

# Appendix D

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## Cultural Resources Evaluation

August 12, 2021

Public Works No. EP21-006

Dale Sakamoto  
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**Subject:** *Cultural Resources Study for the Colima Road Improvement Project, Public Works No. EP21-006, City of Industry and Unincorporated Los Angeles County, California*

Dear Mr. Sakamoto:

Dudek was retained by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works (Public Works) to complete a cultural resources study for the Colima Road Improvement Project (Project; Public Works No. EP21-006). This memo documents the results of a California Historical Resource Information System (CHRIS) records search, background research, an intensive survey for cultural resources, Ab-52 tribal consultation efforts and results and management recommendations. All cultural resource fieldwork and reporting for this Project has been conducted by archaeologists and architectural historians meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards. This memo was prepared in conformance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15064.5 for historical resources, 21083.2 for archaeological resources, and all applicable local guidelines and regulations. A memorandum for this Project was previously prepared in 2016 in conformance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, and the associated implementing regulations (36 CFR Part 800) for historic properties.

## Project Description and Location

Per the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) document, *Colima Road Improvement Project – City of Whittier to Fullerton Road* Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) prepared by Dudek for LADPW in 2021:

*In the interest of consistency, the “project study area” or “project area” shall, unless otherwise stated, refer to all lands within an approximately .25-mile radius of the Colima Road ROW project boundaries (roughly from City of Whittier/LA County line to Fullerton Road). While the project study area contains lands located within the City of Whittier, no improvements are proposed within the City of Whittier’s jurisdictional limits. If a broader geographic scope is deemed necessary for a particular subject area, then the scope of the study area shall be extended as needed and the new extents of analysis shall be defined and/or made clear. The use of the terms “project site” and/or “project limits” are intended to refer only to the Colima Road ROW project boundaries where improvements may be proposed and/or construction access may be required.*

The proposed Project area is located on Colima Road in southeastern Los Angeles County between the eastern boundary of City of Whittier and Fullerton Road in unincorporated Rowland Heights. Colima Road is a part of County

Route N8, a county highway. The section of Colima Road right-of-way (ROW) being studied for this report begins at the eastern boundary of the City of Whittier, traveling east through the unincorporated Los Angeles County limits of Hacienda Heights, Rowland Heights, and City of Industry, and ending at Fullerton Road in Rowland Heights (See Appendix A: Figure 1, Project Location Map). In keeping with the MND, in this report, the “Project area” is defined as to all lands within an approximately .25-mile radius of the Colima Road ROW project boundaries. “Project site” is defined as to the Colima Road ROW project boundaries where improvements may be proposed and/or construction access may be required.

The Project site is divided into six segments (see Table 1 below). The Project consists of a 4.9 mile-long traffic congestion relief effort recommended by the County of Los Angeles (County) Department of Public Works Traffic & Lighting Division. The Project would provide three vehicle traffic lanes in each direction of Colima Road from Halliburton Road to Fullerton Road, median landscaping, and a Class II Bike Lane in each direction. Roadway improvements would include resurfacing the existing roadway from the City of Whittier boundary to Hacienda Boulevard, narrowing the existing median from Halliburton Road to Fullerton Road, narrowing the existing parkway from Azusa Avenue to approximately 700 feet east of Stoner Creek Road, and landscaping the median from the City of Whittier boundary to Fullerton Road. Other improvements include concrete repair, catch basin reconstruction, tree removal, tree planting, street light relocation, traffic signal relocation/upgrade, and curb ramp upgrades. The proposed road improvement , as well as all other ancillary modifications and/or improvements, would take place within the existing Colima Road right-of-way (ROW).

In order to provide a third traffic lane along Colima Road, the roadway would be widened by narrowing the existing median to 12 feet wide from Halliburton Road to Azusa Avenue, as well as from approximately 700 feet east of Stoner Creek Road to Fullerton Road. In between those two segments, Colima Road would be widened by narrowing the existing median to 10 feet and widening the north side of the road by two feet from Azusa Avenue to approximately 700 feet east of Stoner Creek Road.

Table 1 provides a summary of the proposed scope of work for the Project road segments.

**Table 1. Proposed Road Improvement Scope of Work**

Project Site Segments	Scope	Jurisdiction
<p><b>Segment 1</b> City of Whittier Boundary to Hacienda Boulevard</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cold mill the existing asphalt concrete pavement full width 1.5 inches and overlay with 1.5 inches of tire rubber modified asphalt concrete pavement</li> <li>• Reconstruct the left-turn pocket at Camino Del Sur</li> <li>• Add a Class II Bike Lane in each direction</li> <li>• Curb ramp and gutter improvements<sup>1</sup></li> <li>• Driveway<sup>2</sup> and sidewalk segment reconstruction</li> <li>• Relocate one water meter at northeast corner of Colima Road and Casino Drive.</li> </ul>	<p>County</p>

<sup>1</sup> Curb ramp improvements to be made at Casino Drive, Skyline Drive, Avocado Hill Way, Viewfield Avenue, and mid-block between Avalo Drive and Hacienda Boulevard.

<sup>2</sup> Driveway improvements are proposed on the north side of Colima Road at two locations west of Azusa Avenue, two between Albatross Road and Hanover Road (within the City of Industry), 3 locations between Hanover Road and Walnut Hill Road, two between Walnut Hill

<p><b>Segment 2</b> Hacienda Boulevard to Haliburton Road</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add a Class II Bike Lane in each direction (ending at Allenton Avenue)</li> <li>• Curb ramp and/or gutter improvements<sup>3</sup></li> <li>• Driveway and sidewalk segment reconstruction</li> </ul>	<p>County</p>
<p><b>Segment 3</b> Halliburton Road to Azusa Avenue</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Narrow the existing median to 12 feet wide to accommodate three traffic lanes at widths of 11 feet, 10 feet, and 10 feet</li> <li>• Widen the right turn pocket on southwest corner of Azusa Avenue and Colima Road by 2 feet.</li> <li>• Relocate and/or adjust utilities</li> <li>• Reconstruct curbs, gutters, and sidewalk segments.</li> </ul>	<p>County</p>
<p><b>Segment 4</b> Azusa Avenue to approximately 700 feet east of Stoner Creek Road</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Narrow the existing median to 10 feet wide and widen the north side of the roadway 2 feet to accommodate three traffic lanes at widths of 11 feet each</li> <li>• Relocate and/or adjust utilities</li> <li>• Reconstruct curbs, gutters, driveways, and sidewalk segments.</li> </ul>	<p>County, City of Industry</p>
<p><b>Segment 5</b> Approximately 700 feet east of Stoner Creek Road to Larkvane Road</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Narrow the existing median to 12 feet wide to accommodate three traffic lanes at widths of 11 feet, 10 feet, and 10 feet</li> <li>• Reconstruct curbs, gutters, driveways, and sidewalk segments.</li> </ul>	<p>County</p>
<p><b>Segment 6</b> Larkvane Road to Fullerton Road</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Narrow the existing median to 12 feet wide to accommodate three traffic lanes at widths of 12 feet each in both directions.</li> <li>• Add a Class II Bike Lane in each direction</li> <li>• Relocate one Pull Box on northeast side of Larkvane Road intersection</li> <li>• Reconstruct curbs, gutters, and sidewalk segments</li> </ul>	<p>County</p>

The Project would also include the following:

**Landscaping and Tree Removal**

Landscaping within the newly constructed, narrowed medians, as well as within existing median segments where width modifications are not proposed. Landscaping within the medians would primarily consist of river rock paving with low/medium water use plantings, such as agave, coyote bushes, and bougainvillea. Approximately 65 trees would be removed and replanted on both the east and westbound sidewalks. Tree species planted would include Australian Willow (Halliburton Road to Countrywood Avenue), Bradford Pear (Countrywood Avenue to Azusa Avenue), and Pink Trumpet (Azusa Avenue to Fullerton Road). The Project would also conduct as-needed root pruning and repair of broken curbs, gutters, and sidewalks due to damage from existing trees.

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Road and Stoner Creek Road, and one east of Stoner Creek Road. Driveway reconstruction is proposed on the south side of Colima Road west of Viewfield Avenue, west of Hacienda Boulevard, and between Stoner Creek Road and Larkvane Road.

<sup>3</sup> Curb ramp improvement to be made at Sierra Peak Way, Sierra Ridge Way, Punte Del Este, and Country Canyon Road.

## **Utilities**

Utility relocations are needed at the north side of Colima Road from Azusa Avenue to approximately 700 feet east of Stoner Creek Road. Existing vaults, valves, vents, meters, utility cabinets, pull boxes, traffic signal lights, streetlights, and fire hydrants would be relocated or adjusted by owners to facilitate road widening. Per the Green Infrastructure Guidelines, at least 30% of the Standard Urban Stormwater Mitigation Plan (SUSMP) design storm runoff volume would be captured for County reconstruction and capital improvement road projects. The Project site includes new paved surface area totaling approximately 571,000 square feet (sf) and the new landscape area is 246,000 sf. By applying new landscape area as credit to the minimum of 30% volume reduction, no additional green infrastructure improvement is required. However, additional features would be included with the landscaping in the raised median within the super-elevated roadway segment between Halliburton Road and Countrywood Avenue. Catch basins would also be removed and/or reconstructed near intersections at Countrywood Avenue, east of Manor Gate Road, west of Hanover Road, west and east of Walnut Hill Road, and midblock between Stoner Creek Road and Larkvane Road. Irrigation for proposed landscaping within the medians would be provided via potable (San Gabriel Valley Water Company and Suburban Water Systems) or reclaimed (Rowland Water District) water based on availability of existing infrastructure along the extent of Colima Road.

## **Sidewalk Improvements and ADA Compliance**

Curb ramp improvements are proposed and would be in accordance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. Sidewalk, driveway, and curb and gutter repairs would take place in accordance with the Road Maintenance Division's (RMD) recommendations.

## **Bike Lane**

The Project includes construction of a Class II Bike Lane in both directions from the City of Whittier Boundary to Allenton Avenue, and from Larkvane Road to Fullerton Road. The new bike lanes would connect with existing Class I and/or Class II bike lanes along Colima Road, resulting in an uninterrupted route along the Project's linear extent.

## **Permits and Easements**

The proposed road improvement , as well as all other ancillary modifications and/or improvements, would take place within the existing Colima Road ROW. Permits to enter and temporary construction easements are required to reconstruct driveways, curb ramps, and construct necessary improvements to accommodate the road widening.

## **Construction Activities**

Construction would occur over 22 months and would require the temporary closure of travel lanes.

## **Built Environment Focus Area**

Within the Project site, the Built Environment Focus Area is the geographic area or areas within which a proposed Project may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of cultural resources of the built environment. Delineation of the Built Environment Focus Area is influenced by a project's setting, the scale and nature of a project,

and the different kinds of impacts that may result from Project implementation. The Built Environment Focus Area is limited to an area within the limits of the Project within the larger Project area as delineated in Chapter 2. Project Setting and Description of the *Colima Road Improvement Project – City of Whittier to Fullerton Road* Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) prepared by Dudek for LADPW in 2021.

The Built Environment Focus Area is limited to the portion of the Project site where the Project leaves the public ROW and extends onto private property through an easement. The Built Environment Focus Area is defined as Colima Road ROW extending from the right turn pocket on the southwest corner of Azusa Avenue and Colima Road, and continuing to 750 feet east of Stoner Creek Road, including all easements onto private property within this segment (See Appendix A: Figure 2, Built Environment Focus Area Map). These easements consist mostly of curbs, sidewalks, and driveways into retail shopping center parking lots, and do not directly overlap any extant buildings.

The depth of ground disturbance during roadway improvement is expected to extend on average 18-24 inches below the current grade. Other improvements (i.e., catch basin reconstruction, tree planting, street light relocation, traffic signal relocation/upgrade, and utility relocation) include localized excavations that would not exceed 14 feet in depth.

## Regulatory Context

This section includes a discussion of the applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards governing cultural resources, which must be adhered to before and during construction of the proposed Project.

### National Register of Historic Places

The NRHP is the United States' official list of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects worthy of preservation. Overseen by the National Park Service, under the U.S. Department of the Interior, the NRHP was authorized under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended. Its listings encompass all National Historic Landmarks, as well as historic areas administered by the National Park Service.

NRHP guidelines for the evaluation of historic significance were developed to be flexible and to recognize the accomplishments of all who have made significant contributions to the nation's history and heritage. Its criteria are designed to guide state and local governments, federal agencies, and others in evaluating potential entries in the NRHP. For a property to be listed in or determined eligible for listing, it must be demonstrated to possess integrity and to meet at least one of the following criteria:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. That are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- C. That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. That have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Integrity is defined in NRHP guidance, "How to Apply the National Register Criteria," as "the ability of a property to convey its significance. To be listed in the NRHP, a property must not only be shown to be significant under the NRHP criteria, but it also must have integrity" (Andrus and Shrimpton 2002). NRHP guidance further asserts that properties be completed at least 50 years ago to be considered for eligibility. Properties completed fewer than 50 years before evaluation must be proven to be "exceptionally important" (criteria consideration to be considered for listing).

## California Register of Historical Resources

In California, the term “historical resource” includes but is not limited to “any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which is historically or archaeologically significant, or is significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California” (California Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(j)). In 1992, the California legislature established the CRHR “to be used by state and local agencies, private groups, and citizens to identify the state’s historical resources and to indicate what properties are to be protected, to the extent prudent and feasible, from substantial adverse change” (California Public Resources Code Section 5024.1(a)). The criteria for listing resources on the CRHR were expressly developed to be in accordance with previously established criteria developed for listing in the NRHP, enumerated below. According to California Public Resources Code Section 5024.1(c)(1–4), a resource is considered historically significant if it (i) retains “substantial integrity,” and (ii) meets at least one of the following criteria:

- (1) Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California’s history and cultural heritage.
- (2) Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past.
- (3) Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values.
- (4) Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

In order to understand the historic importance of a resource, sufficient time must have passed to obtain a scholarly perspective on the events or individuals associated with the resource. A resource less than 50 years old may be considered for listing in the CRHR if it can be demonstrated that sufficient time has passed to understand its historical importance (see 14 CCR 4852(d)(2)).

The CRHR protects cultural resources by requiring evaluations of the significance of prehistoric and historic resources. The criteria for the CRHR are nearly identical to those for the NRHP, and properties listed or formally designated as eligible for listing in the NRHP are automatically listed in the CRHR, as are the state landmarks and points of interest. The CRHR also includes properties designated under local ordinances or identified through local historical resource surveys.

## California Environmental Quality Act

As described further below, the following CEQA statutes and CEQA Guidelines are of relevance to the analysis of archaeological, historic, and tribal cultural resources:

- California Public Resources Code Section 21083.2(g) defines “unique archaeological resource.”
- California Public Resources Code Section 21084.1 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a) define “historical resources.” In addition, CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b) defines the phrase

“substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource.” It also defines the circumstances when a project would materially impair the significance of an historical resource.

- California Public Resources Code Section 21074(a) defines “tribal cultural resources.”
- California Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(e) set forth standards and steps to be employed following the accidental discovery of human remains in any location other than a dedicated ceremony.
- California Public Resources Code Sections 21083.2(b)-(c) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4 provide information regarding the mitigation framework for archaeological and historic resources, including examples of preservation-in-place mitigation measures; preservation-in-place is the preferred manner of mitigating impacts to significant archaeological sites because it maintains the relationship between artifacts and the archaeological context and may also help avoid conflict with religious or cultural values of groups associated with the archaeological site(s).

More specifically, under CEQA, a project may have a significant effect on the environment if it may cause “a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource” (California Public Resources Code Section 21084.1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b).) If a site is either listed or eligible for listing in the CRHR, or if it is included in a local register of historic resources or identified as significant in a historical resources survey (meeting the requirements of California Public Resources Code Section 5024.1(q)), it is a “historical resource” and is presumed to be historically or culturally significant for purposes of CEQA (California Public Resources Code Section 21084.1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a)). The lead agency is not precluded from determining that a resource is a historical resource even if it does not fall within this presumption (California Public Resources Code Section 21084.1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a)).

