

Background:

In June of 2005, legal counsel for [REDACTED] (Owner) requested that the Sonoma County Water Agency grant an easement to Owner to allow for access across Agency Property to reach her property. Owner proposes to construct an asphalt driveway on Agency property. The property is located southerly of River Road easterly of Covey Road, and northerly of Anderson Road in the unincorporated county north of Forestville and consists of two parcels identified by the Sonoma County Assessor's Office as Assessor's Parcel Numbers 083-030-065 and 083-030-072. The Agency currently uses the property, over which Owner has requested an easement, for the operation of the Cotati Intertie Pipeline and maintenance activities. Agency staff has determined that the easement would not interfere with the Agency's use of the property and will not adversely affect the Agency in any respect. The easement agreement has been prepared and is on file with the Clerk.

Owner's Project consists of constructing approximately 3001 linear feet of 10 feet wide, 0.20 feet thick asphalt driveway over 0.67 feet of Class 2 Base, 16 linear feet of 12-inch diameter storm drain, 148 linear feet of 10-inch diameter storm drain, and two inlet structures. To construct the improvements, Owner is requesting a 25-foot wide by 363-foot long Private Utilities and Private Access Easement.

Per the deed granting the Agency the property to build the existing aqueduct, the Agency agreed to grant access easements to the owner, successors, or assigns of the original property for no compensation. Article Nine of the Agency Act states that the Agency can not grant an easement to a private owner without adequate compensation. Owner is successor to the original owner and has requested the easement for no compensation per the original grant deed.

The General Manager/Chief Engineer has determined that the Grant of Easement to Owner is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15268(a): Ministerial Projects, because the granting of an easement is required pursuant to the existing deed dated June 5, 1975.

Agency staff has prepared a Notice of Exemption in accordance with the CEQA, the State CEQA Guidelines and the Agency's Procedures for the Implementation of CEQA as a lead agency under CEQA.

Attachments: 1) Resolution (R1) 2) Exhibit A-1

On File With Clerk: Easement Agreement (4 Copies), Agency's Notice of Exemption.

CLERK OF THE BOARD USE ONLY

Board Action (If other than "Requested")

Vote: