

**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

Armando Quintero, Director

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December 11, 2023

[VIA EMAIL]

Refer to HUD_2023_1030_002

Mr. Raymond Hodges, Director
San Mateo County Department of Housing
264 Harbor Boulevard, Building A
Belmont, CA 94002- 4017

Re: The Ridge at Ralston Multifamily Affordable Housing Development Project at 678
Ralston Avenue, Belmont, CA

Dear Ms. Hodges,

The California State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) received the consultation submittal for the above referenced undertaking for review and comment pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations found at 36 CFR Part 800. The regulations and advisory materials are located at www.achp.gov.

Your letter, dated October 30, 2023, informed the SHPO that the County of San Mateo plans to provide HOME-ARP funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to The Ridge at Ralston multifamily affordable housing development project located at 678 Ralston Avenue in Belmont, CA. The undertaking involves the demolition of an existing commercial building and the construction of an eight-story building providing 65-units of affordable rental housing.

The area of potential effects (APE) for the undertaking has been defined as the subject .35-acre parcel. In an effort to identify potential historic properties within the APE the County has obtained a records search from the Northwest Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS), requested a Sacred Lands File search from the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), consulted with six tribes with an interest in the area, and had qualified consultants' complete identification efforts for the APE to the extent possible at this time. No historic properties have been identified within the APE; however, the County recognizes that there is a moderate potential to encounter historic properties during the implementation of the undertaking. As a result, the County intends to have archeological and tribal monitors on site during ground disturbance and has made the presence of the monitors a condition of their finding. The County, "finds that no archeological historic resources would be affected by the Undertaking if the project is conditioned..." and, as noted above, those conditions are the monitoring requirements.

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Pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.5(c)(1) the SHPO does not object to the County of San Mateo's *Finding of no adverse effect* with conditions for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funded The Ridge at Ralston multifamily affordable housing development project located at 678 Ralston Avenue in Belmont, CA.

The County may have additional Section 106 responsibilities under certain circumstances set forth in 36 CFR Part 800. For example, in the event that historic properties are discovered during the implementation of the undertaking, the County is required to consult further pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.13(b).

SHPO appreciates the County of San Mateo's consideration of historic properties in the project planning process. If you have questions please contact Shannon Lauchner Pries, Supervisor of the Local Government & Environmental Compliance Unit at shannon.pries@parks.ca.gov.

Note that we are only sending this letter in electronic format. Please confirm receipt of this letter. If you would like a hard copy mailed to you, respond to this email to request a hard copy be mailed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Julianne Polanco', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer