



CARLSBAD
CLOVIS
IRVINE
LOS ANGELES
PALM SPRINGS
POINT RICHMOND
RIVERSIDE
ROSEVILLE
SAN LUIS OBISPO

September 3, 2021

Mr. Fred Cohen
CJC Design, Inc.
22485 La Palma Avenue, Suite 202
Yorba Linda, California 92887

Subject: Biological Resources Assessment for the Shell Gasoline Service Station Project,
Bloomington, California (LSA Project No. CJD2102)

Dear Mr. Cohen:

LSA was retained by CJC Design, Inc. to conduct a biological resources assessment of the 0.5-acre project site (Assessor's Parcel Number 253-201-018). This biological resources assessment has been prepared for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The project site is located at 18745 Valley Boulevard on the corner of Cedar Avenue and Valley Boulevard in the unincorporated community of Bloomington, San Bernardino County. The project site is depicted on the United States Geological survey (USGS) *Fontana, California* topographic quadrangle map in Township 1 South, Range 5 West in Section 22, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian (USGS 1980; Figure 1, all figures attached). The proposed project is a gas/service station and associated 2,200-square foot convenience store.

METHODS

A literature review was conducted to investigate the potential occurrence of sensitive species on or near the project site. Database records for *Fontana, California* USGS 7.5-minute quadrangles and surrounding quadrangles within a one-mile radius of the project were searched on August 30, 2021, using *Rarefind* 5 version 5.2.14, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), Natural Diversity Database,¹ and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system.² Soil types were determined using the *Soil Survey of San Bernardino County, Southwestern Part, California*.³

The general biological resources assessment included a site visit on August 30, 2021, by LSA biologists Carla Cervantes and Denise Woodard between 8:30 and 9:00 a.m. Notes were taken on general site conditions, vegetation, and suitability of habitat for various special-status elements. Weather conditions were partly cloudy skies (10 percent cloud cover), warm temperatures (70 degrees Fahrenheit), and without wind during the site survey.

¹ California Department of Fish and Wildlife. California Natural Diversity Database. <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDDB>.

² United States Fish and Wildlife Service. IPaC Information for Planning and Consultation. <https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/>.

³ G.A. Woodruff 1980

RESULTS

Environmental Setting

Existing and Adjacent Land Use

The project site (Figure 2) is currently an undeveloped vacant lot surrounded by dense commercial and residential development and associated roadways. The study area is bordered by commercial development to the north, east, and west, and single-family residences to the south. The project site has been affected by weed abatement practices and by previous and surrounding land use practices.

Elevation, Topography, and Soils

The project site is flat and at an approximate elevation of 1,100 feet above mean sea level. The majority of the project site is mapped Tujunga loamy sand, 0 to 5 percent. Soils observed on the project site appeared consistent with this designation, despite being previously graded and portions being overlain with gravel.

Vegetation and Disturbance

Vegetation on the site consists primarily of non-native annual grasses. Dominant non-native grasslands species identified include mouse barley (*Hordeum murinum*) and brome grasses (*Bromus* spp.). Figure 2 shows photograph locations and Figure 3 provides site photographs. A complete list of plant species observed is provided as attached Table A.

Wildlife

A few wildlife species common to urban and disturbed areas were observed during the field survey. Rock pigeon (*Columba livia*) and house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) were observed in ornamental vegetation adjacent to the project site. Botta's pocket gopher (*Thomomys bottae*) burrows were identified throughout the site. A complete list of wildlife species observed is attached as Table A.

Special-status Species

This section discusses special-status species observed or potentially occurring within a one-mile radius of the project site. Legal protection for special-status species varies widely, from the comprehensive protection extended to listed threatened/endangered and candidate species to no legal status at present. The CDFW, USFWS, local agencies, and special-interest groups, such as the California Native Plant Society, publish watch lists of declining species. Species on watch lists can be included as part of the special-status species assessment. Inclusion of species described in the special-status species analysis is based on the following criteria:

- Direct observation of the species or its sign in the study area or immediate vicinity during previous biological studies;
- Sighting by other qualified observers;
- Record reported by the CNDDDB, published by the CDFW;
- Presence or location information for specific species provided by private groups; and/or

- The study area lies within known distribution of a given species and contains appropriate habitat.

One special status species, Delhi sands flower-loving fly (*Rhaphiomidus terminatus abdominalis*) is reported from the project vicinity. The Delhi sands flower-loving fly is federally listed as endangered and is State special animal. This species is restricted to Delhi series sandy soils in western Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. The project site does not contain Delhi soils and the closest known mapped Delhi soils occur approximately one-mile to the southeast. Because the project site does not contain Delhi soils and has been affected by existing and adjacent land uses, no suitable habitat is present for the Delhi sands flower-loving fly. Therefore, the Delhi sands flower-loving fly is considered absent from the project site and will not be affected by the proposed project.

