## CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

45 FREMONT, SUITE 2000 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-2219 VOICE AND TDD (415) 904-5200 FAX (415) 904-5400



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## ND-0001-19 - SANDAG

# February 21, 2019

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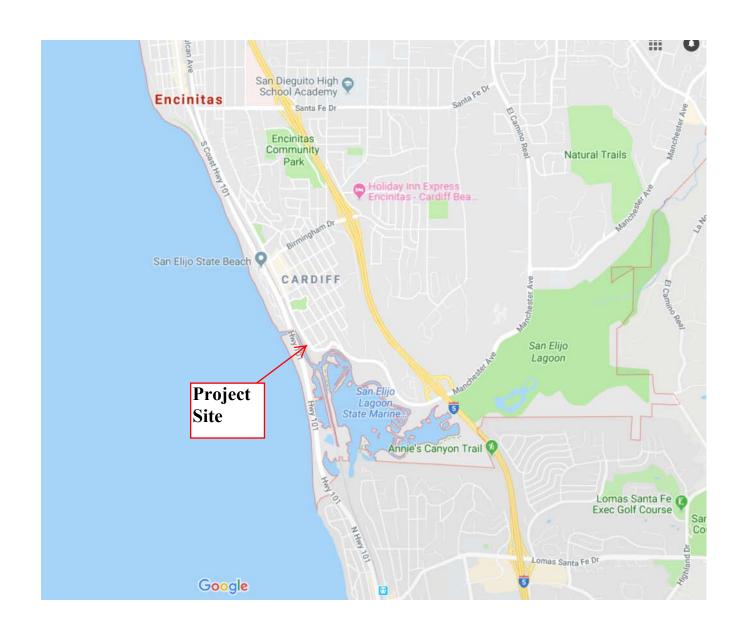
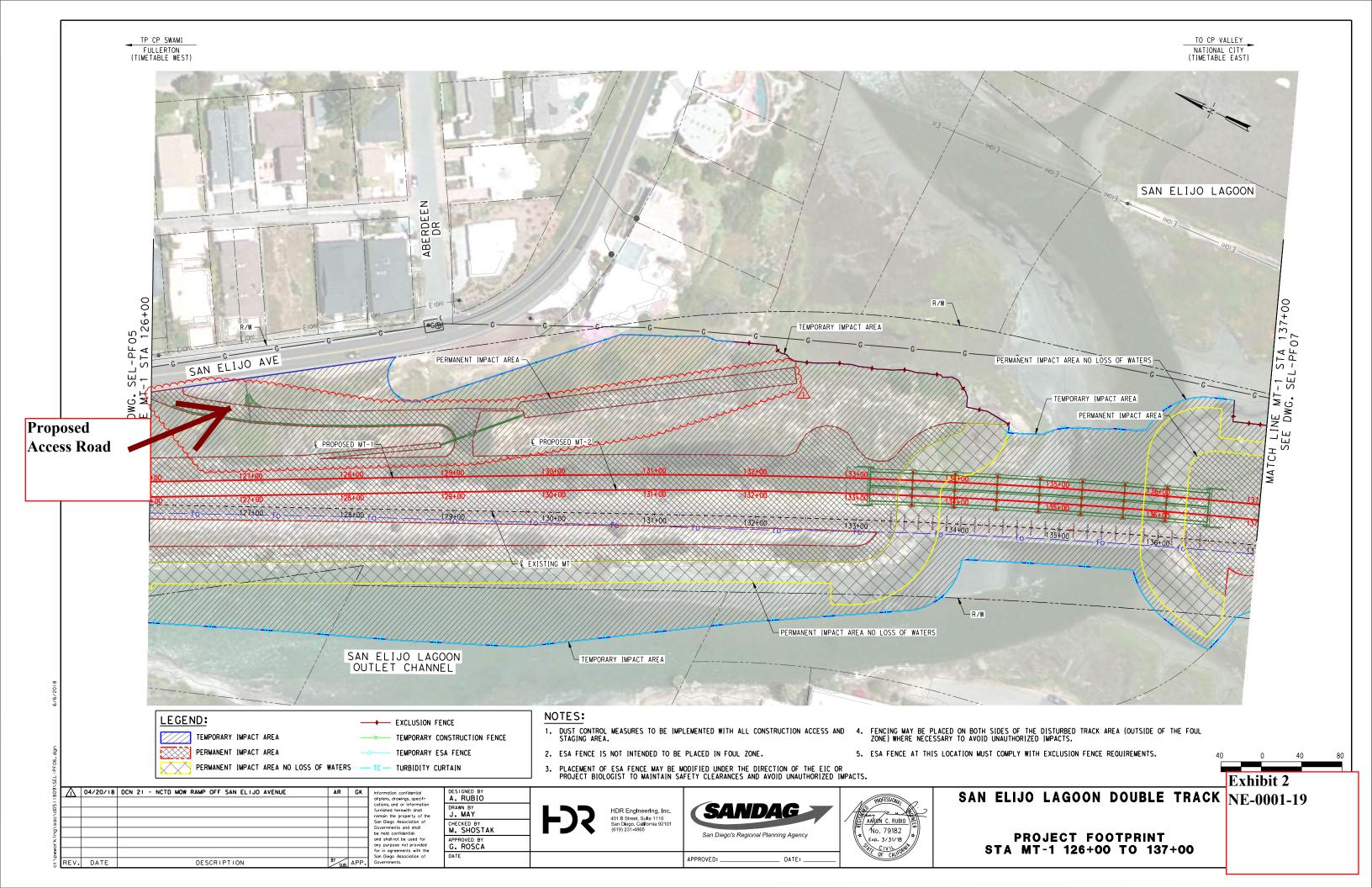


Exhibit 1 NE-0001-19



#### Note:

Parking is shown for illustration purposes only. Area shown is not a regulated or legal delegated public parking area.

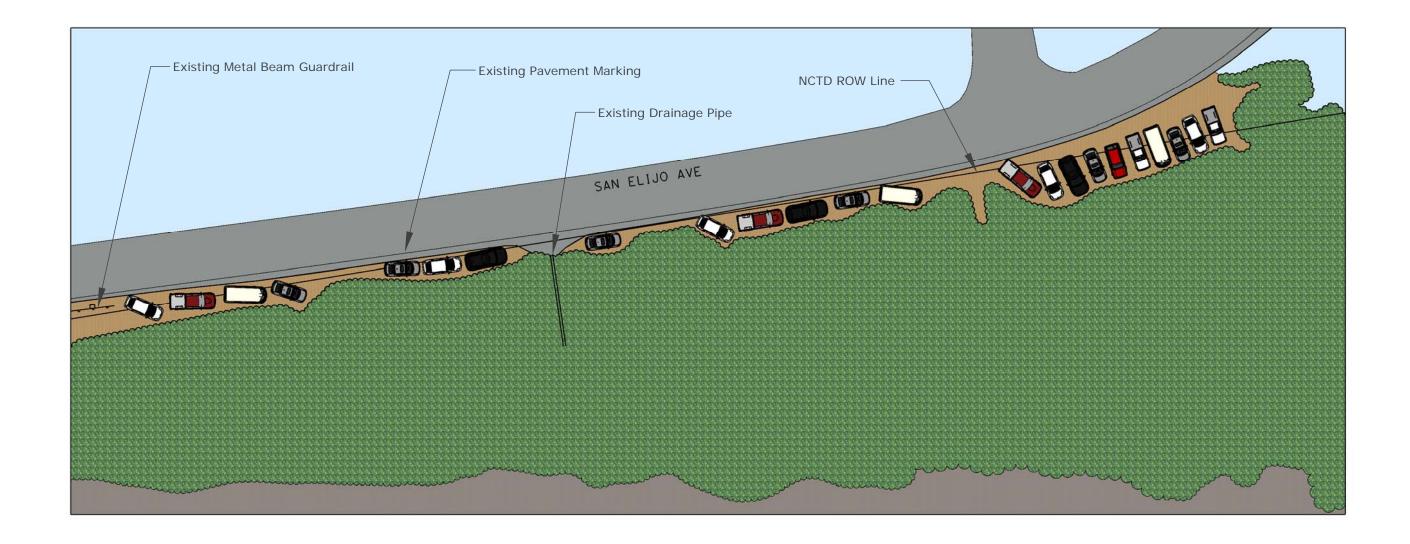


Exhibit 3 NE-0001-19 Pre-Project Parking

#### Note:

Parking is shown for illustration purposes only. Area shown is not a regulated or legal delegated public parking area.

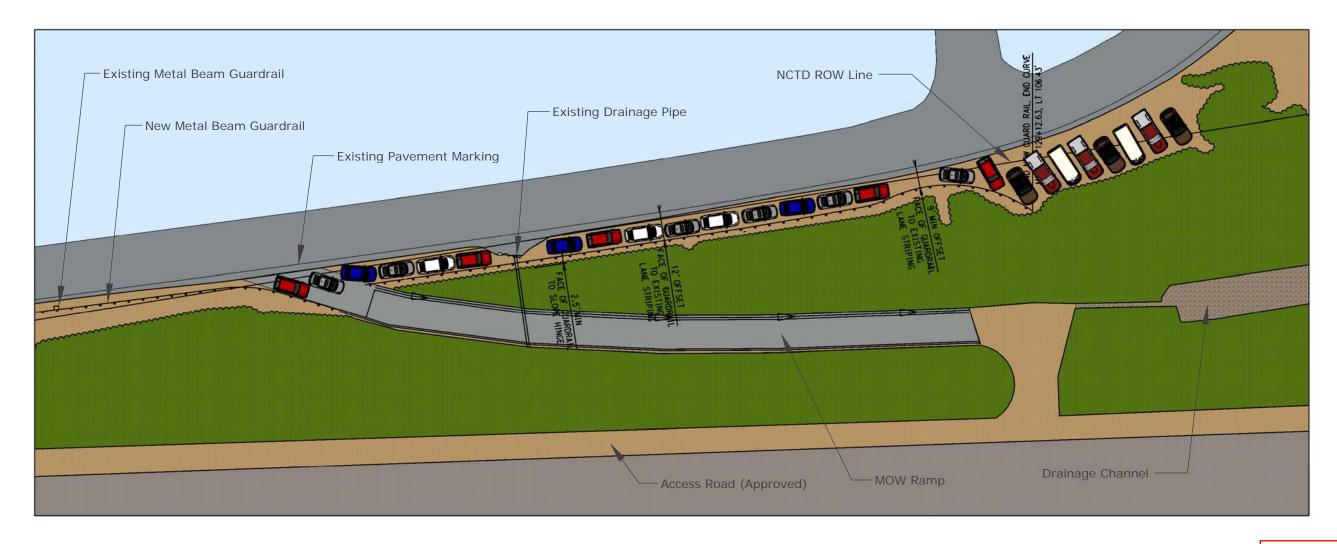


Exhibit 4 NE-0001-19 Post-Project Parking



810 Mission Avenue Oceanside, CA 92054 (760) 966-6500 (760) 967-2001 (fax)

www.GoNCTD.com

October 25, 2018

Mr. Bruce Smith, PE Principal Engineer San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) 401 B Street, Suite 800 San Diego, CA 92101

Re: Access Ramp at Mile Post 240.2

Dear Mr. Smith:

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Rebecca Jones** Vice Mayor, City of San Marcos Board Chair

> **John J. Aguilera** Deputy Mayor, City of Vista Board Vice-Chair

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Councilmember, City of Escondido

