



Creek Trail Network Expansion Master Plan

Parks & Recreation Commission

**April 14, 2025
RTC 25-364**



Agenda

- **Welcome and Introductions**
- **Trail Master Plan Overview**
 - **Brief Overview of Santa Clara Creek Trail Network Expansion Project**
 - **Schedule and Future Public Meetings**
- **Comments and Questions**



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Creek Trail Network Expansion Master Plan and Environmental Review

City Staff

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Carol Shariat, Principal Transportation Planner

Nicole He, Associate Engineer



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Creek Trail Network Expansion Master Plan and Environmental Review Consultant Team

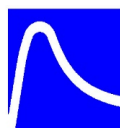
Jana Sokale
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING



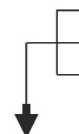
Hill Associates
Landscape Architecture
Planning



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Hydrologics, Inc.®



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CONSULTING ENGINEERS AND GEOLOGISTS

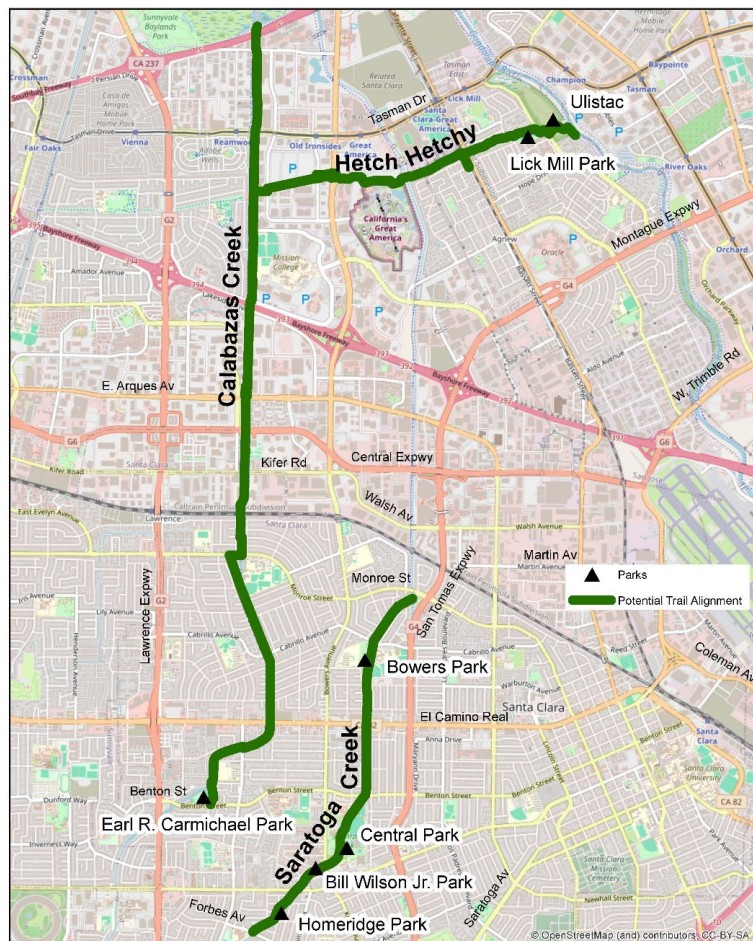


PLS Surveys, Inc.
2220 Livingston St. Suite 202
Oakland, CA 94606



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Creek Trail Master Plan



Study Locations

- **Calabazas Creek**
 - Earl R. Carmichael Park
- **Saratoga Creek**
 - Homeridge Park
 - Bill Wilson Jr. Park
 - Central Park
 - Bowers Park
- **Hetch Hetchy Corridor**
 - Lick Mill Park
 - Ulistac Natural Area



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Trail Connections to:

- Light Rail – Reamwood Station
- ACE and Capital Corridor Rail Lines
- Central Park
- Ulistac Natural Area
- Youth Soccer Park
- Great America Theme Park
- Santa Clara Convention Center
- Levi's Stadium (49ers)
- John W. Christian Greenbelt in Sunnyvale
- Tech Businesses
- San Tomas Aquino Creek Trail
- Guadalupe River Trail
- San Francisco Bay Trail





Purpose

Build upon the 2013 Feasibility Study to provide the framework for a comprehensive, integrated network of off-street trails for future implementation.

Goals

- Provide connections between neighborhoods, employment centers, schools, recreation sites and transit facilities.
- Link the trail network to existing and planned regional trail systems.
- Require new developments to connect individual sites to the existing and planned trail network.