No other federally/State listed species or designated critical habitats are known to occur in the project vicinity. In addition, no other non-listed special status species are known to occur within the project vicinity.

CEQA COMPLIANCE

Adopted Habitat Conservation Plans

The site does not lie within an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) area. Therefore, the project will have no effect on adopted conservation plans.

Threatened and Endangered Species

No threatened or endangered species or their designated critical habitat are present. Therefore, the project will have no effect on threatened and endangered species or their designated critical habitat.

Other Special-Status Species

Suitable habitat is absent from the project site for other non-listed special status species. Therefore, the proposed project will have no effects on other special-status species.

Wildlife Movement, Corridors, and Nursery Sites

The project site does not provide for regional wildlife movement and does not contain nursery sites due to its location in a highly developed area. Therefore, the proposed project will have no effects related to wildlife movement, corridors, or nursery sites.

Sensitive Natural Communities

There are no sensitive natural communities on the project site. Therefore, the proposed project will have no effects related to sensitive natural communities.

Potential Jurisdictional Waters, Wetlands and Streambeds

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), under Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA), regulates discharges of dredged or fill material into “waters of the United States.” These waters include wetlands and non-wetland bodies of water that meet specific criteria, including a connection

to interstate commerce. This connection may be direct (through a tributary system linking a stream channel with traditional navigable waters used in interstate or foreign commerce) or it may be indirect (through a connection identified in USACE regulations). The USACE typically regulates as non-wetland waters of the U.S. any body of water displaying an "ordinary high water mark" (OHWM). In order to be considered a "jurisdictional wetland" under Section 404, an area must possess hydrophytic vegetation, hydric soils, and wetland hydrology. The CDFW, under Sections 1600 et seq. of the California Fish and Game Code, regulates alterations to lakes, rivers, and streams. A stream is defined by the presence of a channel bed and banks and at least an occasional flow of water. The Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) is responsible for the administration of Section 401 of the CWA, through water quality certification of any activity that may result in a discharge to jurisdictional waters of the U.S. The RWQCB may also regulate discharges to "waters of the State," including wetlands, under the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act.

No drainage features, ponded areas, wetlands, or riparian habitat subject to jurisdiction of the CDFW, USACE, and/or RWQCB were found within the project study area. Therefore, the proposed project will have no effects on jurisdictional waters, wetlands, or streambeds.

Local Policies and Ordinances Protecting Biological Resources

The project will not conflict with local policies or ordinances applicable to biological resources.

Indirect Effects

Indirect impacts to surrounding areas as a result of the project may include, but are not limited to, increased dust, noise, lighting, traffic, and storm water runoff. The project site is surrounded by existing development and special-status biological resources are absent from the project site. Therefore, the proposed project will not result in indirect effects to special-status biological resources.

Cumulative Effects

The project site is devoid of native vegetation and is surrounded by existing development. No special-status biological resources occur on the project site. Therefore, the project will not result in substantial cumulative effects to biological resources.

If you require additional information or wish to discuss the information provided above, please contact me by email at denise.woodard@lsa.net or by phone at (951) 781-9310.

Sincerely,

LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.

