveyors, diesel engines, and/or crushers;
- Portable generators and equipment with engines that are 50 hp or greater;
- Internal combustion engines;
- Rock and pavement crushing;
- Unconfined abrasive blasting operations;
- Tub grinders; and
- Trommel screens.

[AQ-3] To minimize potential delays, prior to the start of the project, the contractor must contact the APCD Engineering Division at (805) 781-5912 for specific information regarding permitting requirements.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

- [BR-1] Prior to construction, the County shall obtain all necessary permits, approvals, and authorizations from jurisdictional agencies. These may include, but may not be limited to: (1) ACOE, Section 404 Nationwide Permit 43; (2) RWQCB, Section 401 Water Quality Certification; and (3) CDFW, Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement for activities within the tops of banks or outer edges of riparian canopies (whichever is furthest from the streambed) of San Juan Creek. The County shall adhere to all conditions included within these permits, approvals, and authorizations.
- [BR-2] In-stream work shall take place between June 1 and October 31 in any given year, when the surface water within San Juan Creek is likely to be at seasonal minimum.
- [BR-3] Prior to construction, exclusionary fencing shall be erected by the contractor at the boundaries of all construction areas to avoid equipment and human intrusion into adjacent creek/wetland habitats. The fencing shall remain in place throughout construction.
- [BR-4] During project activities, all trash that may attract predators shall be properly contained, removed from the work site and disposed of regularly. Following construction, all trash and construction debris shall be removed from work areas.
- [BR-5] During construction, no pets will be allowed on the construction site.
- [BR-6] Prior to construction, a biologist shall conduct a pre-construction survey for sensitive wildlife species including the Tulare grasshopper mouse, San Joaquin pocket mouse, San Joaquin whipsnake, coast horned lizard, western spadefoot, Swainson's hawk, and prairie falcon. If any of these species are detected, work activities will halt until the species has vacated the site. County Environmental Resource Specialists covered by Scientific Collecting Permit #10925 may relocate San Joaquin whipsnake, coast horned lizard, and/or western spadefoot out of harm's way. All other species would require further coordination with CDFW if they do not move out of the project area on their own accord.
- [BR-7] Before any construction activities begin on the project, a biologist shall conduct a training session for all construction personnel. The training session shall include a description of species that may be encountered during construction, the importance of these species and their habitat, the general measures that are being implemented to conserve these species as they relate to the project, and the boundaries within which the project may be accomplished. Brochures, books, and briefings may be used in the training session, provided that a qualified person is on hand to answer any questions.
- [BR-8] All fueling and maintenance of vehicles and other equipment and staging areas shall occur at least 20 meters from any riparian habitat or water body. The County shall ensure contamination of habitat does not occur during such operations.
- [BR-9] Prior to the onset of work, the County shall ensure that the contractor has prepared a plan to allow a prompt and effective response to accidental spills. All workers shall be informed of the importance of preventing spills and of the appropriate measures to take should a spill occur.
- [BR-10] Prior to site disturbance, the County shall print Best Management Practices (BMPs) on all applicable construction plans. BMPs shall be implemented prior to, during, and following construction activities. Measures shall include, but not be limited to the following:
- a. Silt fencing shall be placed along the down-slope side of the construction zone.
 - b. A spill and clean-up kit shall be stored onsite at all times.

- c. Temporary and permanent erosion and sedimentation measures shall be implemented (e.g., silt fencing, hay bales, straw wattles, etc.).

[BR-11] If construction activities are conducted during the typical nesting bird season (February 15 – September 15th), preconstruction surveys shall be conducted by the County-approved biologist or County Environmental Resource Specialist prior to any construction activity or vegetation trimming to identify potential bird nesting activity, and:

- d. If active nest sites of bird species protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) are observed within the vicinity of the Project site, then the Project shall be modified and/or delayed as necessary to avoid direct take of the identified nests, eggs, and/or young;
- e. If active nest sites of raptors and/or bird species of special concern are observed within the vicinity of the Project site, then CDFW shall be contacted to establish the appropriate buffer around the nest site. Construction activities in the buffer zone shall be prohibited until the young have fledged the nest and achieved independence; and
- f. Active nests shall be documented by a qualified biologist and a letter-report shall be submitted to the County and Caltrans who will submit the information to USFWS and CDFW, documenting Project compliance with the MBTA and applicable Project mitigation measures.

[BR-12] A Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan will be prepared and will include specific measures for restoration and revegetation of all temporarily disturbed areas. The Plan will include protection measures, standards for revegetation, a monitoring program to ensure proper implementation and maintenance of restored areas, and performance criteria to determine success. Permanent disturbance will be mitigated via restoration and enhancement at a 3:1 ratio and temporarily disturbed areas will be restored at a 1:1 ratio. Native trees over 4" DBH will be mitigated onsite or adjacent to the project site at a 3:1 ratio, per CDFW regulations.

[BR-13] Any equipment or vehicles driven and/or operated in or adjacent to the stream shall be checked and maintained daily to prevent leaks of materials that, if introduced to the waterway, could be deleterious to aquatic and terrestrial life.

[BR-14] Prior to any activity within the creek, the contractor shall identify the limits of the required access routes and encroachment into the creek.

[BR-15] If any general wildlife is encountered during the course of project-related activities, it shall be allowed to leave the construction area unharmed.

[BR-16] Clearing of vegetation for construction shall be limited to the minimal amount necessary to complete the project.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

[CR-1] If buried cultural materials are encounter during construction, work will stop in that area until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the find.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

[HM-1] Any staging or equipment/vehicle parking areas shall be free of combustible vegetation and work crews shall have shovels and a fire extinguisher on site during all construction activities.