

Water Board Comment – Received March 3, 2025

Dear Mr. Byrd and Ms. Hilton, we reviewed the CEQA documents for this project and found that the project lies within one of our closed sites [The Pacific Lumber Company Fortuna Mill](#). This site was closed with land use covenant (LUC) which contains restrictions governing future land use and future excavation work on the property. The LUC is available here: [PALCO Fortuna Recorded Covenant.pdf](#). The proposed use as an interchange is not prohibited in the LUC, but 1) all excavation work must be approved by the Regional Water Board in writing, 2) any excavation work shall be performed pursuant to an appropriate and fully implemented Health and Safety Plan and 3) all excavation work shall be performed in accordance with the January 20, 2020 [site specific Soil & Groundwater Management Plan](#) and [revised figure](#). We recommend making these conditions of approval prior to finalizing the project. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you.

Best,

Heidi M. Bauer, P.G.

Senior Engineering Geologist

Site Cleanups Unit Supervisor

North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

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Great Redwood Trail Agency Comment – Received March 28, 2025

Hi Brendan,

Thank you for sharing the notice for the public review of CEQA for the 12th St. project. Our primary requested edit and comment at this time is the following:

On page 1-3 (PDF page 8), please remove this sentence: "The railroad corridor is owned in fee by the GRTA." The railroad corridor is the GRTA right-of-way and under our control. Under railbanking, the right-of-way (whether fee or easement) can be used for trail as an interim use. We appreciate the other areas of the document where the potential for a return to active rail (assumed under railbanking) has been acknowledged.

Thank you,

Hannah

Hannah Bartee (she/her)

Project Manager, Great Redwood Trail

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[Book time to meet with me](#)



April 7, 2025

Fortuna City Council

P. O. Box 545

Fortuna, CA 95540

Good evening Mayor and Council,

My name is Clif Clendenen, representing Clendenen's Cider Works, which is located west of the 12th Street Intersection Modernization Project. I appreciate the opportunity to provide our input to the Environmental Analysis.

We are very much in support of this project, and we have appreciated both the engagement and willingness of the City staff to consider and coordinate this project to help meet our business objectives.

My over-arching comment is that the success of this project is also linked to our success. If we can correctly design both safe traffic flow and parking, it will ensure the success of the project. We like the single entry and single exit planning, along with the 60-degree angled parking spaces in front of our store. While there are a few more spaces that can be developed on site, we believe that more area will be required to safely and efficiently handle delivery trucks, school field trip buses, adult education events, and the Apple Harvest Festival (even just for musicians, vendors, and staff). Currently, vehicles and trucks can park on both sides of 12th Street. While the roundabout will greatly improve traffic flow and safety, many overflow parking opportunities will no longer exist, potentially causing delays, congestion, and safety concerns.



Clendenen's Cider Works requests that the City of Fortuna support our purchase of the Caltrans field south of the Clendenen farmhouse. We believe this field is the solution to ensure adequate parking for our business, but more importantly to ensure the success and benefit of the intersection project. That field could support employee, delivery vehicle, and customer parking on the east end, adjacent to the intersection. The west portion would allow for a small expansion of the apple orchard. On a related note, the conifers which currently sit on this property shade and devalue our existing orchard. In a March 2020 analysis from Redwood Coast Energy Authority, they deduct 5% from the potential value of our upcoming photovoltaic solar project on our barn roof.

In addition to eliminating any traffic flow or parking issues, utilizing this field could enhance the productivity of our agricultural business, and increase agricultural output. Transitioning this field for parking and prime irrigated apple orchard, City of Fortuna and Caltrans could gain visual and environmental benefits without the maintenance costs that exist now.

We would also like to request that the construction avoid our busy season which runs from August – February. We believe that it will be possible given that we're closed from March through July.

We hope to continue the productive dialog we've had with City of Fortuna for everyone's benefit.

Thank you for your time and consideration.