Trail Planning Objectives

- Identify trail alignments that maximize the use of public/quasi-public lands and minimize encroachment on private property.
- Plan trail alignments that strengthen the pedestrian and bicycle network by connecting to regional routes, alternative travel modes and activity centers.
- Preserve and restore the natural environment of the creek corridors as habitat for wildlife.
- Identify trail alignments that maximize year-round use and are easy to maintain.
- Develop trail alignments that coordinate the goals and needs of all public agencies.
- Engage the community in the trail planning process.
- Seek opportunities for collaboration and partnerships.



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Master Plan Investigations

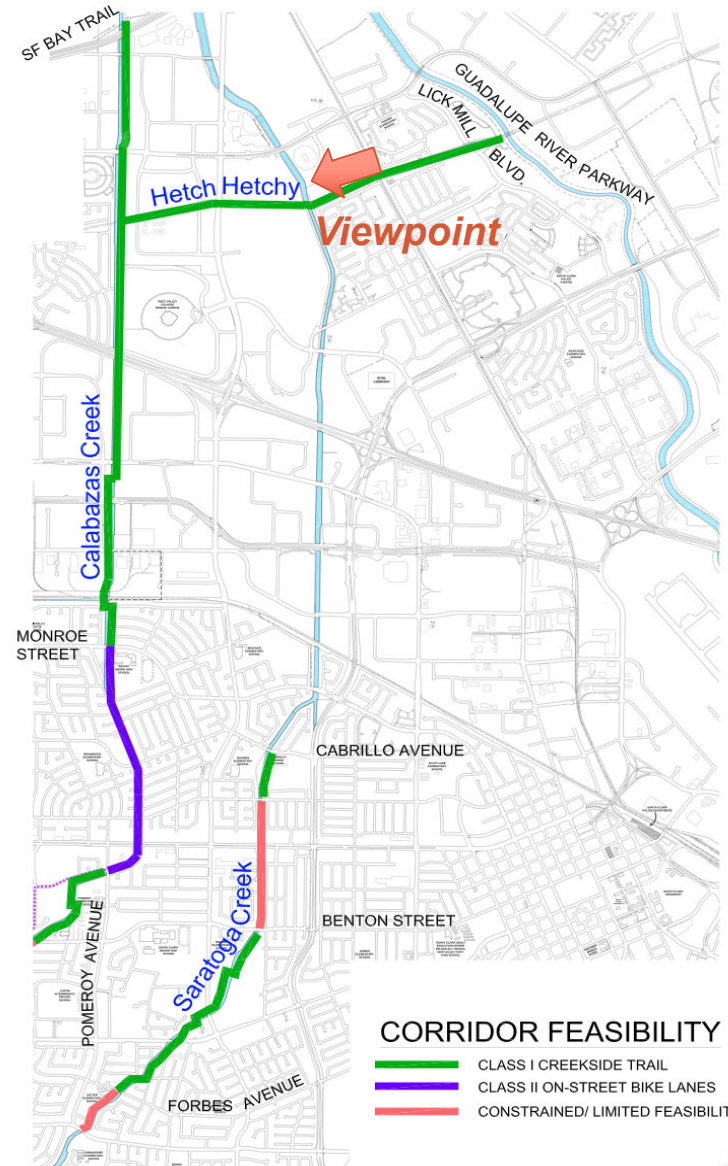
- Survey and Preliminary Engineering
- Traffic Analysis
- Hydraulic Analysis
- Stakeholder Coordination
- Trail Design Guidelines
- Draft Trail Master Plan
- Public Outreach
- Final Trail Master Plan



Corridor Feasibility Summary



Hetch Hetchy corridor looking west from the railroad tracks toward Great America Theme Park.





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Land Availability

- Ownership
- Easements
- Mitigation Sites
- Top of Bank Width
- Topography and Elevations
- Existing Vegetation
- Trails extending through City Parks
- Climate Change – Sea Level Rise and Flooding
- Maintenance Access Requirements – Valley Water
- Utility Conflicts



