

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 7
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Making Conservation
 a California Way of Life.

July 18, 2024

Dillan Murray, Program Manager
 Cultural Heritage Board
 800 S. Victoria Avenue
 Ventura, CA 93009

Dear Mr. Murray:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), in coordination with the Ventura County Transportation Commission (VCTC), proposes improvements along 27 miles of US Highway 101 (US 101), between State Route (SR) 23 in Ventura and SR 33 in Thousand Oaks, between Postmiles (PM) 4.1 and 30.9 in Ventura County. The project proposes to widen northbound US 101 at the Adolfo Camarillo Heritage Grove to provide a shoulder and an auxiliary lane, which will taper from a combined width of approximately 20 feet near Arroyo Calleguas bridge to 10 feet near Village At The Park Drive. The work will include the removal of several eucalyptus trees at the eastern side of the Adolfo Camarillo Heritage Grove. Please refer to the attached project map.

The Adolfo Camarillo Heritage Grove is a historic property for the purposes of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. It was previously determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criterion B and listed in the California Register of Historical Resources under Criterion 2 at a local level of significance in 1994, for its association with Camarillo. Additionally, Ventura County designated the property as VCHL #3 in October 1978. The Heritage Grove has a period of significance of 1892 (year of its planting) to 1958 (the year of Camarillo's death). The historic property boundary is the area roughly bounded by U.S. 101 to the south, Mission Oaks Boulevard/Dawson Drive to the west, Mission Oaks Boulevard to the north, and Arroyo Las Posas (Calleguas Creek) to the east. Character-defining features include the eucalyptus trees, double-row design, traversable pathway between the rows, and proximity to and relationship with the Camarillo Ranch house to the north.

Because the proposed project would remove trees, which are a character-defining feature of the Heritage Grove, it will diminish the historic property's integrity. Therefore, the project would result in an adverse effect on the Adolfo Camarillo Heritage Grove. An adverse effect under Section 106 is defined in 36 CFR §§ 800.5(a)(1) as an action that may directly or indirectly alter character-defining features in a manner that would diminish historic integrity and affect the property's eligibility for inclusion in the NRHP.

County of Ventura
 August 26, 2024
 Cultural Heritage Board Meeting
 Item 6a
 Exhibit 1 – Caltrans Request for Consultation,
 July 18, 2024

US 101 Improvement Project
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In accordance with applicable federal regulations, including the National Environmental Policy Act, Sections 106 and 4(f), as well as state laws, California Environmental Quality Act, and California Public Resources Code Section 5024, Caltrans is requesting your agency or group's input regarding the proposed project work described above. Please inform us if your agency or group is interested in being a consulting party regarding the Heritage Grove. Consulting party status would entitle your group or agency to share views, receive and review pertinent information, and consider possible solutions together with Caltrans and VCTC.

Please contact Molly Iker-Johnson, consultant architectural historian, at molly.iker-johnson@icf.com (subject line: US 101 Improvement Project) or at (213) 312-1762 with your comments or questions, or to request consulting party status, no later than August 15, 2024 at 5 PM.

Sincerely,



Joshua Knudson

Associate Environmental Planner, Architectural Historian
Caltrans District 7

Enclosures:
Project Map and Affected Trees Detail

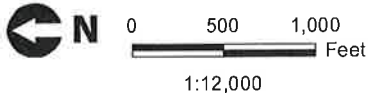
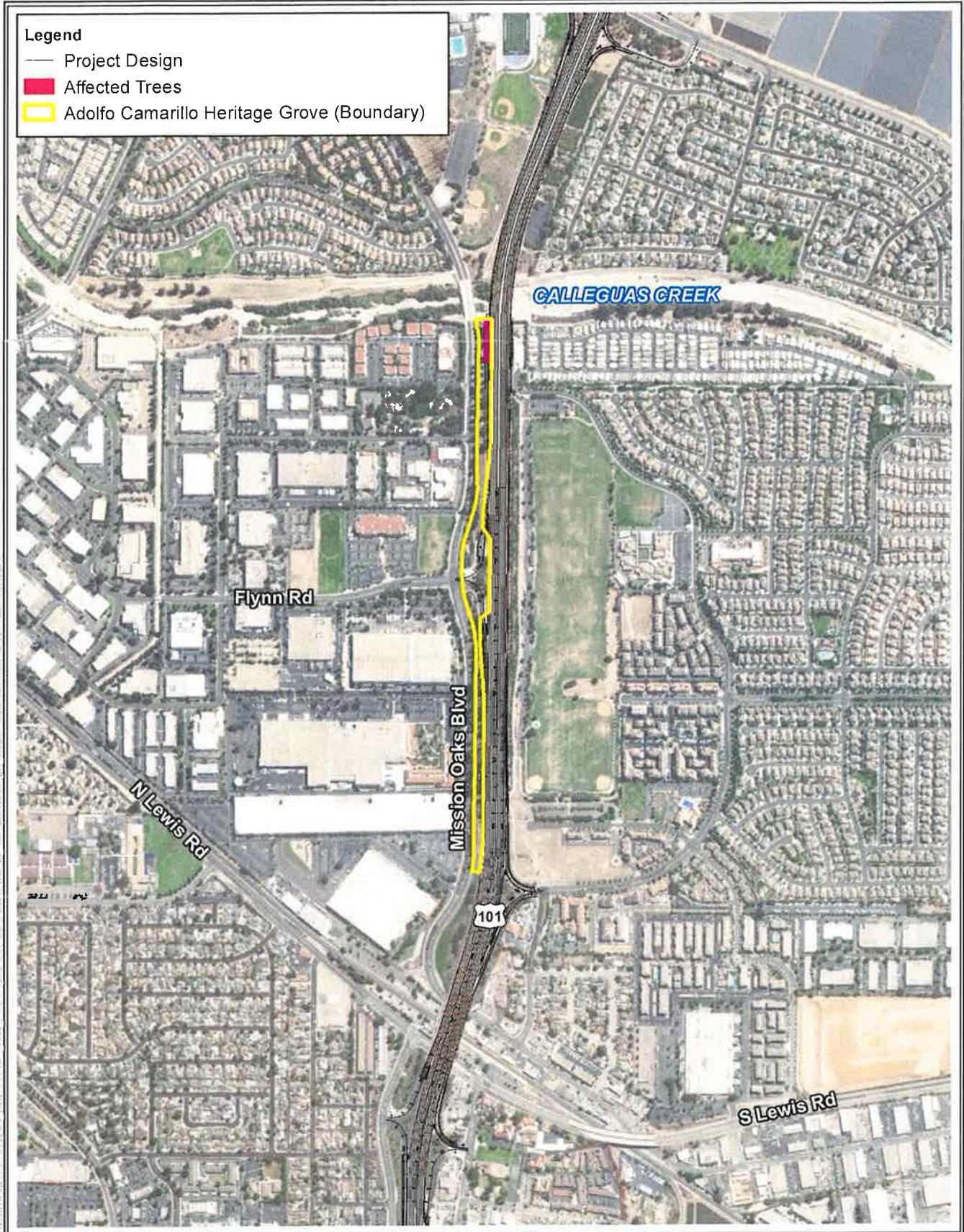


