



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Quality, Excellence, Innovation

Rosemarie R. Gaglione
DIRECTOR

April 25, 2022

**Re: Panoramic Trail Closure – Mt. Tam State Park
Guardrail Replacement Project, County Project 2019-11**

Administration
PO Box 4186
San Rafael, CA 94913-4186
415 473 6528T
415 473 3799 F
415 473 3232 TTY
CRS Dial 711
www.marincounty.org/pw

To Whom It May Concern,

This advance notification is intended to solicit public comments regarding the temporary closure of a portion of Panoramic Trail in Mount Tamalpais State Park in September 2022 during work activities.

Accounting

The County of Marin Department of Public works is the design phase of a highway safety improvement project that involves the replacement the existing metal beam guardrail located on Panoramic Highway at Mountain View Avenue (Mile Post 2.26). In order to support the guardrail on the slope, a retaining wall will be constructed behind the guardrail. A portion of the Panoramic Trail is located downhill of the work area. In the interested of public safety, the County has requested the trail closed during pier drilling operations only.

Administrative Services

Airport

Building Maintenance

Capital Projects

Certified Unified Program
Agency (CUPA)

The project is expected to begin in September 2022 and last for a total of 6 weeks. The trail closure duration would only be for 2 to 3 of those weeks. Traffic delays are not expected to be more than 5 minutes at any time. Working hours are Monday through Friday, 7:00am to 5pm. A second notification will be sent two weeks prior to the construction start date and will provide more detailed scheduling information.

Communications
Maintenance

Disability Access

Please review the enclosed documents and provide written comments via US mail or email to pbuckley@marincounty.org by May 15 2022.

Engineering & Survey

Sincerely,

Fleet Operations

Flood Control &
Water Resources

Land Development

Philip A. Buckley
Senior Civil Engineer

Procurement

Department of Public Works
PO Box 4186
San Rafael, CA 94913

Real Estate

Reprographic Services

Road Maintenance

cc. Michelle Squyer
California State Parks

Stormwater Program

Transportation &
Traffic Operations

Waste Management



Rosemarie R. Gaglione
DIRECTOR

Section 4(f) Memorandum
Guardrail Replacement Project, Federal Project ID: HSIPL – 5927 (123)

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The environmental review, consultation, and any other action required in accordance with applicable Federal laws for this project is being, or has been, carried-out by Caltrans under its assumption of responsibility pursuant to 23 USC 326.

Section 4(f)

Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966, codified in federal law at 49 U.S.C. 303, declares that “it is the policy of the United States Government that special effort should be made to preserve the natural beauty of the country side and public park and recreation lands, wildlife and waterfowl refuges, and historic sites.” Section 4(f) specifies that the Secretary [of Transportation] may approve a transportation program or project...requiring the use of publicly owned land of a public park, recreation area, or wildlife and waterfowl refuge of national, State, or local significance, or land of historic site of national, State, or local significance (as determined by the federal, state, or local officials having jurisdiction over the park, area, refuge, or site) only if:

- There is no prudent and feasible alternative to using that land; and
- The program or project includes all possible planning to minimize harm to the park, recreation area, wildlife and waterfowl refuge, or historic site resulting from the use.

SAFETEA-LU Section 6009(a) amended existing 4(f) legislation to allow the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) to determine that certain uses of 4(f) land will have no adverse effect on the protected resource. De minimis impacts are defined as those that do not adversely affect the activities, features, and attributes of the 4(f) resource.

This document describes how the Marin County Guardrail Replacement project’s impact on Mount Tamalpais State Park qualifies for a de minimis impact finding.

Description of Proposed Action

The Marin County Department of Public Works proposes to replace nonstandard guardrails at 13 locations throughout Marin County. The work proposed will replace guardrail end treatments and existing guardrails that are lower than the minimum guardrail height. Work will also include a 302 linear feet of soldier pile retaining wall at Panoramic Highway Mile Post 2.26 to support the replaced guardrail & meet design criteria. All guardrail replacement and wall construction activities are occurring within the limits of Marin County right-of-way.

The proposed guardrail work consists of removing and replacing non-standard guardrail in accordance with Caltrans standard plans and specifications.

