

# Memorandum

*Making Conservation  
a California Way of Life*

**To: RENATA FREY**  
Right-of-Way Agent  
Division of Right-of-Way

**Date:** October 9, 2020

**From: HELEN BLACKMORE**   
Branch Chief, Architectural History  
Office of Cultural Resource Studies

**DD:** 034410-01-01

**Subject:** Office of Cultural Resource Studies (OCRS) Public Resources Code (PRC) 5024 Review of the proposed relinquishment of four parcels near Postmile 5.3 on State Route 238 to the City of Union City, in Contra Costa County, California.

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 4, Division of Right-of-Way proposes to relinquish four parcels (APNs 87-11-17-6, 87-11-17-7, 87-11-15-14 and 87-11-15-15) to the City of Union City under Caltrans Director's Deed (DD) 034410-01-03. The relinquishment includes the transfer of the state-owned National Register Eligible Peterson Farmhouse, which is located on APN 87-11-15-15, and is on the Maser List.

Caltrans District 4 Professionally Qualified Staff (PQS) Helen Blackmore, Principal Architectural Historian, reviewed the DD, along with the Caltrans Cultural Resource Database, as-built plans, aerial photographs, and maps. The review for this project was carried out in accordance with the January 2015 *Memorandum of Understanding Between the California Department of Transportation and the California State Historic Preservation Officer Regarding Compliance with Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5024 and Governor's Executive Order W-26-92*, as addended 2019 (MOU).

Based upon the above review, the OCRS has determined that the proposed relinquishment would result in an adverse effect to the Peterson Farmhouse, pursuant to Stipulation X.C.2.b of the MOU. The State Historic Preservation Officer, reviewed the Finding of Adverse Effect with mitigation plan, which was submitted on August 3, 2020, and stated no comment on October 8, 2020.

The following measures were included in the mitigation plan and will need completing:

1. Caltrans will complete a document similar to a Level II Historic American Building Survey (HABS), which will be provided to the City of Union City, as well as local repositories including but not limited to: Mission Peak Heritage Foundation, Union City Historical Museum, Union City Library, and Fremont Library. The document will also be hosted on Caltrans, Cultural Studies Office mitigation website.
2. Caltrans will apply to present at the California Preservation Foundation (CPF) Annual Conference to discuss the process of historic property relinquishment, and utilize the Peterson Farmhouse as an example.
3. The City of Union City will obligate the developer to utilize the land within the historic resource boundary as the park space for the development, and where possible preserve as many of the contributing features as possible.

4. The City of Union City will obligate the developer to install panels in the park, that will discuss the historic Peterson Ranch and the agricultural history of the area. The panels will be completed in consultation with Caltrans, Office of Cultural Resource Studies.
5. The City of Union City will name a road within the development after the Peterson Ranch, for example: Peterson Street, Peterson Ranch Street, Peterson Road.
6. If possible, the City of Union City will name the park after the Peterson Ranch.

Measure 1, must be completed prior to the relinquishment of the APN 87-11-15-15 by Caltrans to the City of Union City, and will be completed by Caltrans PQS staff.

Measure 2, will be completed by PQS Caltrans staff for the CPF conference 2022.

Measures 3 through 6, will be completed by the City of Union City in consultation with Caltrans.

If there are any questions about the content of this memo please contact Helen Blackmore at (510) 504-2182, [Helen.Blackmore@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Helen.Blackmore@dot.ca.gov).

Cc: OCRS