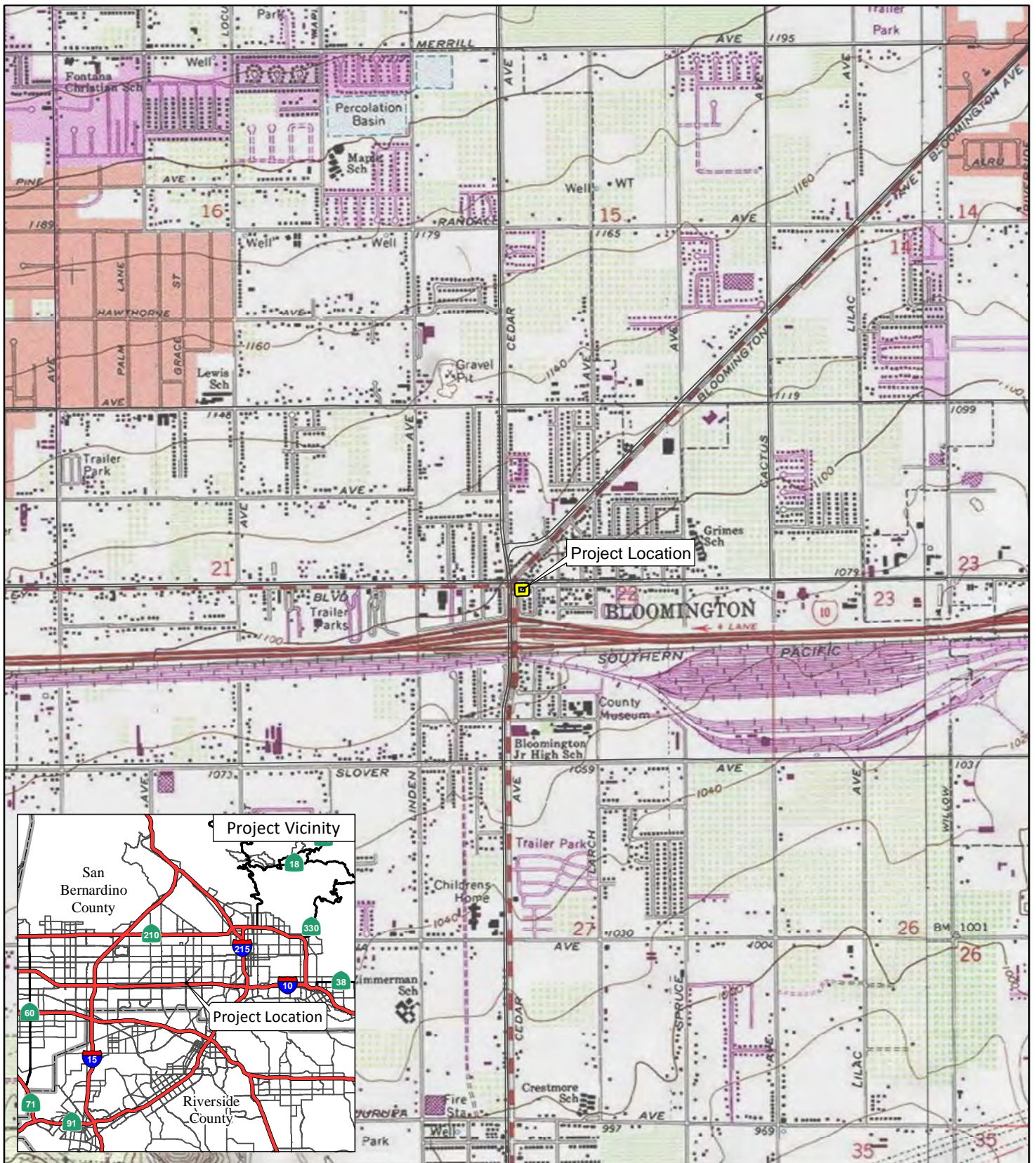


Denise Woodard
Associate/Senior Biologist

Attachments: Table A: Plant and Animal Species Observed
Figures 1 through 3

Table A: Plant and Animal Species Observed

Scientific Name	Common Name
MAGNOLIOPHYTA: MAGNOLIOPSIDA	DICOT FLOWERING PLANTS
Asteraceae	Sunflower family
<i>Ambrosia psilostachya</i>	Western ragweed
<i>Centaurea melitensis</i> (non-native species)	Maltese star-thistle
<i>Heterotheca grandiflora</i>	Telegraph weed
<i>Sonchus asper</i> (non-native species)	Prickly sow thistle
Brassicaceae	Mustard family
<i>Hirschfeldia incana</i> (non-native species)	Shortpod mustard
Chenopodiaceae	Saltbush family
<i>Salsola tragus</i> (non-native species)	Russian thistle
Fabaceae	Pea family
<i>Acmispon americanus</i>	Spanish clover
Geraniaceae	Geranium family
<i>Erodium</i> sp. (non-native species)	Stork's bill
MAGNOLIOPHYTA: LILIOPSIDA	MONOCOT FLOWERING PLANTS
Poaceae	Grass family
<i>Bromus diandrus</i> (non-native species)	Mouse barley
<i>Bromus</i> sp. (non-native species)	Brome
<i>Cynodon dactylon</i> (non-native species)	Bermuda grass
<i>Hordeum murinum</i> (non-native species)	Mouse barley
Euphorbiaceae	Spurge family
<i>Euphorbia</i> sp.	Spurge
BIRDS	
Columbidae	Pigeons and Doves
<i>Columba livia</i> (non-native species)	Rock pigeon
Passeridae	Old World Sparrows
<i>Passer domesticus</i> (non-native species)	House sparrow
MAMMALS	
Geomyidae	Pocket Gophers
<i>Thomomys bottae</i>	Botta's pocket gopher

