

075-26

CITY OF SANTA CRUZ
Notice of Exemption

To: ☐ Clerk of the Board
 County of Santa Cruz
 Governmental Center
 701 Ocean Street
 Santa Cruz, CA 95060

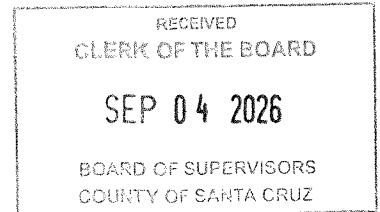
☐ Office of Planning and Research
 1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
 Sacramento, CA 95814

From: City of Santa Cruz, Public Works Dept., 809 Center Street, Room 201, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Project Title: West Cliff Drive Path Realignment Project (m401402)

Project Address: CITYWIDE

Assessor's Parcel No.: Public Right of Way



Project Location: City of: Santa Cruz County of: Santa Cruz

Project Description: ___The project covers two project sites along West Cliff Drive: Site 1 being located just west of Lighthouse Point; and Site 2 near the intersection of Getchell Street and West Cliff Drive. The current sites are both on the ocean side of West Cliff Drive, and consist of a multi-use pathway, parking spaces, and open landscape areas mostly consisting of ice plant. For Site 1, the coastal bluffs and cliffs are subject to constant change and potential public endangerment caused by erosion from wave action and overtopping. During significant wave events, waves overtop the cliff, creating a hazard for pedestrians and depositing substantial amounts of sediment on the multi-use path and roadway. The intended modifications to Site 1 will eliminate the most affected portion of the pathway, close the area from public use and prevent sediment from inundating the remaining pathway and roadway, increasing public safety and reducing maintenance. In regards to Site 2, erosion has caused the top of the bluff to recede to within a few feet of the current pathway, creating a significant threat to public safety. The proposed project will remove the affected portion of the path, remove a parking area and construct a new segment of path and a rest area that is at least 20 feet from the top of the cliff. This site includes the construction of approximately 290 feet of new pathway that will provide the public with safe access along the coastline. The pathway will no longer be subject to the immediate hazards caused by the eroding bluff.



Figure 1: Project Area

THIS NOTICE HAS BEEN POSTED AT THE CLERK
 OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OFFICE FOR A
 PERIOD COMMENCING 9/4/2026
 AND ENDING 10/9/2026

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: _____ City
of Santa Cruz _____

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: _____ City of Santa Cruz _____

Exempt Status: (check one)

- _____ Ministerial Project (Section 21080(b)(1); 15268).
_____ X _____ Categorically Exempt (Section 15301 – Class 1).
_____ Declared Emergency (Section 21080(b)(3); 15269(a)).
_____ Emergency Project (Section 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c)).
_____ Statutory Exemption (Code/Section _____).
_____ The project clearly will not have a significant effect on the environment (15061(b)(3)).

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption (Section 15301, Class 1, Existing Facilities) because the project involves the minor alteration of an existing pedestrian trail involving negligible or no expansion of the existing use. None of the exceptions to the exemptions under Section 15300.2 apply to the project in that the project is not part of a larger project that could result in a cumulative impact, there are no unusual circumstances associated with the project or subject parcel, the project will not result in damage to resources associated with an officially designated scenic highway, the project site is not included on any lists compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code related to Hazardous Waste Sites, and the project will not result in substantial adverse changes in the significance of a historical resource site.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: _____ Kevin Crossley _____ Phone: (831) 420-5164 _____

Department: _____ Public Works _____ Address: _____ 809 Center St., Room 201 _____

_____ Santa Cruz, CA 95060 _____

Signature: _____  _____ Date: _____ 4-3-26 _____

Title: _____ Assistant Director/City Engineer _____

- ☒ Signed by Lead Agency
☒ Signed by Applicant

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a notice of exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Date Received for filing at County Clerk: _____

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____