Trail Feasible

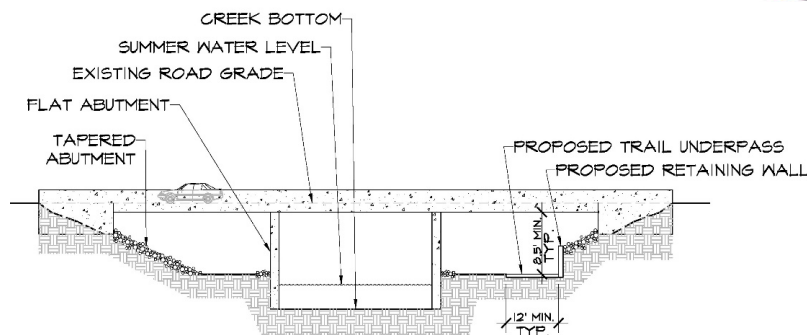


No Potential for Trail



Bridges Investigated for Underpass Feasibility

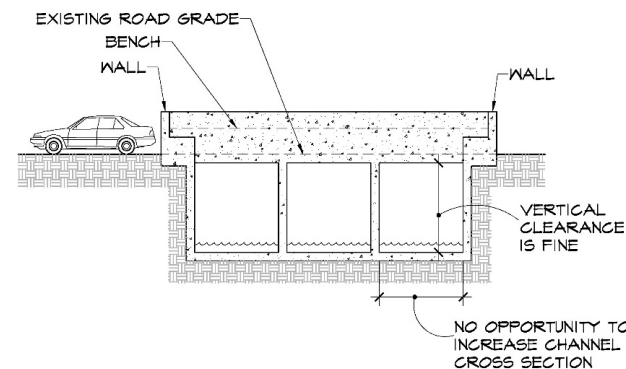
- Calabazas Creek Trail
 - Highway 237
 - Old Mtn. View-Alviso Road
 - Tasman and LRT
 - Scott Boulevard
 - Kifer Road
 - Machado Avenue
 - Warburton Avenue
- Saratoga Creek Trail
 - Cabrillo Avenue
 - Benton Street
 - Kiely Boulevard (road reconstruction)
 - Homestead Road



TFVS STRUCTURE

Trail Underpass Feasible

- Adequate Clearance
- Ability to Layback Walls to Increase Channel Capacity



BOXC STRUCTURES

No Potential for Trail Underpass



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Habitat Sensitivity

- Importance of Riparian and Wetland Habitats along the Creeks
- Valley Water Vegetation Preserves
- Sensitive and Listed Plant and Wildlife Species
- Climate Change Impacts



Spawning California Central Coast steelhead.



Planning for Trails: Plans, Joint Use Agreements and Development Agreements

- **Calabazas Creek**
 - High Speed Rail Plan
 - Sunnyvale Lawrence Station Area Plan
 - Santa Clara Lawrence Station Area Plan
- **Saratoga Creek**
 - Central Park Master Plan
 - Homestead Park Renovation
- **Hetch Hetchy Corridor**
 - Patrick Henry Specific Plans
 - Mission College Master Plan Update
 - Ulistac Natural Area Joint Use Agreements with Valley Water
 - Kylli Development Agreement (Democracy Way)



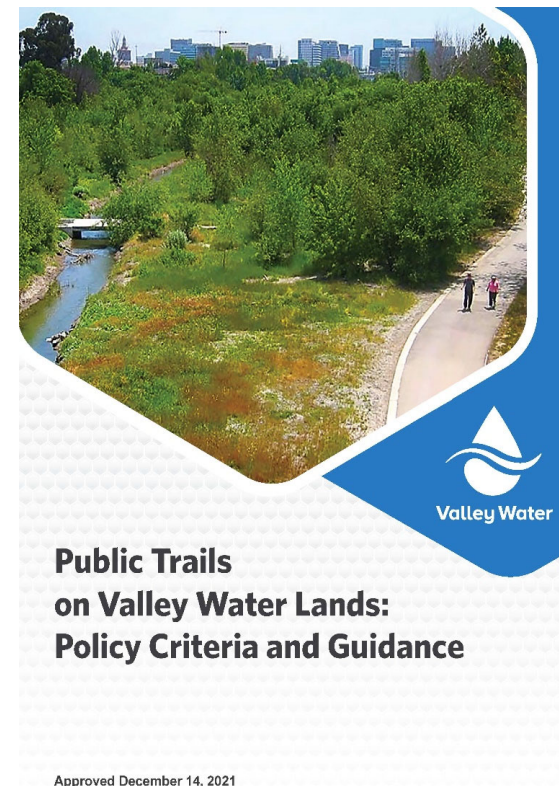
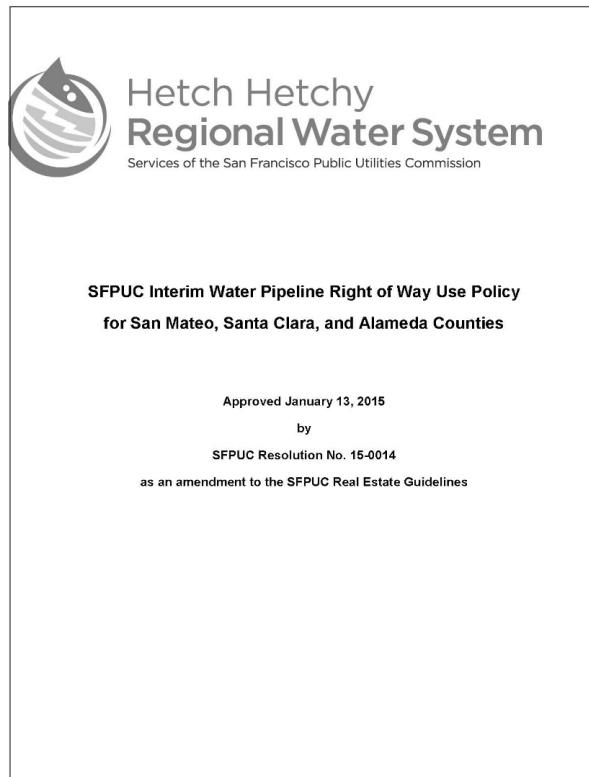
Stakeholder Outreach

- Calabazas Creek
 - Valley Water
 - Joint Powers Board/Caltrain
 - Caltrans
 - County Roads and Airports
 - County Parks and Recreation
 - City of Sunnyvale
 - Mission College
- Saratoga Creek
 - Valley Water
- Hetch Hetchy Corridor
 - San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC)
 - High Speed Rail Authority
 - Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR)
 - Valley Water
 - Ulistac Natural Area Restoration & Education Project (UNAREP)
 - Kylli Redevelopment Team
 - Patrick Henry Specific Plan (PHSP) and Property Owners



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Changes in Stakeholder Policies





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Summary of Existing Conditions and Preview of Trail Master Plan Concepts





Calabazas Creek

Land Availability Map



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Calabazas Creek Trail Crossings

- **3 Pedestrian Overcrossings:**
 - Crossing Options at Caltrain/JPB/HSR adjacent to Calabazas Creek
 - Pedestrian Overcrossing at Central Expway adjacent to Calabazas Creek
 - Pedestrian Overcrossing at Highway 101 adjacent to Calabazas Creek
- **5 Undercrossings and Ramps:**
 - Kifer Road
 - East Arques Avenue/Scott Boulevard
 - Tasman Road
 - Old Mountain View – Alviso Road
 - Highway 237

- **6 At-grade Crossings:**
 - Pomeroy Avenue
 - El Camino Real
 - Warburton Avenue
 - Cabrillo Avenue
 - Machado Avenue
 - Monroe Street



Old Mountain View
– Alviso Road
bridge under
reconstruction



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Highway 101 Pedestrian/ Bicycle Overcrossing