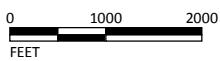


LSA

LEGEND

 Project Location

FIGURE 1



SOURCE: USGS 7.5' Quad - Fontana (1980), San Bernardino South (1980), CA

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Proposed Gasoline Service Station
 Bloomington, CA
 Project Location and Vicinity

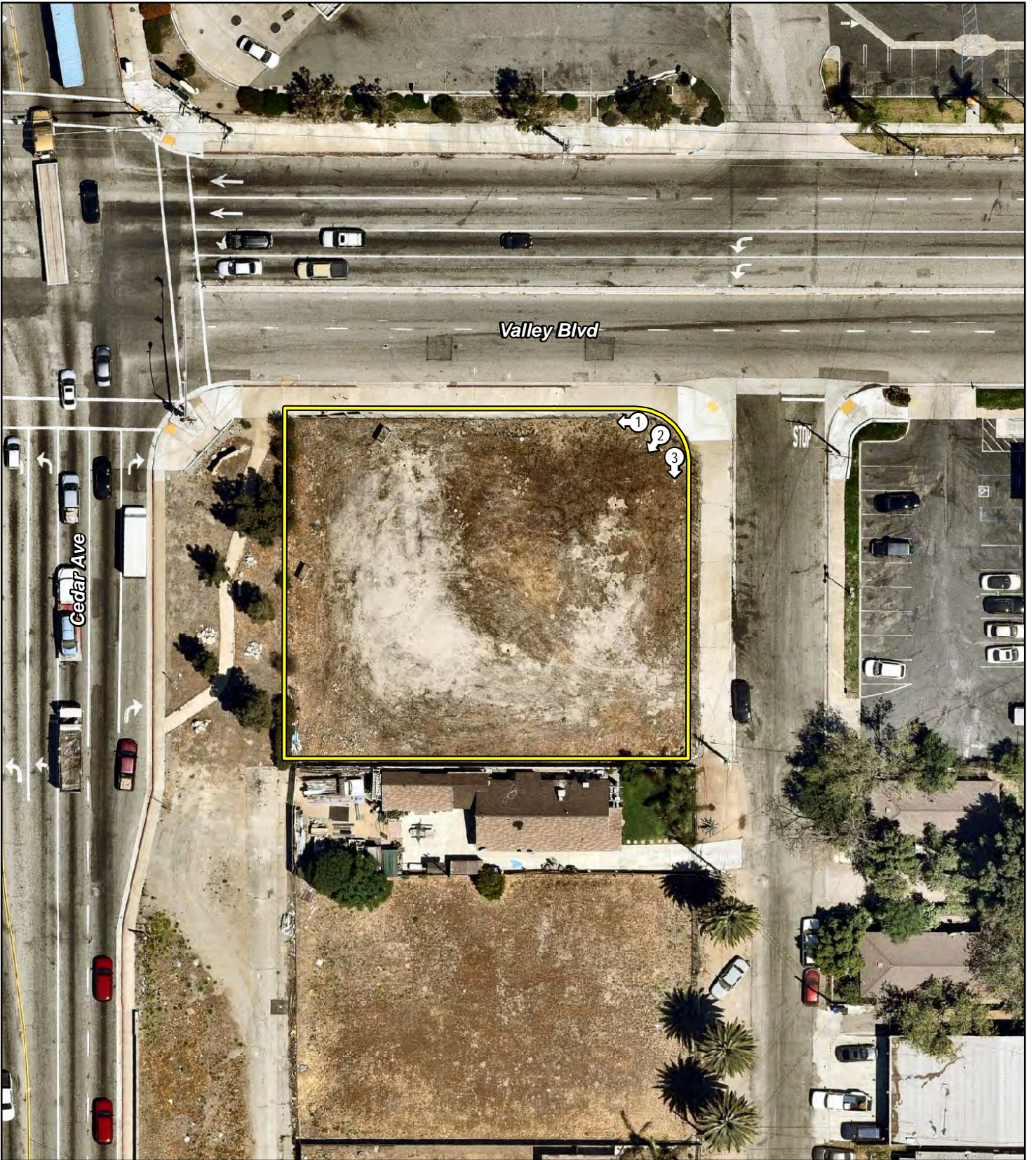


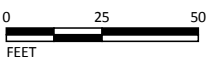


FIGURE 2

LSA

LEGEND

-  Project Location
-  Photograph Location



SOURCE: Nearmap (5/4/2021)

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*Proposed Gasoline Service Station
Bloomington, CA
Project Site and Photograph Locations*



Photo 1. View looking west from northeast corner of project site.



Photo 2. View looking southwest from northeast corner of project site.



Photo 3. View looking south from northeast corner of project site.

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FIGURE 3

*Proposed Gasoline Service Station
Bloomington, CA
Site Photographs*