Figure 1
Adolfo Camarillo Heritage Grove

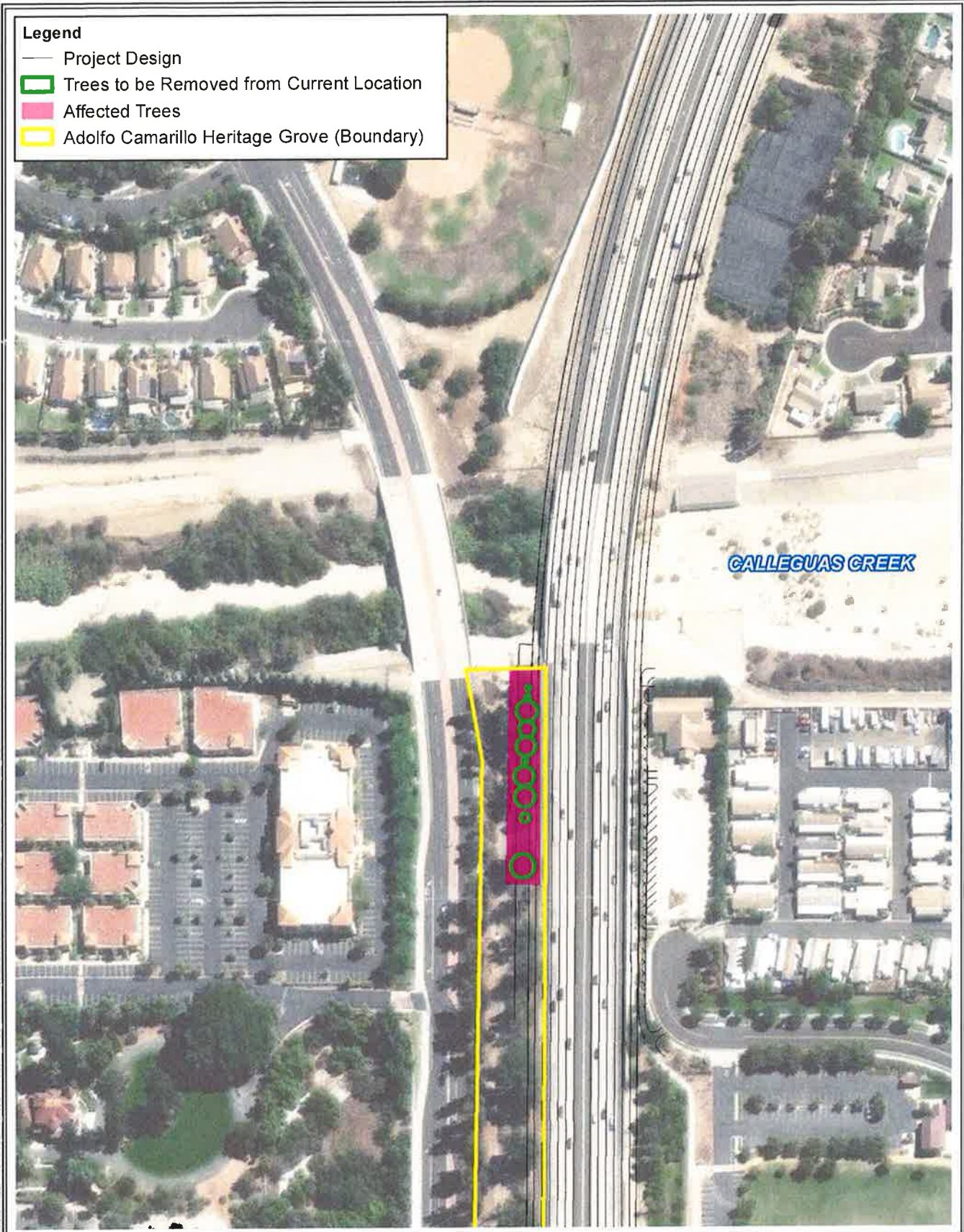


Figure 2
Adolfo Camarillo Heritage Grove - Affected Trees Detail