A “substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource” reflecting a significant effect under CEQA means “physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of an historical resource would be materially impaired” (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b)(1); California Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(q)). In turn, CEQA Guidelines section 15064.5(b)(2) states the significance of an historical resource is materially impaired when a project:

1. Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics of an historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its inclusion in, or eligibility for, inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources; or
2. Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics that account for its inclusion in a local register of historical resources pursuant to section 5020.1(k) of the Public Resources Code or its identification in an historical resources survey meeting the requirements of section 5024.1(g) of the Public Resources Code, unless the public agency reviewing the effects of the project establishes by a preponderance of evidence that the resource is not historically or culturally significant; or

3. Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics of a historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its eligibility for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources as determined by a lead agency for purposes of CEQA.

Pursuant to these sections, the CEQA inquiry begins with evaluating whether a project site contains any “historical resources,” then evaluates whether that project will cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource such that the resource’s historical significance is materially impaired.

If it can be demonstrated that a project will cause damage to a unique archaeological resource, the lead agency may require reasonable efforts be made to permit any or all of these resources to be preserved in place or left in an undisturbed state. To the extent that they cannot be left undisturbed, mitigation measures are required (California Public Resources Code Section 21083.2[a], [b], and [c]).

California Public Resources Code Section 21083.2(g) defines a unique archaeological resource as an archaeological artifact, object, or site about which it can be clearly demonstrated that without merely adding to the current body of knowledge, there is a high probability that it meets any of the following criteria:

1. Contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and that there is a demonstrable public interest in that information.
2. Has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type.
3. Is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person.

Impacts to non-unique archaeological resources are generally not considered a significant environmental impact (California Public Resources Code section 21083.2(a); CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(c)(4)). However, if a non-unique archaeological resource qualifies as tribal cultural resource (California Public Resources Code Section 21074(c), 21083.2(h)), further consideration of significant impacts is required. CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 assigns special importance to human remains and specifies procedures to be used when Native American remains are discovered. As described below, these procedures are detailed in California Public Resources Code Section 5097.98.

## California State Assembly Bill 52

Assembly Bill (AB) 52 of 2014 amended PRC Section 5097.94 and added PRC Sections 21073, 21074, 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3, 21083.09, 21084.2, and 21084.3. AB 52 established that Tribal Cultural Resources (TCRs) must be considered under CEQA and also provided for additional Native American consultation requirements for the lead agency. Section 21074 describes a TCR as a site, feature, place, cultural landscape, sacred place, or object that is considered of cultural value to a California Native American Tribe and that is either:

- On or determined to be eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources or a local historic register;
- or

- A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Section 5024.1.

AB 52 formalizes the lead agency–tribal consultation process, requiring the lead agency to initiate consultation with California Native American groups that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project site, including tribes that may not be federally recognized. Lead agencies are required to begin consultation prior to the release of a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration, or environmental impact report.

Section 1 (a)(9) of AB 52 establishes that “a substantial adverse change to a tribal cultural resource has a significant effect on the environment.” Effects on TCRs should be considered under CEQA. Section 6 of AB 52 adds Section 21080.3.2 to the PRC, which states that parties may propose mitigation measures “capable of avoiding or substantially lessening potential significant impacts to a tribal cultural resource or alternatives that would avoid significant impacts to a tribal cultural resource.” Further, if a California Native American tribe requests consultation regarding project alternatives, mitigation measures, or significant effects to tribal cultural resources, the consultation shall include those topics (PRC Section 21080.3.2[a]). The environmental document and the mitigation monitoring and reporting program (where applicable) shall include any mitigation measures that are adopted (PRC Section 21082.3[a]).

## Los Angeles County Historic Preservation Ordinance

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors adopted a county Historic Preservation Ordinance (“HPO”) on September 1, 2015. Below, the applicable portions of the ordinance are listed with respect to designation of a County Landmark or historic District:

### **22.124.070 Criteria for Designation of Landmarks and Historic Districts.**

- A. A structure, site, object, tree, landscape, or natural land feature may be designated as a landmark if it is 50 years of age or older and satisfies one or more of the following criteria:
1. It is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of the history of the nation, State, County, or community in which it is located;
  2. It is associated with the lives of persons who are significant in the history of the nation, State, County, or community in which it is located;
  3. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, architectural style, period, or method of construction, or represents the work of an architect, designer, engineer, or builder whose work is of significance to the nation, State, County, or community in which it is located; or possesses artistic values of significance to the nation, State, County, or community in which it is located;
  4. It has yielded, or may be likely to yield, significant and important information regarding the prehistory or history of the nation, State, County, or community in which it is located;

5. It is listed, or has been formally determined eligible by the United States National Park Service for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places, or is listed, or has been formally determined eligible by the State Historical Resources Commission for listing, on the California Register of Historical Resources;
6. If it is a tree, it is one of the largest or oldest trees of the species located in the County; or
7. If it is a tree, landscape, or other natural land feature, it has historical significance due to an association with a historic event, person, site, street, or structure, or because it is a defining or significant outstanding feature of a neighborhood.

## Background Research

### Previous Studies

In August 2016, Caltrans prepared a Caltrans-compliant screened undertaking memorandum, “Section 106 Compliance – Screened Undertaking for the Colima Road Widening Project in Los Angeles County” consistent with Caltrans’ regulatory responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (36 CFR Part 800) and pursuant *First Amended Programmatic Agreement among the Federal Highway Administration, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the California State Historic Preservation Officer, and the California Department of Transportation Regarding Compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act* (Section 106 Programmatic Agreement). This memorandum was created for the same undertaking proposed by the County: improvements to Colima Road, beginning at the eastern limits of the City of Whittier and ending at Fullerton Road, within Los Angeles County. The proposed work will widen Colima Road from Halliburton Road to Fullerton Road for a total distance of 4.9 miles and will involve narrowing the median and establishing 10 to 12 foot-wide travel lanes to accommodate three lanes in each direction of Colima Road.

According to this memorandum, the project/undertaking, as proposed, had no potential to affect historic properties eligible for listing or listed in the National Register of Historic Places, and was determined to be exempt from further review pursuant to the Section 106 PA Stipulation VII (Dahdul 2016: 1-2). The work was determined to conform with the following classes of screen undertakings listed in the Section 106 PA: Classes 1, 2, 6, 8, 11, 14, 20, and 25. All listed classes related to minor road improvements, including resurfacing; modifications to curbs, ditches, slopes and driveways; minor widening of less than one-half lane; utility installation and traffic control; road striping; and landscaping (Dahdul 2016: 2). The memorandum did not investigate whether historical or archaeological resources were present within the proposed area of potential effects since the undertaking had no potential to affect resources. Though the undertaking has not changed since the 2016 memorandum, the original memorandum did not consider effects to historical resources under CEQA. This report is intended to address the consideration of effects to historical resources under CEQA.

### SCCIC Records Search

On June 16, 2021, Dudek received a search of the CHRIS from the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC), located on the campus of the California State University, Fullerton. The search conducted by SCCIC staff analysts included any previously recorded cultural resources and investigations within a 0.25-mile radius of the

Project site. The CHRIS search also included a review of the NRHP, the CRHR, the California Points of Historical Interest list, the California Historical Landmarks list, the Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility list, the California State Historic Resources Inventory list, and the Built Environment Resources Directory (BERD). The confidential records search results are provided in Confidential Appendix B.