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Kifer Road Trail Underpass



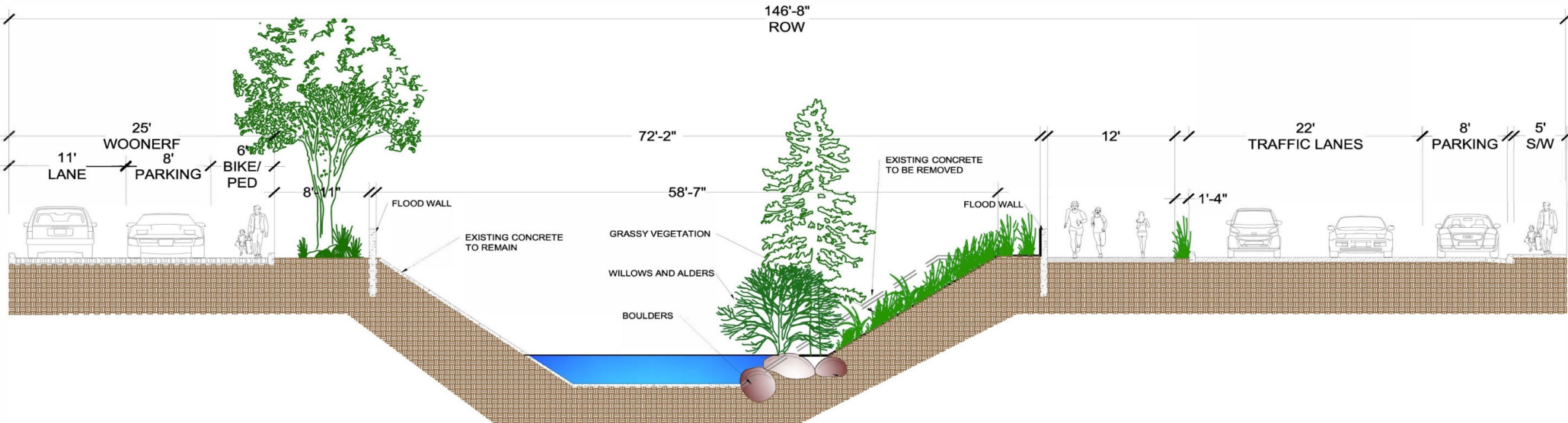


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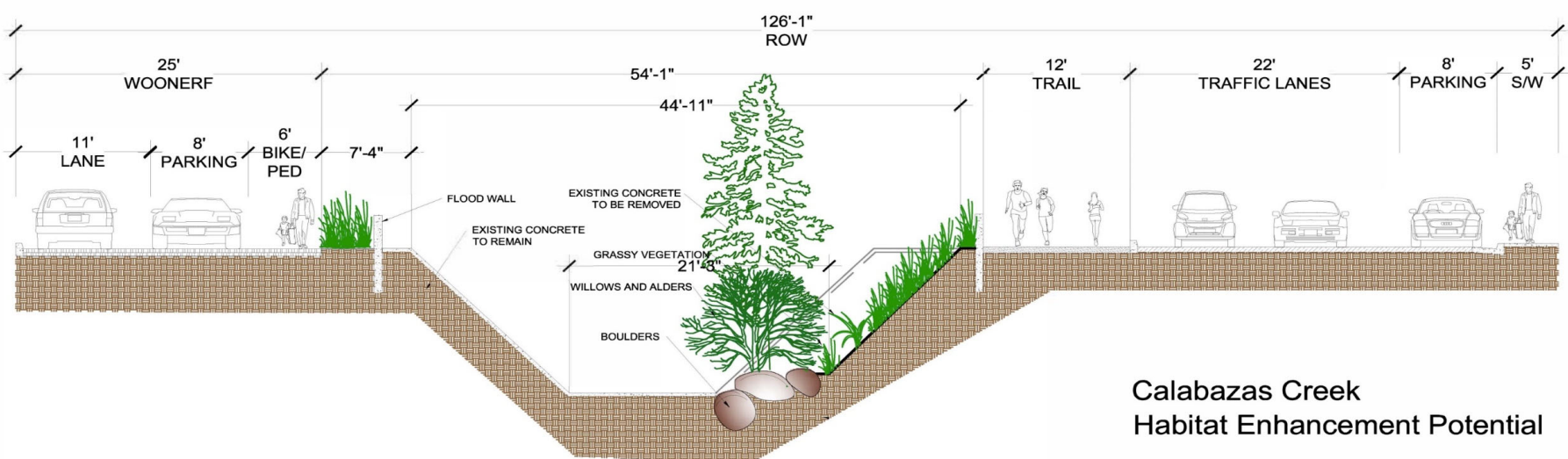
Potential opportunity for habitat restoration of Calabazas Creek and development of a trail from Pomeroy to Georgetown



View of the concrete lined channel - Warburton looking north toward Cabrillo.



Georgetown PI to El Camino Real



El Camino Real to Pomeroy Ave

Calabazas Creek
Habitat Enhancement Potential



Hetch Hetchy Corridor Land Availability Map



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Hetch Hetchy Trail Crossings

- **1 Pedestrian Overcrossing:**
 - Pedestrian Overcrossing at UPRR/HSR Rail Corridor/Lafayette Street
- **1 Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge:**
 - San Tomas Aquino Creek
- **5 At-grade Crossings:**
 - Patrick Henry Drive
 - Old Ironsides Drive
 - Great America Parkway
 - Avenida De Los Arboles
 - Lick Mill Boulevard