Accounting

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Waste Management

Retaining wall work consist of drilling piers with a bucket or auger type drill typically mounted on an excavator. After excavation into bedrock is completed, soldier piles shall be placed and blocked in the center for the holes. Concrete placement up to the adjacent grade shall start as soon as possible after the drilling. Wood lagging will be installed, and the wall will be backfilled. After the lagging is installed, drainage panels will be installed between soldier piles. Reinforcing steel (rebar) is then placed between soldier piles. Finally, shotcrete is placed, and the wall finished.

To facilitate construction, the contractor will utilize traffic control closures of the lane adjacent to the guardrail/wall shoulder. Flaggers will direct alternating two-way traffic in the opposite lane. Traffic controls will result in minor detours (up to 5 minutes) during working hours Monday-Friday 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Changeable message signs (CMSs) will be used to display the dates of closures. One travel lane will always be left open.

Construction equipment will include the use of a excavator, pile driver, skip loader, transfer dump trucks, concrete truck, and work pickup trucks.

Construction is anticipated to begin in September 2022 and will last approximately 90 days. Approximately 8 employees will be required on-site during construction activities. In accordance with Marin County Ordinance for construction activities and related noise, all project work will take place Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. All proposed work will be within the County Right of Way (ROW).

During Construction, methods to reduce erosion and sediment control will be used. The contractor will be required to produce and submit a Water Pollution Control Plan to prevent contamination of storm drains and waterways.

Description of Section 4(f) Resources

The only Section 4(f) resource within the project vicinity is Mount Tamalpais State Park.

Mount Tamalpais State Park is a California state park, located in Marin County, California. The primary feature of the park is the 2,571 ft Mount Tamalpais. The park contains mostly redwood and oak forests. The mountain itself covers around 25,000 acres. There are about 60 miles of hiking trails, which are connected to a larger, 200 miles (320 km) network of trails in neighboring public lands. The park received 564,000 visitors in as of 2003. Muir Woods National Monument is surrounded by the state park. California State Parks are the officials with jurisdiction over Mount Tamalpais State Park.

The Panoramic Trail which is located within Mount Tamalpais State Park is approximately 50 feet down from the guardrail replacement and wall construction at Panoramic Highway Mile Post 2.26.

Potential Impacts to Section 4(f) Resources

The Panoramic Trail is one trail within the Mount Tamalpais State Park. In order to safely construct the retaining wall at Panoramic Highway Mile Post 2.26, the County has requested Mount Tamalpais State Park to close Panoramic Trail between Canopy View Trail and Redwood Trail temporarily during working hours of the pier drilling which is

estimated to last three (3) weeks. The trail will remain open after working hours and on weekends. Since the trail is located downhill of the work area, the closure is requested for public safety in order to mitigate the risk of any objects rolling down to the trail during the drilling of approximately 42 wall piers. A County inspector will be onsite during all construction operations to ensure that erosion and sediment controls are in place and safety precautions and procedures are being followed.

The proposed closure will impact the trail connection of the Redwood Trail from Nature Friends Tourist Club of San Francisco off Ridge Avenue to Panoramic Trail where there is no trail detour available. During closures Panoramic Trail access will still be available from shoulder parking spaces on Panoramic Highway near the site and from the State Park parking lot located near Mountain Home Inn. The wall and guardrail construction limits are approximately 300 feet long. Signs will be placed denoting the closure for a total of 600 feet of trail. The signs will be taken down after hours and on weekends.

Exceptions to Section 4(f)

There is a temporary occupancy exception to the requirement for Section 4(f) approval identified in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 23 CFR 774.13 (d). However, discussions with State Parks indicate that because there will be interference with the trail during those 3 weeks, the temporary occupancy criteria cannot be met.

De Minimis Impact Finding

With the measures described below in place, the project as described above would have no adverse impact on the attributes, features and activities of Mount Tamalpais State Park. There would be no permanent or temporary work within the park, apart from signage to indicate that the trail is temporarily closed which would be removed once the closure is lifted. One trail would be closed for an estimated three weeks, but all other trails within the park would be unaffected.

The trail will remain open when no ground disturbing activities are occurring.

There is no work or disturbance of the trails proposed that would require restoration.

Mitigation Measures

The County of Marin will notify potential trail users via a letter roughly 2 weeks prior to the start of path restricting construction activities. The letter will provide a description of the project, the dates of constructions, and a map of the closure that shows alternate trail access routes. The letter will be mailed to a number of local stakeholders including State Park & National Park officials, local Mount Tamalpais hiking clubs, local businesses, the neighborhood Community Association, and property owners within 500 feet of the work area.