Due to COVID-19, the SCCIC notified researchers that they are only able to provide data for Los Angeles County that has already been digitized. As such, not all available data known to CHRIS may be provided in the records search. Dudek reviewed the available SCCIC records to determine whether the implementation of the Project would have the potential to impact any known and unknown cultural resources. Previously Conducted Cultural Resources Studies

Results of the CHRIS records search indicated that twenty-seven (27) previous cultural resources studies have been conducted within 0.25-mile of the Project site. These studies were conducted between 1970 and 2011. Of these investigations, ten (10) studies, LA-01269, LA-01766, LA-05476, LA-08248, LA-08249, LA-09705, LA-10175, LA-11988, LA-12552, and LA-12928, either overlap or are immediately adjacent to the Project site. Nine (9) of these reports consist of large scale studies related to either transmission line improvements, utility installation, or road improvements. None of these reports directly assess the Project site. Report LA-01766 addresses a relatively smaller study area that is adjacent to the Project site within Segment 4. Though the Project site was not directly assessed during this study, a brief summary of this report is discussed in the following paragraphs to consider prehistoric resources identified within the vicinity of the Project site. Table 1, below, provides a complete list of all 27 previously conducted studies within 0.25-mile of the Project site.

#### LA-01766

*Cultural Resources Reconnaissance of the Otterbein Park Athletic Area, Los Angeles County, California* (Bissell 1988), documents the results of a Phase I inventory conducted within the Peter F. Schabarum Regional Park (formerly Otterbain Park Athletic Area) and prepared for the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation. The study area is adjacent to a portion of the current Project site within Segment 4. A portion of Colima Road comprises the northern border of the study area. Topographically, the study area is within Puente Hills and bisected east west by the north south trending Powder Canyon and San Jose Creek. Bissell (1988) noted that this area may have been attractive to prehistoric inhabitants. The archival research completed for the inventory identified previously recorded prehistoric resource (CA-LAN-883) further south of the study area within Powder Canyon. The report did not provide any additional information on resource CA-LAN-883 other than that it is a prehistoric site.

During the pedestrian survey, Bissel (1988) identified two prehistoric isolated handstones within the study area that they surmised were potentially associated with site CA-LAN-883. However, Bissel (1988) determined that the majority of the study area, including the location of the handstones, was disturbed by previous construction within the park. Based on these factors, Bissel (1988) concluded that no further cultural resources considerations were recommended for the immediate project.

Important to note is that prehistoric site CA-LAN-883 is outside the study limits of the current Project site and will not be impacted by Project construction. Additionally, although Bissel (1988) reported the discovery of two isolated

handstones within the park, these resources were not captured within the CHRIS records search completed for the current Project and therefore, may be outside the 0.25-mile records search radius.

**Table 1. Previously Conducted Cultural Resources Studies within 0.25-Mile of the Project**

SCCIC Report Number	Authors	Year	Title	Proximity to Project Area
LA-00049	Walsh and Associates, Inc.	1974	Draft Environmental Impact Report for Covington Brothers Rowland Heights Project	Outside
LA-01029	Douglas, Ronald D.	1977	Report of an Archaeological Survey in the Puente Hills Tentative Tract #30072 the Medicine Lodge Property	Outside
LA-0'054	D'Altroy, Terence N.	1981	Cultural Resources Report Tentative Tract #39961 in Puente Hills, County of Los Angeles, California	Outside
LA-01211	Bissell, Ronald M.	1982	Cultural Resources Survey, Comanche Company, Tentative Tract No. 42382, Hacienda Heights, Los Angeles County, California	Outside
LA-01269	Colby, Susan M.	1983	An Archaeological Resource Survey and Impact Assessment of an Approximate 1.3 Mile Extension of Halliburton Road in Hacienda Heights, Los Angeles County, California	Adjacent Segment 2
LA-01766	Bissell, Ronald M.	1988	Cultural Resources Reconnaissance of the Otterbein Park Athletic Area, Los Angeles County, California	Adjacent Segment 4
LA-02017	Carrico, Richard L.	1976	Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Lusk/Bixby Countrywood Village RPD Hacienda Heights	Outside
LA-02018	Ristic, Raymond P.	1976	Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Lusk/Bixby Countrywood Village Development Hacienda Heights Area	Outside
LA-03526	King, Thomas F., Theodore Gutman, and Joseph L. Chartkoff	1970	UCAS-100- Survey of Regional Parks	Outside
LA-05476	Romani, Gwendolyn R.	2000	Archaeological Survey Report: Los Angeles-san Diego Fiber Optic Project: Mesa Substation to Chino Hills State Park Segment	Intersects Segment 1
LA-05786	Duke, Curt	2002	Cultural Resource Assessment Cingular Wireless Facility No. VY 137-01 Los Angeles County, California	Outside
LA-05789	Duke, Curt	2002	Cultural Resource Assessment Cingular Wireless Facility No. VY 136-01 Los Angeles County, California	Outside

**Table 1. Previously Conducted Cultural Resources Studies within 0.25-Mile of the Project**

SCCIC Report Number	Authors	Year	Title	Proximity to Project Area
LA-05792	Duke, Curt	2002	Cultural Resource Assessment AT&T Wireless Services Facility No. D247A Los Angeles County, California	Outside
LA-07166	Thal, Sean	2005	South Hacienda/CA-8503A Telecommunications 3137 South Hacienda Blvd., Hacienda Heights, CA Los Angeles County	Outside
LA-08248*	Fulton, Terri and Deborah McLean	2006	Cultural Resource Assessment for the Puente Hills Landfill Native Habitat Preservation Authority, Los Angeles County, California	<b>Overlaps Segment 1</b>
LA-08249	Peterson, Patricia A.	2002	Cultural Resources Records Search and Survey Report for the Reclaimed Water Backbone Transmission Project, Los Angeles County, California	<b>Overlaps Segments 3, 4, and 5</b>
LA-08311	Bonner, Wayne H.	2007	Cultural Resources Records Search and Site Visit Results for T-Mobile Candidate IE24102E (Colima Nursery), 18002 Colima Road, Rowland Heights, Los Angeles County, California	Outside
LA-08399	Bonner, Wayne H.	2004	Cultural Resource Records Search and Site Visit Results for Cingular Telecommunications Facility Candidate Cc-403-02 (UMCA) 16222 East Soriano Drive, Hacienda Heights, Los Angeles County, California	Outside
LA-08401	Bonner, Wayne H.	2004	Records Search Results and Site Visit for Sprint Telecommunications Facility Candidate LA60x803B (Hacienda Senior Villas) 1901 South Azusa Avenue, Hacienda Heights, Los Angeles County, California	Outside
LA-08716	Bonner, Wayne H.	2006	Cultural Resources Records Search and Site Visit Results for Cingular Candidate OC-0048-01 (SCE Tower-Hacienda Heights), Metropol Drive and Miramar Drive, Hacienda Heights, Los Angeles County, California	Outside
LA-09705	Pacific Legacy, Inc.	2007	Cultural Resources Inventory of the Southern California Edison Company Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project, Kern, Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties, California. ARR #05-01-01046	<b>Intersects Segment 1</b>

**Table 1. Previously Conducted Cultural Resources Studies within 0.25-Mile of the Project**

SCCIC Report Number	Authors	Year	Title	Proximity to Project Area
LA-10175	Applied EarthWorks, Inc.	2009	Confidential Cultural Resources Specialist Report for the Tehachapi Transmission Project	<b>Intersects Segment 1</b>
LA-11268	Wlodarski, Robert J.	2011	Cultural Resources Record Search and Archaeological Survey Results for the Proposed Royal Street Communications, California, LLC, Site LA5346A (T-Mobile UMCA) located at 16222 Soriano Drive, Hacienda Heights, Los Angeles County, California, 91745	Outside
LA-11522	Wlodarski, Robert and Bonner, Diane	2011	Cultural Resources Record Search and Archaeological Survey Results for the Proposed MetroPCS California Network, LLC, Site LA4003-B (BTS Hacienda Center) located at 3105 Clima Road, Hacienda Heights, Los Angeles County, California	Outside
LA-11988*	Schneider, Tsim	2010	TRTP Cultural Resources Survey Report with Negative Findings, Segment 8 West (Phase 4) Supplemental Survey #6	<b>Intersects Segment 1</b>
LA-12552*	Holm, Lisa and Holson, John	2011	Supplemental Archaeological Survey Report, Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project Segment 8 East (Phases 2 and 3) and West (Phase 4), Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties, California	<b>Intersects Segment 1</b>
LA-12928	Holm, Lisa and John Holson	2011	Supplemental Archaeological Survey Report, Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project Segment 8 East (Phases 2 and 3) and West (Phase 4), Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties, California	<b>Intersects Segment 1</b>

\*PDF copy of Report was not provided by the SCCIC

**Previously Recorded Cultural Resources**

The CHRIS records search identified one (1) previously recorded cultural resource within the 0.25-mile records search area. This built environment resource, P-19-190505, consists of the Southern California Edison Company (SCE) Mesa-Walnut 220 kV Transmission Line. Tinsley Becker et al. (2010) recorded and evaluated the transmission line as part of SCE’s Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project. The transmission line was constructed in 1956 to provide electricity to the San Gabriel Valley. The transmission line spans 14.79-miles from the City of Montebello/Monterey Park to the City of Industry, intersecting the western extent of the Project site within Segment 1.

The portion of P-19-190505 that intersects the Project site consists of overhead lines. There are no ground features (e.g., lattice towers) in the vicinity of the Project site that need to be considered during Project construction. Additionally, Tinsley et al. (2010) evaluated the Mesa-Walnut 220 kV Transmission Line and determined that the resource does not appear eligible for inclusion on the CRHR or the NRHP. As a result, any future projects along the line, including the current Project, would not cause a significant adverse effect or impact to P-19-190505. No further cultural considerations are warranted for this resource.

The CHRIS records search did not identify archaeological resources of Native American origin or historic-period archaeological resources within 0.25-mile of the Project site.

### **Review of Soils**

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey (USDA 2021a), three soil types have been identified in the Project site: Counterfeit-Urban land complex, 10 to 35 percent slopes; Urban land-Sorrento-Arbolado complex, 2 to 9 percent slopes; and Zaca-Apollo, warm complex, 20 to 55 percent slopes. The three soil series are described below according to their official soil descriptions (USDA 2021b).

**Counterfeit Series:** The Counterfeit series consists of very deep soils that formed from human transported material which originated from material weather from calcareous sedimentary rocks. Counterfeit soils are on man-made terraces and risers with slopes ranging from 0 to 65 percent. Counterfeit soils are for recreation, commercial and residential development in urban areas. A typical Counterfeit pedon extends from 0 to 72 inches below ground surface (bgs).

**Sorrento Series:** The Sorrento series consists of very deep, well-drained soils that formed in alluvium mostly from sedimentary rocks. Sorrento soils are on alluvial fans and stabilized floodplains and have slopes of 0 to 15 percent. A typical Sorrento pedon extends from 0 to 74 inches bgs

**Zaca Series:** The Zaca series consists of deep, well-drained soils formed in material from weakly consolidated marine sediments. Zaca soils are on gently rolling to very steep slopes of 5 to 75 percent. Zaca soils formed in softly consolidated marine sediments of mudstone, sandstone, and shale. A typical Zaca pedon extends from 0 to 72 inches bgs.

The Project site is noted to be covered by recent and older alluvium. A review of the United States Geological Society (USGS) mineral resources (USGS 2021) online spatial data for geology indicates that native soils within the Project site are comprised of Quaternary alluvium and marine deposits from the Pleistocene to Holocene epoch and Miocene marine rocks from the Oligocene to Pliocene epoch. Holocene-era alluvial formations do have the potential to support the presence of buried archaeological resources. These soils are associated with the period of prehistoric human use, as well as represent ongoing processes of development that have potential to preserve cultural material in context, depending on area-specific topographical setting.

### **Historic Topographic Maps and Aerial Images Review**

Dudek consulted historic topographic maps and aerial photographs to better understand previous land use, man-made or natural ground disturbance and overall landscape augmentation of the Built Environment Focus Area and vicinity.

Topographic maps were available from the following years: 1896, 1899, 1901, 1906, 1912, 1922, 1927, 1932, 1935, 1941, 1944, 1952, 1955, 1961, 1965, 1969, 1975, 1977, 1982, 2012, 2015, and 2018 (NETR 2021a). Aerial images were available from the following years: 1948, 1953, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1972, 1980, 1995, 1998, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016 and 2018 (NETR 2021b).

The road segment corresponding to the Project site has been present on topographic maps since 1896 and was extended to its present day footprint by 1975. Colima Road is visible on topographic maps as early as 1896, though Colima Road only extends to Azusa Avenue (labeled Puente Road) at this time. For much of its extant, the road parallels the Union Pacific Railroad tracks to the north, until it turns north at Azusa Avenue. Colima Road is labeled Grazide Road from 1927 through 1965, then Anaheim-Puente Road from 1965 through 2012 on various maps. It is not referred to as “Colima Road” until the 2012 USGS topographic map. Colima Road does not extend southwest through the La Puente Hills towards City of Whittier until the 1975 topographic map.

Colima Road is visible in historic aerial imagery as early as 1953. In imagery from 1953, the path turns sharply north at Azusa Avenue. In 1953, the area surrounding the Project was dominated by agricultural tracts, mostly orchards. In the present-day location of Puente Hills Mall, northeast of the Colima Road/Azusa Avenue intersection there was an oval racetrack. Several creeks bisect the area, including Thompson Creek and San Jose Creek. In the imagery from 1963, residential tract housing appears north of Colima Road, near Fullerton Road. More industrial development appears near the Union Pacific Tracks to the north. In the imagery from 1965, Colima Road visibly extends southwest towards City of Whittier. In the imagery from 1972, intensive development along Colima Road appears in the form of residential subdivision tracts and Puente Hills Mall. In the imagery from the 1980 historic aerial shows the intensification of commercial strip malls and retail stores in the segment of Colima Road east of Azusa Avenue and west of Fullerton Road. The 1995 historic aerial shows parcels along Colima Road entirely developed with buildings with the exception of Schabarum Park at Azusa Avenue.

## **NAHC and Tribal Correspondence**

### **Assembly Bill 52 Consultation**

The Project is subject to compliance with AB 52 (PRC 21074) which requires consideration of impacts to “tribal cultural resources” (TCRs) as part of the CEQA process and requires the lead agency to notify any tribal groups (who have requested notification) of the proposed Project. Pursuant to AB 52, Public Works sent Project notification letters on May 11, 2017 to all NAHC-listed Native American tribal representatives on their AB 52 Contact List. The letters contained a project description, outline of AB 52 timing (including 30-day response requirement), request for consultation, and contact information for the appropriate lead agency representative. To date, Public Works received one request for consultation pursuant to AB 52 from the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians–Kizh Nation (Tribe).

An AB 52 consultation meeting between Public Works and Kizh-Nation Tribal representative, Chairman Andrew Salas, was conducted on June 28, 2017. In summary, the Tribe informed Public Works that they believe the Project area to be located in a culturally sensitive area within the Tribe’s ancestral tribal territory. The Tribe’s expressed intent of the consultation meeting was to avoid adverse effects to tribal cultural resources through providing a “more complete understanding of the prehistoric use(s) of the Project area and the potential risks for causing a substantial adverse change to the significance of our tribal cultural resources.” The Tribe was interested in

understanding the extent of excavation related to landscaping within the median, pavement resurfacing, catch basin reconstruction, sidewalk and driveway reconstruction, and utility relocation. The Tribe also provided mitigation measures in which tribal monitoring was requested for ground disturbing activities during Project construction.

In a follow-up consultation meeting held on June 28, 2017, Public Works requested clarification on the specific areas within the Project that the Tribe would like to have monitored. Chairman Salas reduced the scope of tribal monitoring from all ground-breaking activities to monitoring during localized ground disturbing activities at greater depth including catch basin reconstruction, tree planting, street light relocation, traffic signal relocation/upgrade, and utility relocation. Chairman Salas requested that the mitigation measures be incorporated into the environmental document.

The AB 52 consultation between Public Works and Chairman Salas suggests there is some potential for unknown subsurface TCRs to be encountered as a result of Project related ground disturbing activities and if previously unknown TCRs are encountered, there is potential for the Project related ground disturbing activities to adversely impacted within the implementation of appropriate measures. At this time, consultation between Public Works and Chairman Salas is ongoing.

### **Historical Background Research**

In addition to the background research and record searches described above Dudek consulted the following sources to determine if any historic-age properties or previously recorded resources would be affected by the proposed Project.

