



July 10, 2020

Mr. Sol Henson, President  
San Juan Ridge Taxpayers Association  
PO Box 421  
North San Juan, CA 95960

**Subject: Edwards Crossing Bridge Replacement Project over the South Yuba River**

Dear Mr. Henson,

The County of Nevada (County), in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), proposes to rehabilitate the Edwards Crossing Bridge over the South Yuba River exclusively for pedestrian use and to construct a new two-lane bridge at one of two upstream locations for vehicle use. The Edwards Crossing Bridge is located on North Bloomfield Road, approximately 8 miles northeast of Nevada City and 5 miles south of the San Juan Ridge. Please refer to the project location map enclosed with this letter.

The Edwards Crossing Bridge has been determined to be structurally deficient and is insufficient for emergency vehicle use. Therefore, a new bridge must be constructed. Two proposed bridge alternatives are under consideration and will be evaluated as part of this project, which will provide access to emergency vehicles and serve as an evacuation route during emergencies such as fires. One of the alternatives would construct a new, 193-foot bridge 60 feet upstream from the existing bridge and would not change the current route to and from the bridge. Another alternative would build a new, 360-foot bridge 1,000 feet upstream at a higher elevation and eliminate the hairpin turn on the south side of the river.

The existing bridge is a known historic property that is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). It will be preserved in place and be blocked from vehicle use with bollards. The existing bridge will receive minor rehabilitation and will remain in service for vehicles during the construction of the new bridge.

This project would utilize federal funding from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), so the County and Caltrans must comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (36 CFR §800) on FHWA's behalf. As part of the Section 106 compliance process, we at GPA Consulting (GPA), on behalf of Nevada County and Dokken Engineering, are soliciting comments about the proposed project as it relates to historic properties from potentially interested parties, such as your organization.



If you would like to comment on the proposed project as it relates to historic properties, we would greatly appreciate your response by **August 24, 2020**, so that your comments can be included in the Section 106 technical reports. Please direct your comments to:

GPA Consulting  
617 S. Olive Street, Suite 910  
Los Angeles, CA 90014  
Attn: Emily Rinaldi, Associate Architectural Historian  
Phone: (310) 792-2690  
Email: emily@gpaconsulting-us.com

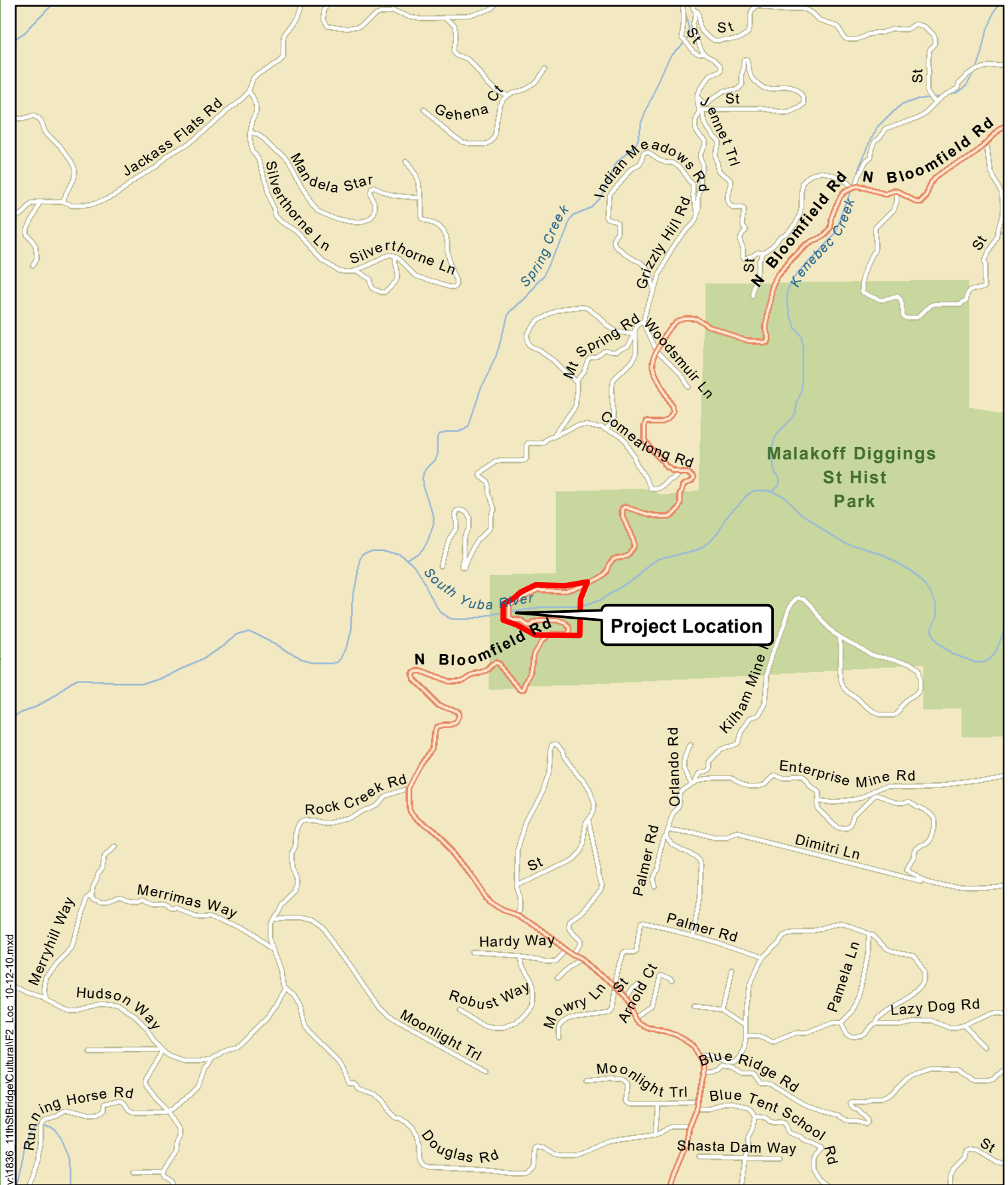
Thank you very much for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laura O'Neill". The signature is written in a cursive style.

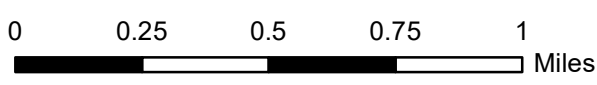
Laura O'Neill  
Senior Architectural Historian  
GPA Consulting

Enclosure: Project Location Map



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Source: ESRI World Street Maps Online; Dokken Engineering 6/28/2018; Created By: zachl



**FIGURE 2**  
**Project Location**  
 BRLO-5917(078)  
 Edwards Crossing Bridge (17C-0006) Project  
 Nevada County, California