



ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

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June 14, 2021

Chris Bailey
Cultural Protection Coordinator
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
9615 Grand Ronde Road
Grand Ronde, OR 97347

**Re: Cultural Resources Investigation for the Strong Heights Subdivision Development Project,
City of Salem, Marion County, Oregon**

Dear Mr. Bailey,

Ward Development, LLC, proposes to construct housing for the Strong Heights Subdivision Development project on Tax Lot numbers 83W11A00100, 83W11A002000, and 83W11A00300, which are located along 2250 Old Strong Road SE in the city of Salem. The project encompasses approximately 4.46 acres of privately owned land in Sections 2, 11, and 12 of Township 8 South, Range 3 West of the Willamette Meridian, in Marion County, Oregon (Figures 1 and 2).

Ward Development proposes to develop the 29-lot subdivision in one phase, with work planned to start in Fall 2021 and intended to be completed by late Spring 2022. Housing will be conventional single-family housing on fee simple lots. Depths of the proposed work will vary by task and will follow these parameters: the deepest street cut will be approximately 24 inches, the deepest sewer cut will be approximately 8 feet, the deepest storm drain cut will be approximately 4 feet, the deepest water line cut will be approximately 4 feet. Details regarding the project layout, lots, street locations, and utility details for the planned subdivision are available upon request and are being included in the Oregon SHPO permit application for this project.

SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA) has been retained by Ward Development, LLC to provide cultural resources compliance work for the project and is currently conducting background research and sending notifications to the Tribes (Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, and Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs) and applying for an archaeological permit through Oregon SHPO.

In addition to coordination with SHPO and the Tribes, cultural resources work for the project will consist of an intensive pedestrian survey and subsurface testing over the entire project area, and potentially archaeological monitoring during ground disturbing project activities should this be recommended. SWCA is currently planning to conduct the pedestrian survey in early July. Prior to the survey and archaeological monitoring for the project, SWCA is conducting background research on the project area and compiling information regarding previous cultural resources studies and previously recorded archaeological sites in the project vicinity. Upon completion of the survey and subsurface testing of the project area, SWCA will write a report for submittal to Oregon SHPO, the City, and the Tribes (Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, and Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs).

A review of the OARRA database indicates that 23 cultural resources studies have been conducted within 1 mile of the project area, three of which overlay the project area. This review also shows that three resources have been recorded within the project area, including one Historic-period site and isolate and one prehistoric isolated find of fire cracked rock. An additional 18 resources were previously recorded within 0.5 miles of the project area. Previously recorded resources located within 0.5 miles of the project, but outside of the current project area, include eight pre-contact sites, including one petroglyph on a boulder, two rock cairns, and five lithic scatters; one historic-period site consisting of a refuse scatter and possible homestead; five pre-contact isolates comprised of flaked stone artifacts; two historic-period isolates comprised of ceramics and nails; and two multicomponent isolated finds that contain historic-period refuse and one or two pieces of flaked stone debitage. Twelve of these resources are not eligible for the NRHP and the rest remain unevaluated regarding eligibility for the NRHP.

At this time SWCA is interested in knowing if the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde have specific concerns related to cultural resources for this project.

Please feel free to call or email me with any concerns, or if you have additional questions about the project. You may reach me by phone at (626) 529-6030, or by email at amira.ainis@swca.com. We hope to proceed with survey and subsurface testing in approximately 30 days. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Amira Ainis

Amira Ainis, Ph.D., RPA
Cultural Resources Principal Investigator
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Figure 1. Aerial view of the project vicinity with the project area delineated in red.

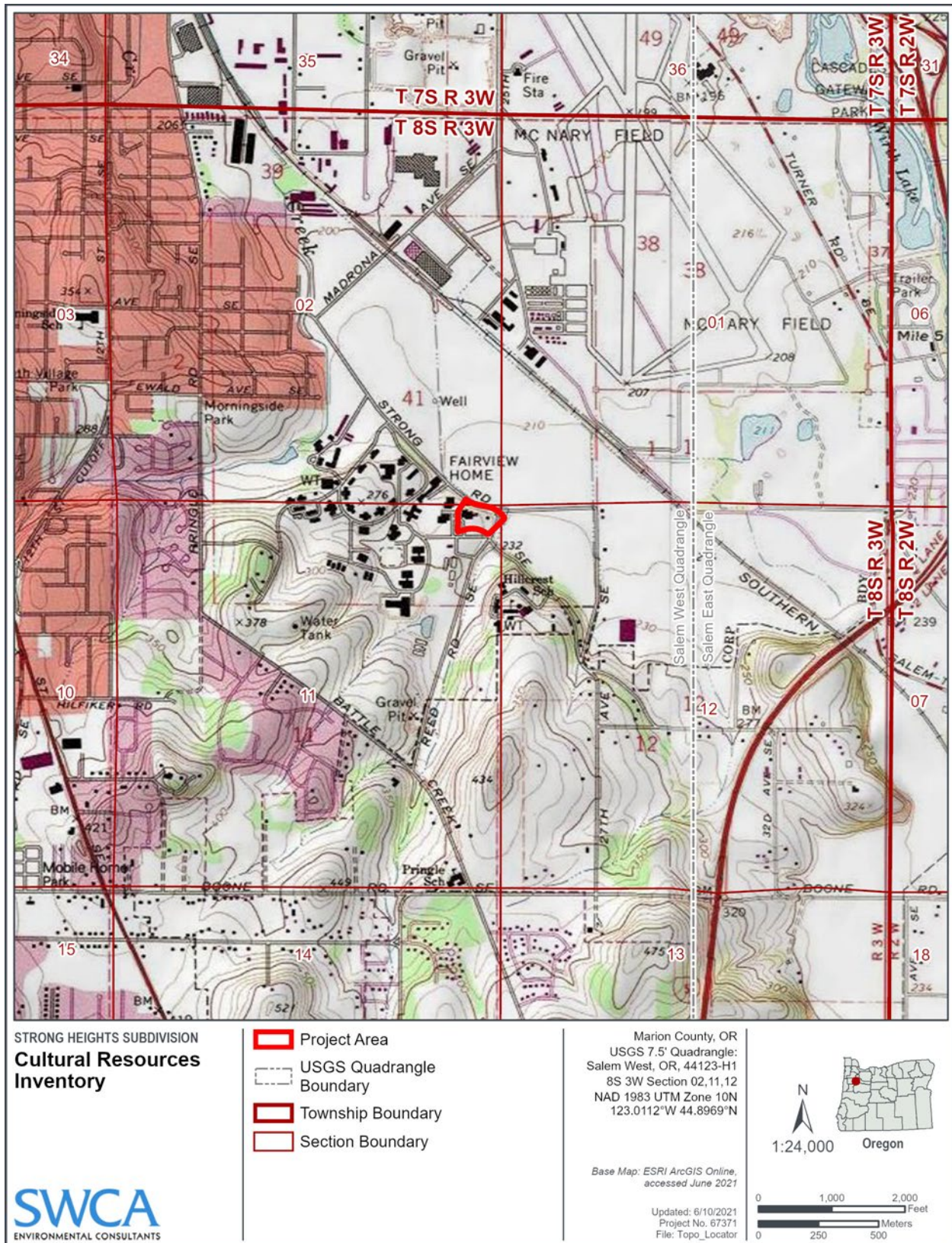


Figure 2. Project location map.