#### *Los Angeles County Assessor*

On June 15, 2021, Dudek used the project location information furnished by the County to determine where the proposed Project deviated from the Colima Road ROW and entered private property. Dudek determined that 21 distinct parcels would be affected by minor private property easements around curbs, ramps, and driveways. Dudek researched the dates of construction recorded by the Los Angeles County Assessor for all 21 parcels against and found that three parcels were over 45 years in age:

- 1580 S. Azusa Ave (8265-004-121), built 1973 - Puente Hills Mall
- 1620 S. Azusa Ave (8265-004-041), built 1973 - Puente Hills Mall
- 1630 S. Azusa Ave (8265-004-040), built 1973 (three buildings, all associated with Puente Hills Mall)

These parcels were all associated with the Puente Hills Mall, and either constituted the mall itself or the attached anchor store buildings (Los Angeles County Assessor 2021).

#### *Built Environment Resources Database (BERD)*

On June 15, 2021, Dudek used the same project location information provided by the County to cross check the California Built Environment Resources database (BERD). Dudek reviewed the Los Angeles County BERD to see if there were any previously recorded built environment resources that had been previously recorded within or adjacent to the proposed Project. No historical resources were previously recorded adjacent to or within the proposed Project site or within the Built Environment Focus Area.

#### *Newspapers.com*

Dudek reviewed historical newspaper articles from the *Los Angeles Times* (Los Angeles, California), *Progress-Bulletin* (Pomona, California) and *Daily Breeze* (Torrance, California) related to the development of the Puente Hills Mall and the development of the Colima Road area. This helped determine the age of construction, construction completion date, developer, architects and other information about the Puente Hills Mall property.

#### *Los Angeles County Library*

Dudek visited the Los Angeles County Library La Puente Branch and Los Angeles County Library Hacienda Heights Branch on June 16, 2021 in order to research the communities of Hacienda Heights, Rowland Heights, and City of Industry. Dudek also consulted with a librarian on the date of visit for additional information and was directed to local history collections which contained city directories and local history reference books.

## Cultural Resources Survey

An intensive pedestrian survey for both archaeological and historic built environment resources was conducted for the Built Environment Focus Area on June 16, 2021 by dual-qualified Dudek architectural historian/archaeologist, Kate Kaiser, MSHP. The survey was conducted to identify and document any cultural resources that may be present in the Built Environment Focus Area. The survey was completed for all portions of the Built Environment Focus Area without restricted access.

Given the developed nature of the Project site, an intensive-level survey for archaeological resources was not warranted. Rather, based on the existing site conditions, an opportunistic survey approach was employed. Careful attention was given to barren ground including at the base of trees, in landscaped features, and in planter areas in existing medians and private properties in areas where the proposed Project will leave the Colima Road ROW. The ground surface was examined for the presence of prehistoric artifacts (e.g., flaked stone tools, tool-making debris, stone milling tools), historic-period artifacts (e.g., metal, glass, ceramics), sediment discolorations that might indicate the presence of a cultural midden, and depressions and other features that might indicate the former presence of structures or buildings.

For the historic built environment component of the survey, a qualified architectural historian identified all properties within the Built Environment Focus Area older than 45 years in age, prior to in-person fieldwork. On the date of survey, the architectural historian surveyed the Built Environment Focus Area, including where the Project proposed easements onto private property. This assessment entailed documenting each building over 45 years in age with notes and photographs, specifically noting possible character-defining features, spatial relationships, and observed alterations. Dudek also photographed areas of proposed curb cuts and driveway improvements to document existing infrastructure.

All field notes, photographs, and records related to the current study are on file at Dudek's Pasadena, California, office.

## Identified Cultural Resources

As a result of research and field observations, one property over 45 years in age intersecting the Built Environment Focus Area was identified: the Puente Hills Mall, in the City of Industry (APNs 8265-004-115, 8265-004-116, 8265-004-117, 8265-004-118, 8265-004-119, 8265-004-120, 8265-004-121, 8265-004-041, 8265-004-040, 8265-004-039, and 8265-004-045). According to newspaper research, the Puente Hills Mall was designed in 1972 by Ernest W. Hahn, Inc. The company was a prolific mall developer from the 1950s through the 1980s throughout the United States, especially in Southern California. Puente Hills Mall was completed in 1975.

The design of the mall was an X-plan, two level, shopping mall that originally hosted over 100 individual shops and four anchor department stores, surrounded by a ring of parking lots, a ring road, and an outer ring of small standalone commercial retail or restaurant properties. The Puente Hills Mall was developed on a sprawling, 94-acre plot and is surrounded by expansive parking lots. The main mall building is separated from the surrounding major roads by a setback of no less than 400 feet and also separated from the public ROW by a meandering interior ring road, landscaped medians, parking lot borders, and more recently-constructed stores, banks, and restaurants around the outer edge of the mall's parcels.

No archaeological resources were identified within the Project site as a result of the pedestrian survey.

## Conclusions

### **Built Environment**

One potential historical resource was identified within the Built Environment Focus Area: the Puente Hills Mall. Certain types of projects, by nature, have little potential to affect historical resources. These types of projects are typically related to road construction, where potential effects either do not leave the ROW boundaries or have minimal impacts outside the ROW, such as curb re-construction, curb cuts and ramps, road cuts and ramps, and driveway reconstruction. Dudek reviewed the Project Description and Project Location, surveyed the Built Environment Focus Area, and noting current field conditions, concludes that there is no potential for the project, as proposed, to impact the Puente Hills Mall property. There is a visual and geographic separation between limits of the proposed Project and the main Puente Hills Mall building. All proposed construction is either limited to the public ROW or consists of minimal easements limited to widening and resurfacing the driveways to the Puente Hills Mall parking lot and curb cuts. Though the Project proposes to encroach on the parcel, outside of the public ROW, there is little potential to impact the Puente Hills Mall. Because there would be no potential to impact the Puente Hills Mall for the Project as currently proposed, it is not necessary to evaluate the Puente Hills Mall as a potential historical resource for the scope of this Project. Therefore, Dudek has not evaluated Puente Hills Mall for historical significance under NRHP, CRHR, or local landmark criteria. There are no other potential historical resources based on cursory level research with the county assessor, SCCIC Records Search, California BERD, or confirmed by a visual field check. As such, the Project has no potential to impact historical resources for the purposes of CEQA.

## **Archaeology**

Proposed excavations associated with Project construction are expected to extend from 18 to 24 inches below current grade during roadway improvements and to a maximum depth of 14 feet below grade for other improvements related to catch basin reconstruction, landscaping, pole relocations/upgrades, and utility relocation. According to the review of soils, the Project site is comprised of three soil series that generally extend to a depth of 6 feet bgs and are underlain by native soils consisting of both recent and older alluvium. Based on this information, it is possible that proposed excavations will occur within undisturbed native soils that have the potential to contain buried cultural deposits.

However, results of the archival review and field survey suggest that the potential for prehistoric and historic-period archaeological resources to exist within the Project site is considered low. The CHRIS records search identified one (1) previously recorded cultural resource within the 0.25-mile records search radius. Built environment resource P-19-190505 intersects the Project site within Segment 1 and consists of the NRHP and CRHR ineligible Mesa-Walnut 220 kV Transmission Line. No previously recorded archaeological resources were identified within 0.25-mile of the Project site.

Of the 10 previously conducted cultural resources studies that intersect or are adjacent to the Project site, only one of these studies, LA-01766, discusses archaeological resources within the vicinity of the Project site. Report LA-01766 characterized a portion of Segment 4 near Peter F. Schabarum Regional Park as potentially attractive to prehistoric inhabitants given the presence of the San Jose Creek waterway within the study area. The study determined that although two isolated prehistoric handstones were identified during the survey, the study area was entirely disturbed by past construction, and the handstones were found out of context. The study stated that the area once had the potential to contain prehistoric sites, but any remaining potential has since been destroyed by development.

According to the review of historic topographic maps and aerial photographs, the Project site has been utilized as a transportation corridor since at least 1896. An influx of development came to the area in the 1960s and proceeded to infill the Project site with residential subdivision tracts and commercial strip malls and retail stores during subsequent decades. The Project site was entirely developed and surrounded by development by 1995.