The state park website will have a notification about the short-term closure and physical "trail temporarily closed" notifications will also be posted in the parking pullouts & trailheads adjacent to the trail segment. The County Department of Public Works website will also have information with regarding the trail closure on the projects page.

Public Consultation

A de minimis impact finding requires the public to be afforded an opportunity to review and comment on the effects of the project on the protected activities, features, or attributes of the Section 4(f) property. Public to be notified for consultation via a letter to stakeholders. The notification will be posted on the Marin County Department of Public Works website.

After the public consultation is completed, this document will be updated to summarize any comments received.

Documented Agreement with Officials Having Jurisdiction over the Resources


California State Parks are the Officials with jurisdiction over Mount Tamalpais State Park including the Panoramic Trail that will be temporarily closed during construction. Following the public consultation, State Parks will be contacted to concur that the project with mitigation as described above will not adversely affect the activities, features and attributes of the Park. With this concurrence, attached to this document, the de minimis impact finding will be complete.

Conclusions

The proposed closure of Panoramic Trail in Mount Tamalpais State Park will have no adverse effect on the activities, features or attributes of the Park and therefore qualifies for a de minimis Section 4(f) impact finding. This finding is considered valid unless new information is obtained, or the proposed effects change to the extent that a new analysis is needed

Please call me at (415) 419-6841 if you need more information.

Sincerely,



Philip A. Buckley
Senior Civil Engineer, Department of Public Works

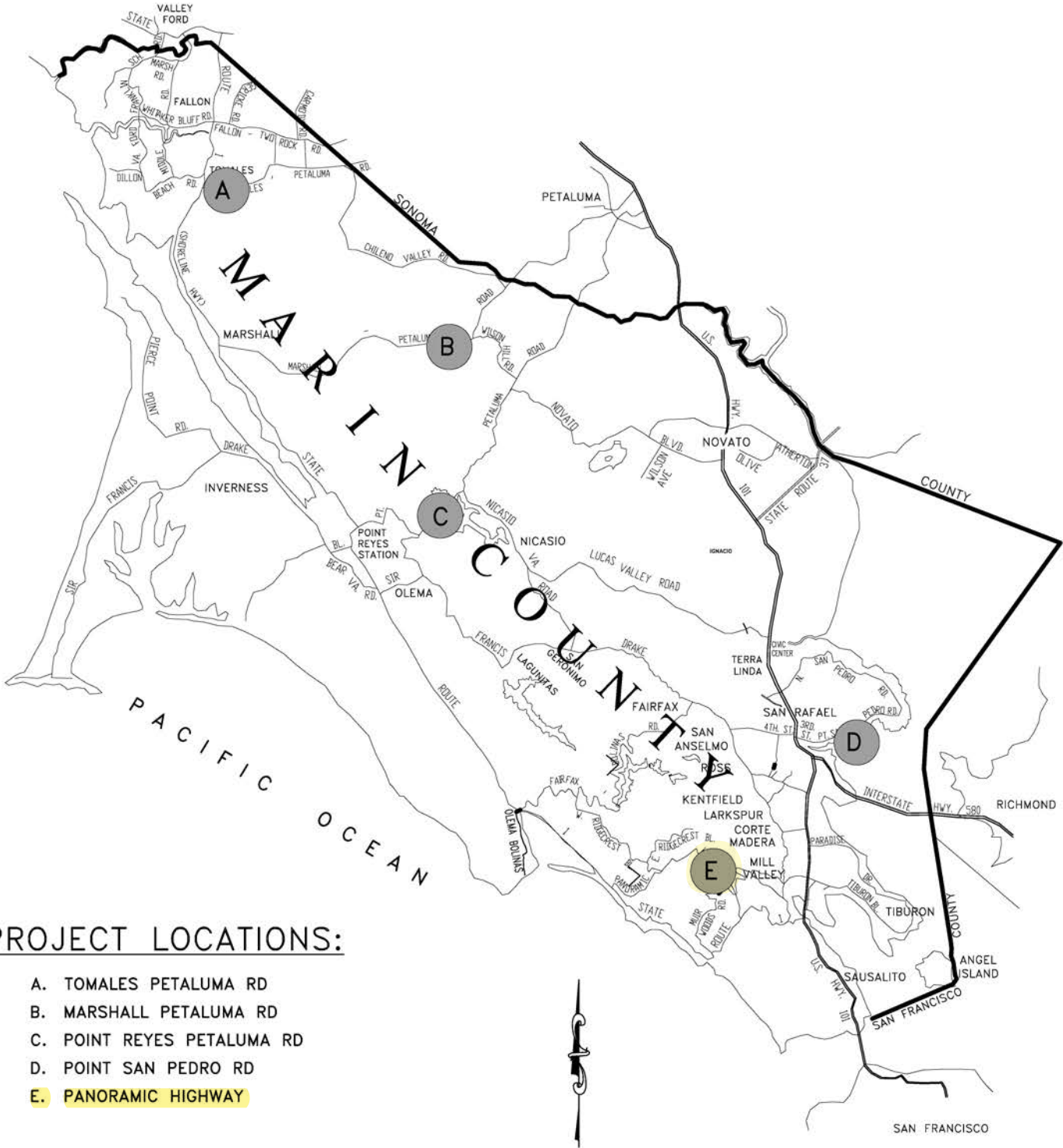
Attachments:

Figures: Guardrail Project Vicinity Map
 Mt. Tam/Muir Woods Trail Map
 Panoramic Trail Map Regional Location Map

Appendix A. Construction Plan with Typical Cross Section

COUNTY OF MARIN DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

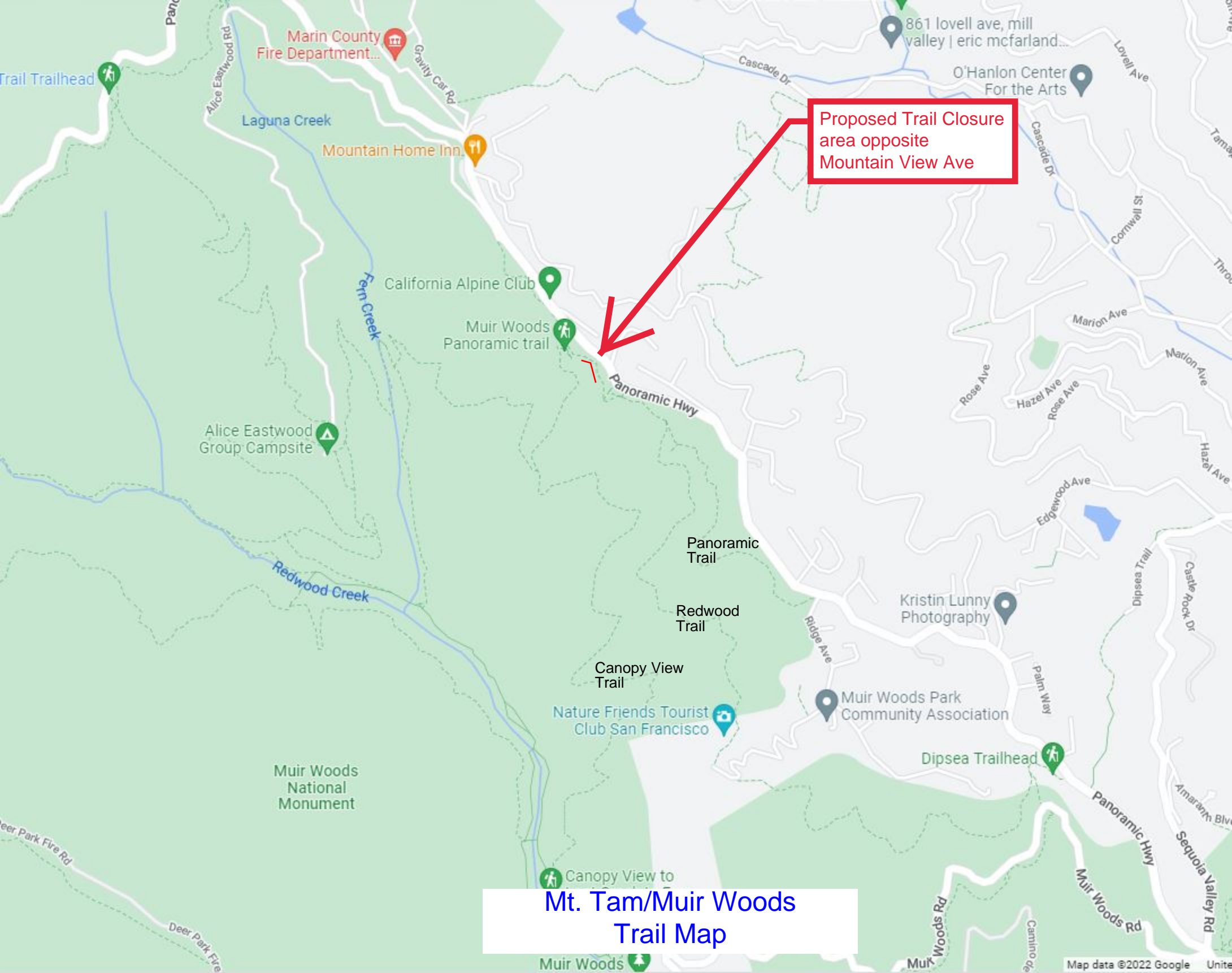
2019 HSIPL GUARDRAIL REPLACEMENT 2019-11



PROJECT LOCATIONS:

- A. TOMALES PETALUMA RD
- B. MARSHALL PETALUMA RD
- C. POINT REYES PETALUMA RD
- D. POINT SAN PEDRO RD
- E. PANORAMIC HIGHWAY

VICINITY MAP
NOT TO SCALE



Proposed Trail Closure
area opposite
Mountain View Ave

Mt. Tam/Muir Woods
Trail Map



Trail Access to Panoramic Hwy

Proposed Guardrail Replacement & New Wall

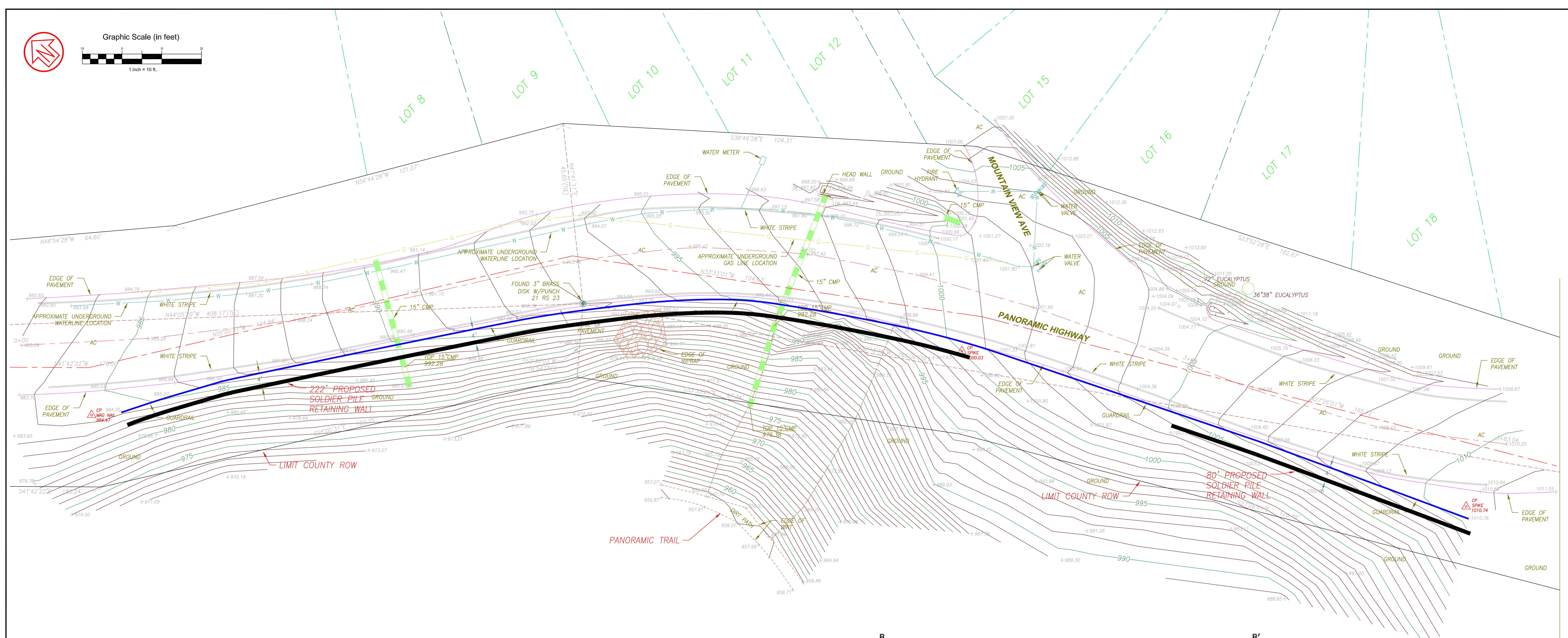
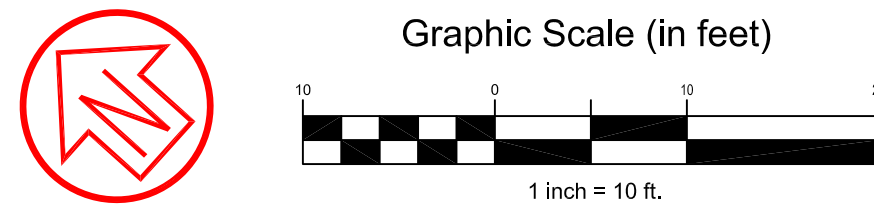
Proposed Trail Closure Sign

Trail Access to Panoramic Hwy

Proposed Trail Closure Sign

Panoramic Trail Map

Google



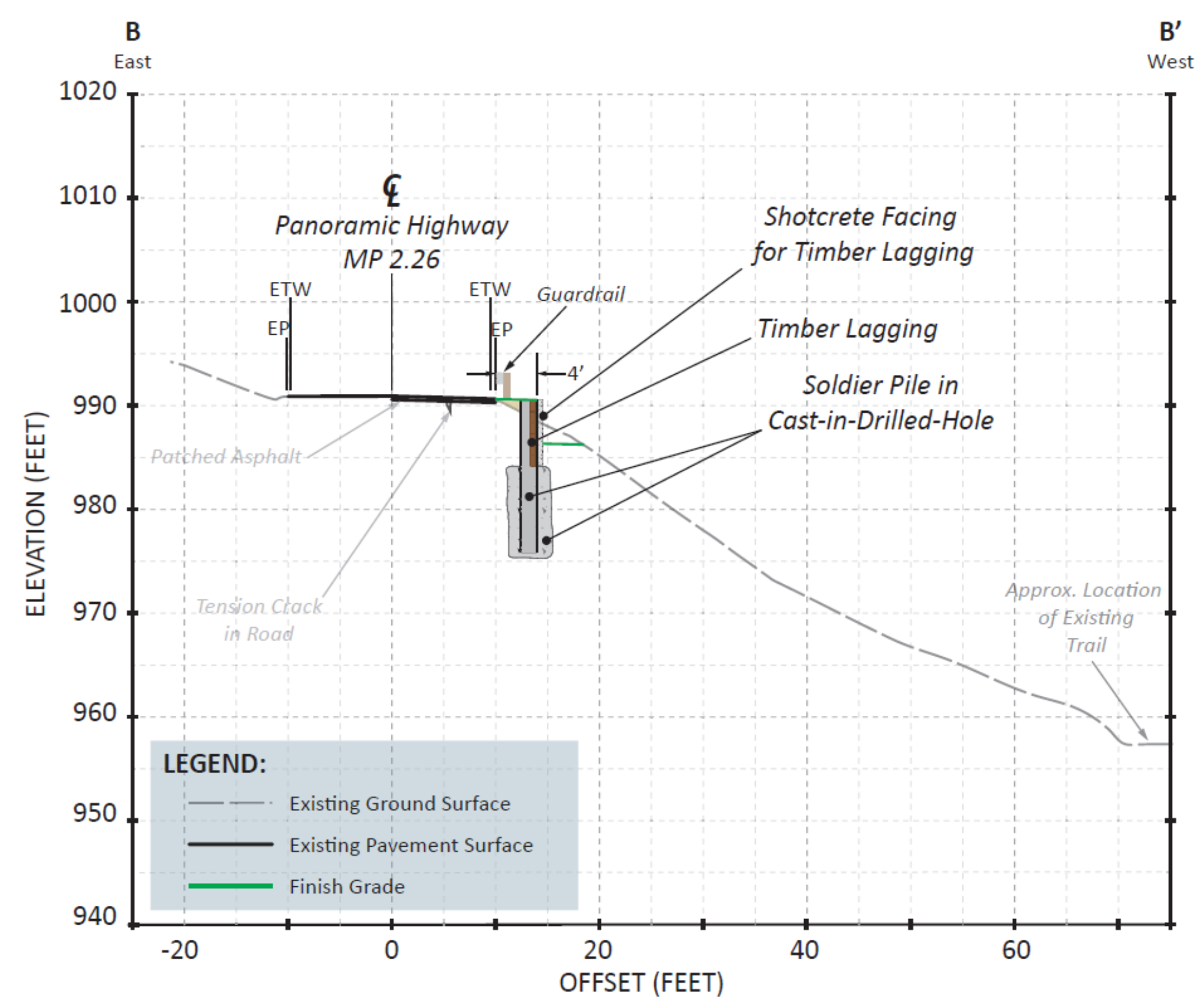
LEGEND

	BUILDING
	CONTOUR MAJOR (5' INTERVAL)
	CONTOUR MINOR (1' INTERVAL)
	FENCE
	GRADE BREAK LINE
	TOE OF BANK
	TOP OF BANK
	RETAINING WALL
	BOUNDARY LINE
	CENTERLINE
	BOUNDARY OFFSITE
	BOUNDARY TIES

ABBREVIATIONS

AC	ASPHALTIC CONCRETE	GV	GAS VALVE
BFP	BACK FLOW PREVENTER	HV	HIGH VOLTAGE HYDRANT
C	CONIFEROUS	HYD	HYDRANT
CL	CENTER LINE	IRR	IRRIGATION
COMC	CONCRETE	L	LIGHTING CONDUIT
D	DECIDUOUS	RR	RAILROAD
DEP	DEPRESSED	SD	STORM DRAIN
E	ELECTRIC	SL	STREET LIGHT
EOC	EDGE OF CONCRETE	SS	SANITARY SEWER
EP	EDGE OF PAVEMENT	TC	TOP OF CURB
ELEC	ELECTRICAL	TELE	TELEPHONE
FDC	FIRE DEPARTMENT CONNECTION	TYP	TYPICAL
FH	FIRE HYDRANT	TW	TOP OF WALL
FL	FLOW LINE	W	WATER
G	GAS	WV	WATER VALVE

- NOTES**
- DISTANCES SHOWN ARE IN FEET AND DECIMALS THEREOF.
 - HORIZONTAL DATUM IS NORTH AMERICAN DATUM OF 1983 (NAD 83) PER CALIFORNIA REAL TIME NETWORK (CRTN), EPOCH 2017.5.
 - VERTICAL DATUM IS NORTH AMERICAN DATUM OF 1988 (NAVD88) PER CALIFORNIA REAL TIME NETWORK (CRTN), EPOCH 2017.5.
 - TOPOGRAPHY SHOWN WAS PERFORMED BY FIELD SURVEY IN DECEMBER OF 2021.
 - UNDERGROUND UTILITY INFORMATION SHOWN HEREON IS APPROXIMATE BASED ON USA PAINT MARKINGS AND LOCATED SURFACE UTILITIES. ACTUAL LOCATIONS, ROUTE, TYPE, ETC. OF UNDERGROUND UTILITIES MAY VARY SIGNIFICANTLY FROM WHAT IS SHOWN HEREON. CONTRACTOR SHOULD VERIFY UTILITY LOCATIONS IN THE FIELD BY POT HOLING PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION.
 - BOUNDARY INFORMATION SHOWN IS PRELIMINARY BASED ON 21 OS 23 AND 2005 M 350, MARIN COUNTY RECORDS. A RECORD OF SURVEY WILL NEED TO BE FILED DUE TO MATERIAL DISCREPANCIES WITH MONUMENT POSITION PER 8762 OF THE PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS' ACT AND WILL BE SUBMITTED TO MARIN COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS WITHIN 90 DAYS OF THIS MAP BEING RELEASED.



Rev	Date	Description	Designed	Drawn	Checked
-	12/15/21	SUBMITTED TO CLIENT		BJH	JLW

COUNTY OF MARIN
DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC WORKS

City: Mill Valley
County: Marin
State: California

MARIN COUNTY PANORAMIC HIGHWAY SURVEY
GUARDRAIL AND WALL LAYOUT PLAN
COUNTY OF MARIN

Prepared Under the Direction of:

Sheet: **1/1**

Scale: 1" = 10'

Date: 12/15/21

Project Number: 21100124

Plan File: -