Jack Feller Councilmember, City of Oceanside

**Bill Horn** Supervisor, County of Son Diego

**Jewel Edson** Deputy Mayor, City of Solana Beach

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** 

Motthew O Tucker

GENERAL COUNSEL Lori A. Winfree As part of the ongoing San Elijo Lagoon Double Track (SELDT) project located in Encinitas, the approved design calls for the construction of an at-grade crossing at Mile Post (MP) 240.2 to provide future maintenance access to the new railroad bridge constructed at MP 240.4. The at-grade crossing will require maintenance workers to cross two sets of railroad tracks three times to access the bridge – twice on foot to remove the chains restricting access to the crossing, and once in their vehicle. Maintenance workers will cross the tracks an additional three times when their activities are complete. The timetable speed for passenger trains through this section of track is 90 miles per hour. An incident involving a high-speed passenger train and a maintenance worker or vehicle could lead to serious injury or loss of life for the workers or passengers onboard the train.

Currently, the construction contractor accesses Bridge 240.4 using a temporary access ramp which begins on San Elijo Avenue near Kilkenny Drive, and terminates on the railroad right-of-way on the east side of the tracks. The North County Transit District (NCTD) requests that SANDAG leave the access ramp in place as a permanent means of maintenance access and eliminate the at-grade crossing at MP 240.2. The access ramp will enhance the safety for maintenance workers by eliminating the need to cross two sets of high-speed tracks a total of six times per trip to the bridge.

Additionally, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), the two public agencies which regulate NCTD's rail operations, have identified the reduction in the number of at-grade crossings as a goal. The FRA states that the safest grade crossing is one that doesn't exist and their first engineering strategy for reducing risk at grade crossings is to eliminate crossings whenever possible. CPUC General Order 75-D Section

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2 - Policy on Reducing Number of At-Grade Crossings states, "As part of its mission to reduce hazards associated with at-grade crossings, and in support of the national goal of the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), the Commission's policy is to reduce the number of at-grade crossings on freight or passenger railroad mainlines in California."

Utilizing the existing access ramp for maintenance activities after the completion of the SELDT project and eliminating the at-grade crossing at MP 240.2 will achieve the goals of NCTD, the FRA, and the CPUC in reducing hazards on the railroad right-of-way and improving the safety of the general public and NCTD's maintenance staff.

Accordingly, NCTD respectfully requests that the existing access ramp be retained at MP 240.4. Please advise SANDAG's position on this request by no later than November 9, 2018. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly at 760-966-6773 or dfilippi@nctd.org should have any questions regarding this important safety improvement.

Sincerely,

Donald Filippi

Chief Operations Officer - Rail

Sean Loofbourrow, NCTD, Chief of Safety and Security CC: Eric Roe, NCTD, Deputy Chief Operations Officer - Rail Stephen Fordham, NCTD, Director of Railroad Engineering

Scott Shroyer, NCTD, Senior Rail Engineer



November 29, 2018

Catherine S. Blakespear Mayor Matthew Tucker, Executive Director North County Transit District 810 Mission Avenue Oceanside, CA 92054

**RE: MOW ACCESS ROAD** 

Joe Mosca Deputy Mayor Dear Mr. Tucker,

The City of Encinitas staff has carefully reviewed the North County Transit District (NCTD) and San Diego Association of Government's (SANDAG) engineering plans for the construction of a permanent Maintenance of Way (MOW) access road to the new railroad bridge from San Elijo Avenue. As a result of this review, we have no objection to these plans.

Tasha Boerner Horvath
Council Member

It is the City's hope that, by making the temporary access ramp permanent, it will create future opportunities for a nature trail and viewing area on the edge of the San Elijo Lagoon on the east side of the bridge.

Tony Kranz Council Member Sincerely,

Catherine Blakespear

Mayor

Mark Muir Council Member

Karen P. Brust City Manager

> Exhibit 6 NE-0001-19



Exhibit 7 NE-0001-19 View from West



Exhibit 8 NE-0001-19 View from Southwest



Exhibit 9 NE-0001-19 View from West Across Hwy. 101



Access Road

> Exhibit 10 NE-0001-19 View to north from San Elijo Ave.