No archaeological resources were identified as a result of the field survey. Given the developed nature of the Project site and since there was no substantial area of visible ground surface to inspect, results of the archaeological field survey are considered inconclusive.

Based upon the above factors, the Project site is considered low sensitivity for the presence of archaeological resources. However, it is still possible that unknown intact archaeological resources could be encountered subsurface during ground disturbing activities within native soils. Therefore, management recommendations for the Inadvertent Discovery of Archaeological Resources and the Inadvertent Discovery of Human Remains are provided below.

## Recommendations

### Built Environment Recommendations

The Project as proposed has no potential to impact historical resources. Should the proposed Project extent or the proposed Project activities change in any way, a qualified architectural historian would need to review the new Project components and determine whether or not the Puente Hills Mall or other potential historical resources would need to be evaluated for historical significance and/or would be impacted by the Project.

### Inadvertent Archaeological Discoveries

**Workers Environmental Awareness Training.** All construction personnel and monitors who are not trained archaeologists shall be briefed regarding inadvertent discoveries prior to the start of construction activities. An informational pamphlet and/or a presentation shall be prepared in order to ensure proper identification and treatment of inadvertent discoveries. The purpose of the Workers Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) training is to provide specific details on the kinds of archaeological materials that may be identified during construction of the Project and explain the importance of and legal basis for the protection of significant archaeological resources. Each worker shall also learn the proper procedures to follow in the event that cultural resources or human remains are uncovered during ground-disturbing activities. These procedures include work curtailment or redirection, and the immediate contact of the site supervisor and archaeological monitor.

**On Call Archaeological Monitoring.** A qualified archaeologist shall be retained and on-call to respond and address any inadvertent discoveries identified during initial excavation in native soil. Initial excavation is defined as initial construction-related earth moving of sediments from their place of deposition. All work conducted shall be overseen by an archaeological principal investigator, meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards. If monitoring is conducted, an archaeological monitoring report shall be prepared within 60 days following completion of ground disturbance and submitted to Public Works for review. This report should document compliance with approved mitigation, document the monitoring efforts, and include an appendix with daily monitoring logs. The final report shall be submitted to the SCCIC.

**Protocols in the Case of Inadvertent Discovery of Archaeological Resources.** In the event that archaeological resources (sites, features, or artifacts) are exposed during construction activities for the proposed Project, all construction work occurring within 100 feet of the find shall immediately stop and a qualified archaeologist is notified immediately to assess the significance of the find and determine whether or not additional study is warranted. Depending upon the significance of the find, the archaeologist may simply record the find and allow work to continue. If the discovery proves significant under CEQA, additional work such as preparation of an archaeological treatment plan, testing, data recovery, or monitoring may be warranted.

### Inadvertent Discoveries of Human Remains

In accordance with Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, if human remains are found, the County Coroner shall be notified within 24 hours of the discovery. No further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains shall occur until the County Coroner

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has determined, within two working days of notification of the discovery, the appropriate treatment and disposition of the human remains. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the Coroner shall notify the NAHC in Sacramento within 24 hours. In accordance with California Public Resources Code, Section 5097.98, the NAHC must immediately notify those persons it believes to be the MLD from the deceased Native American. The MLD shall complete their inspection within 48 hours of being granted access to the site. The MLD would then determine, in consultation with the property owner, the disposition of the human remains.

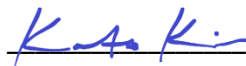
Should you have any questions relating to this report and its findings please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Respectfully Submitted,



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cc: Sarah Corder, Heather McDaniel-McDevitt, Allison Lyons, Jason Reynolds, Dudek

Att: Appendix A: Figures  
Appendix B: CONFIDENTIAL SCCIC Records Search Results

## References

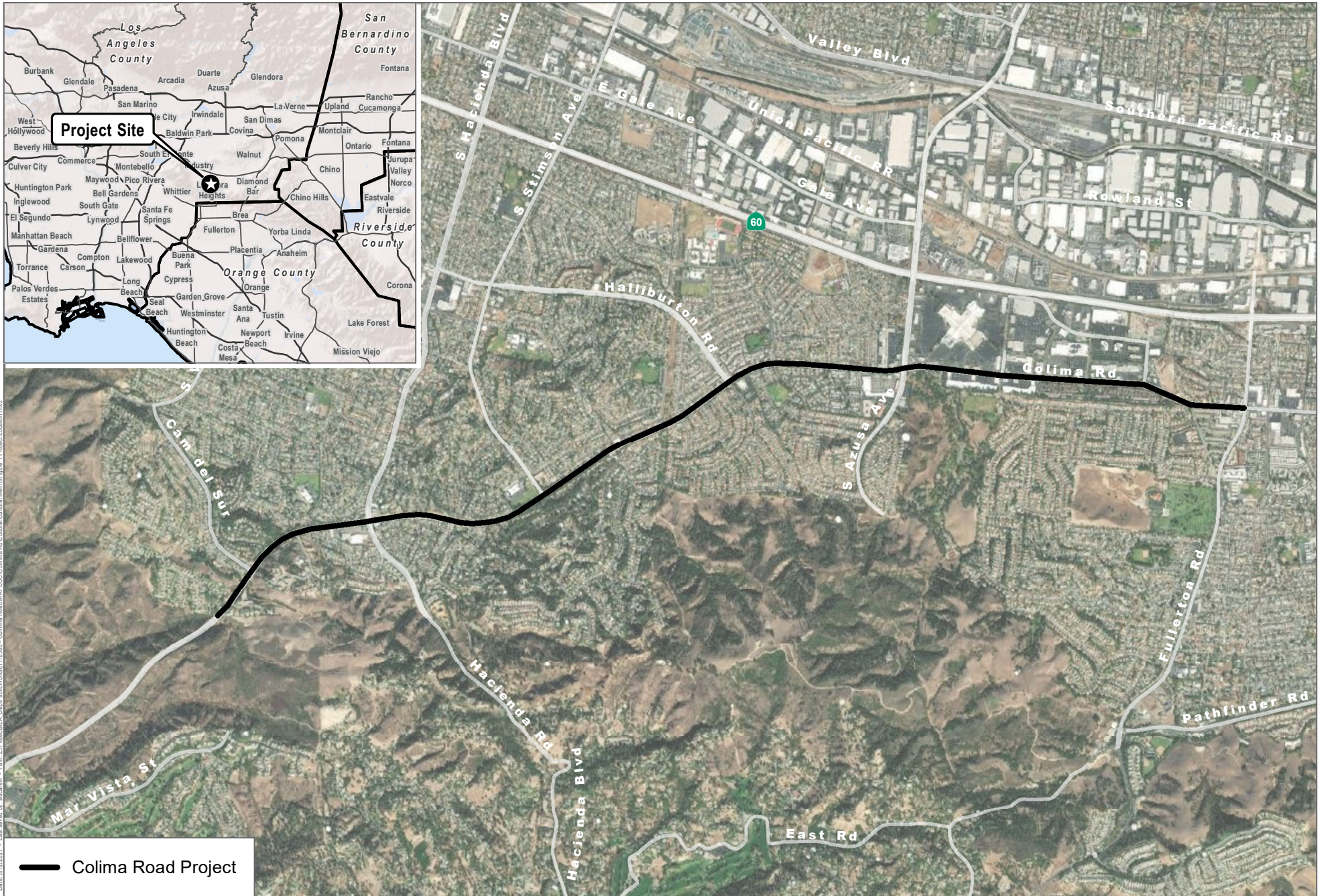
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# APPENDIX A

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Figures



Date: 8/12/2021 - Last saved by: skurcail - Path: Z:\Projects\LA\_Depp\Public\Views\11172509 - Colima Road\MAPDOC\Comma Rd\Cultural\Memo\Figure 1 Project Location.mxd

