



# County of Santa Cruz

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COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **BOARD APPROVES CEMEX PROPERTY CONSULTANT**

The Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday approved the hiring of RRM Design Group to help guide a community-based restoration and reuse plan for the decommissioned Cemex plant in Davenport.

In partnership with Sempervirens Fund, the County of Santa Cruz issued a request for proposals to solicit firms interested in spearheading the creation of a Coastal Restoration and Reuse Plan, with priority consideration of a public entrance to the adjacent Cotoni-Coast Dairies and San Vicente Forest properties. The Board of Supervisors selected RRM Design Group as the winning bid.

“I look forward to taking this incredible resource from its industrial past to a future that benefits the environment, our economy and the public. It’s a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, and we’re committed to doing it the right way,” said Supervisor Ryan Coonerty, who represents Davenport.

“We received many impressive submissions, but RRM Design Group’s bid stood out for their team’s expertise, experience and understanding of the unique opportunity the Cemex site presents,” Santa Cruz County Economic Development Director Andy Constable said. “We look forward to finalizing a contract with them.”

Lone Star California Inc. owns the property, which was idled in 2010 after a century of producing cement used in numerous iconic California projects, including construction of the Golden Gate Bridge and California Aqueduct.



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San Luis Obispo-based RRM Design Group has worked with a number of communities on waterfront, streetscape and neighborhood plans, and will lead a team that includes Berkeley-based Economic & Planning Systems and Santa Barbara-based AMEC Foster Wheeler.

The team will be tasked with leading a planning process to identify possible economically feasible reuse options and local coastal program amendments with input from the County, the community and Cemex, which retains ownership of the property through Lone Star and is solely responsible for any future development proposals.

The contract is being funded by a \$425,000 grant from Los Altos-based Sempervirens Fund, which received supporting grants from the Moore Foundation, the Resources Legacy Fund and the California Coastal Conservancy.