Lick Mill Park at Avenida De Los Arboles
and Fairway Glen Drive





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Hetch Hetchy Right of Way



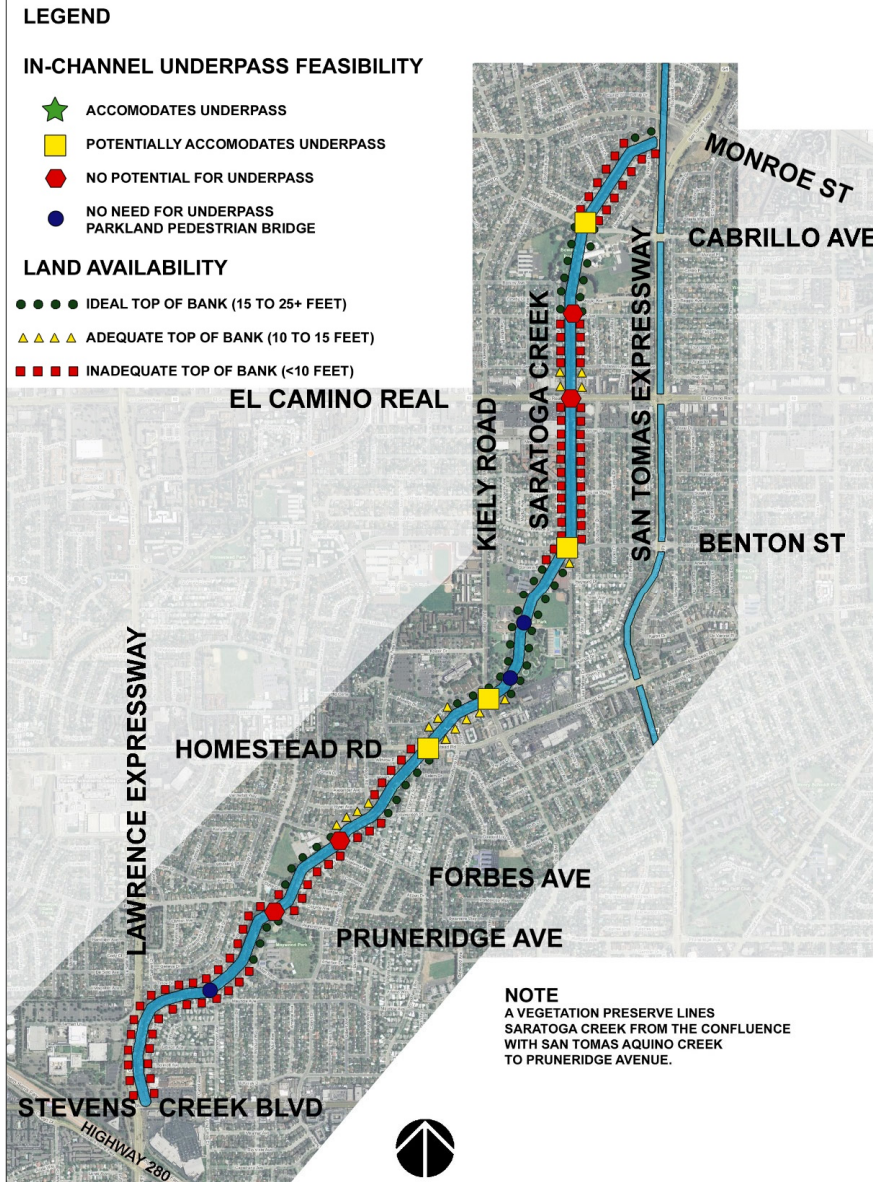
View looking west from UPRR railroad tracks toward Great America Theme Park.



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Hetch Hetchy Connection to San Tomas Aquino Creek Trail at Levi's Stadium and Great America Theme Park





Saratoga Creek

Land Availability Map



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Saratoga Creek Trail Crossings

- **2 Undercrossings and Ramps:**
 - Homestead Road
 - Kiely Boulevard
- **1 Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge:**
 - Stevenson Street
- **5 At-grade Crossings:**
 - Forbes Avenue
 - Benton Street
 - El Camino Real
 - Warburton Avenue
 - Cabrillo Avenue



Limited top of bank for a trail in many areas along Saratoga Creek.



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Saratoga Creek



Looking downstream at Homestead Road bridge.



Upcoming Events and Milestones*

- Project Kick-off Community Meeting – May 2025
- Series of Community Outreach Meetings – Spring 2025
- Circulation of Draft Creek Trail Network Expansion Master Plan – Summer 2025
- Series of Follow Up Community Outreach Meetings – Fall 2025
- Final Creek Trail Network Expansion Master Plan – Winter 2025/26

**Check project website for exact meeting dates.*



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Questions and Comments





Project Website and Sign Up for Email Updates

Review the Creek Trail Network Expansion Feasibility Study and
Sign Up for Master Plan Updates at:

SantaClaraCA.gov/CreekTrailPlan