**— Colima Road Project**

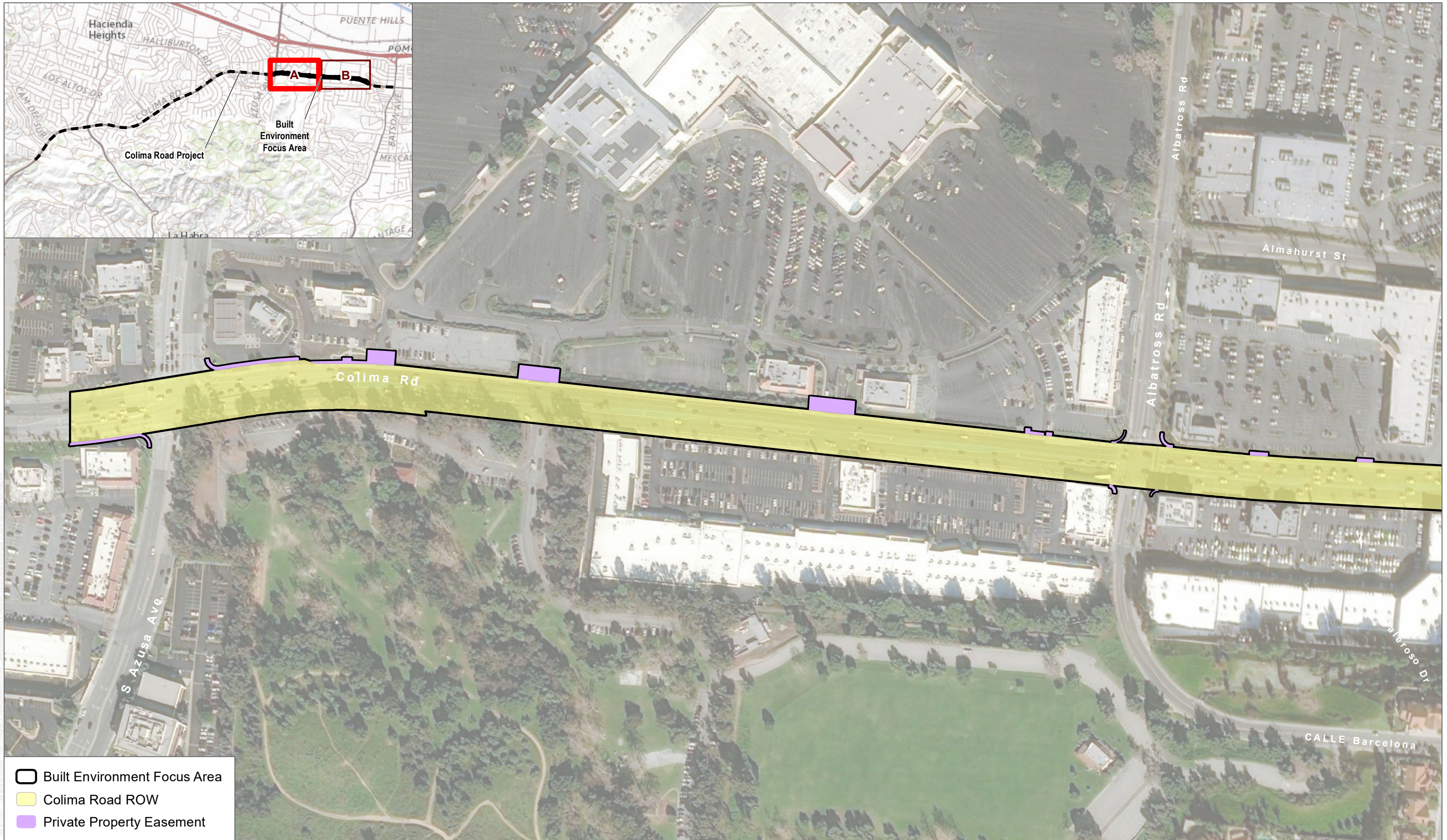
SOURCE: Maxar 2020  
La Habra Quadrangle



**FIGURE 1**

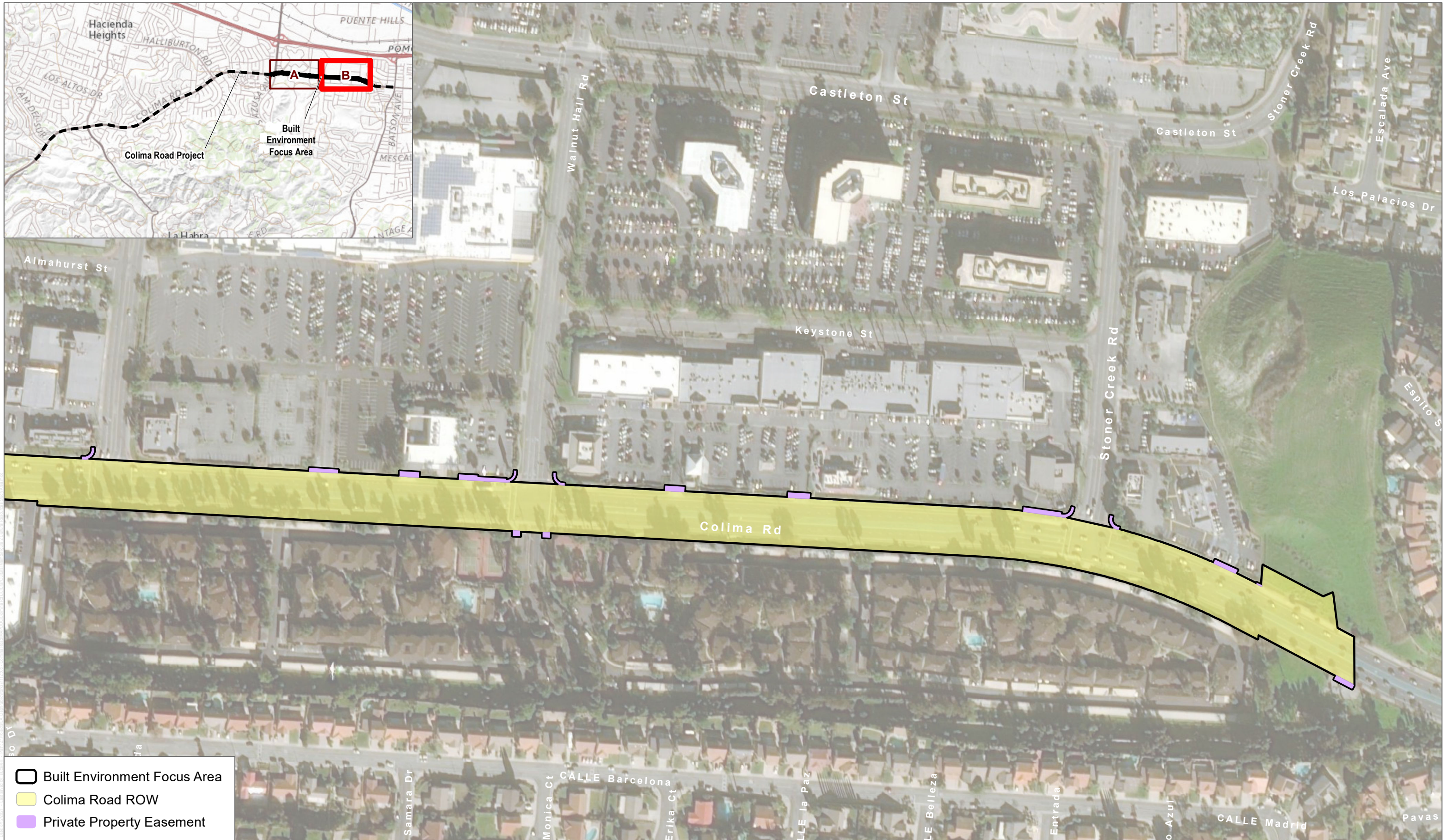
**Project Location**

Colima Road Improvement Project Cultural Memo



SOURCE: Maxar 2020

**FIGURE 2A**  
**Built Environment Focus Area**  
 Colima Road Improvement Project Cultural Memo



SOURCE: Maxar 2020



FIGURE 2B

Built Environment Focus Area  
Colima Road Improvement Project Cultural Memo



# APPENDIX B

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SCCIC Records Search Results- Confidential