



Creek Trail Network Expansion Master Plan

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

June 23, 2025



Agenda

- **Project Team Introductions**
- **Creek Trail Network Expansion Master Plan**
 - **Project Overview**
 - **Public Feedback: Community Outreach and Creek Trail Network Expansion Survey**
 - **Schedule and Future Public Meetings**
- **Comments and Questions**



Creek Trail Network Expansion Master Plan and Environmental Review

City Staff

Ralph Garcia, Senior Civil Engineer, Project Manager

Steve Chan, Transportation Manager

Nicole He, Associate Engineer

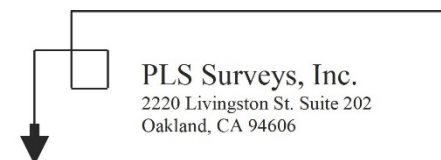
Michael Liw, Assistant Director of Public Works/City Engineer

Carol Shariat, Principal Transportation Planner



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Creek Trail Network Expansion Master Plan and Environmental Review Consultant Team

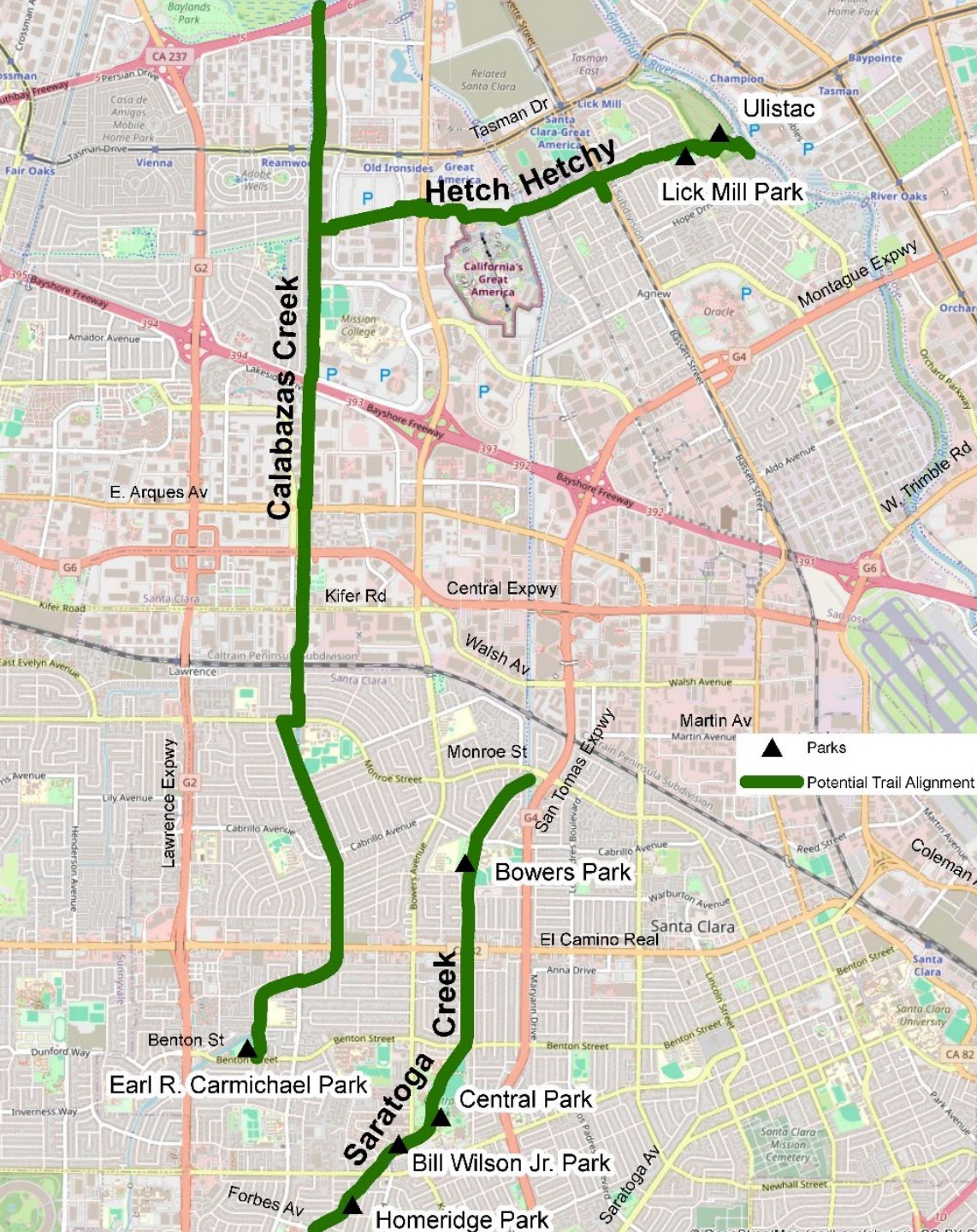




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Study Locations

- **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





Trail Connections to:

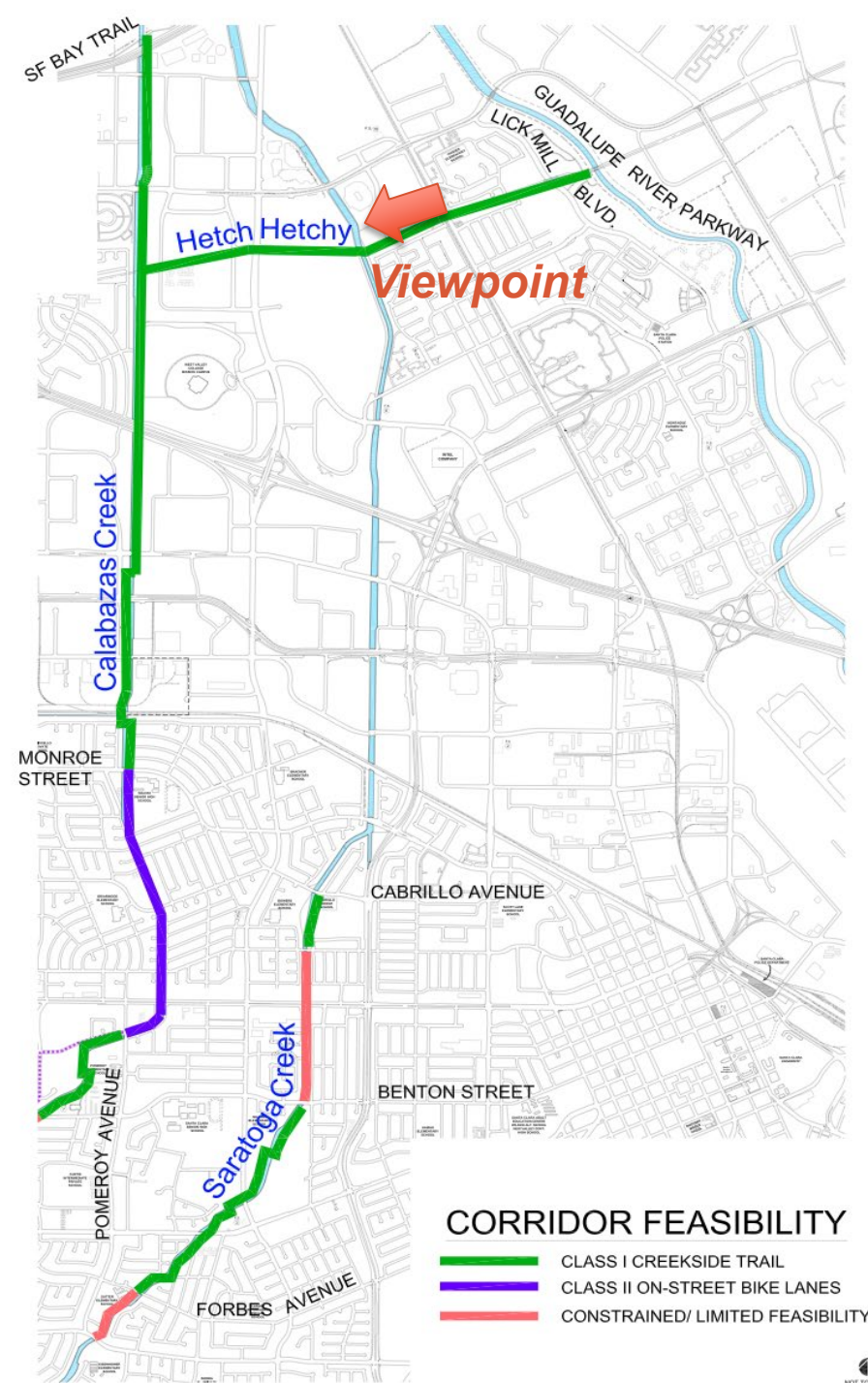
- Light Rail – Reamwood Station
- ACE and Amtrak Capitol Corridor Rail Lines
- Central Park
- Ulistac Natural Area
- Youth Soccer Park
- Great America Theme Park
- Santa Clara Convention Center
- Levi's Stadium (49ers)
- John W. Christian Greenbelt in Sunnyvale
- Tech Businesses
- Mission College
- San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



Corridor Feasibility Summary



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





Land Availability

- Ownership
- Easements
- Vegetation Preserves
- 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



Changes in Stakeholder Policies



**Hetch Hetchy
Regional Water System**

Services of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

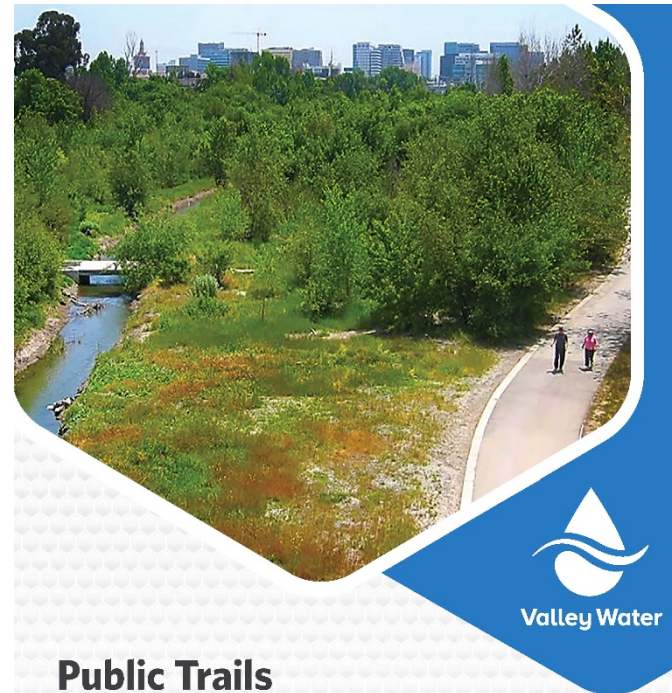
**SFPUC Interim Water Pipeline Right of Way Use Policy
for San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Alameda Counties**

Approved January 13, 2015

by

SFPUC Resolution No. 15-0014

as an amendment to the SFPUC Real Estate Guidelines



**Public Trails
on Valley Water Lands:
Policy Criteria and Guidance**

Approved December 14, 2021



Summary of Existing Conditions and Preview of Trail Master Plan Concepts



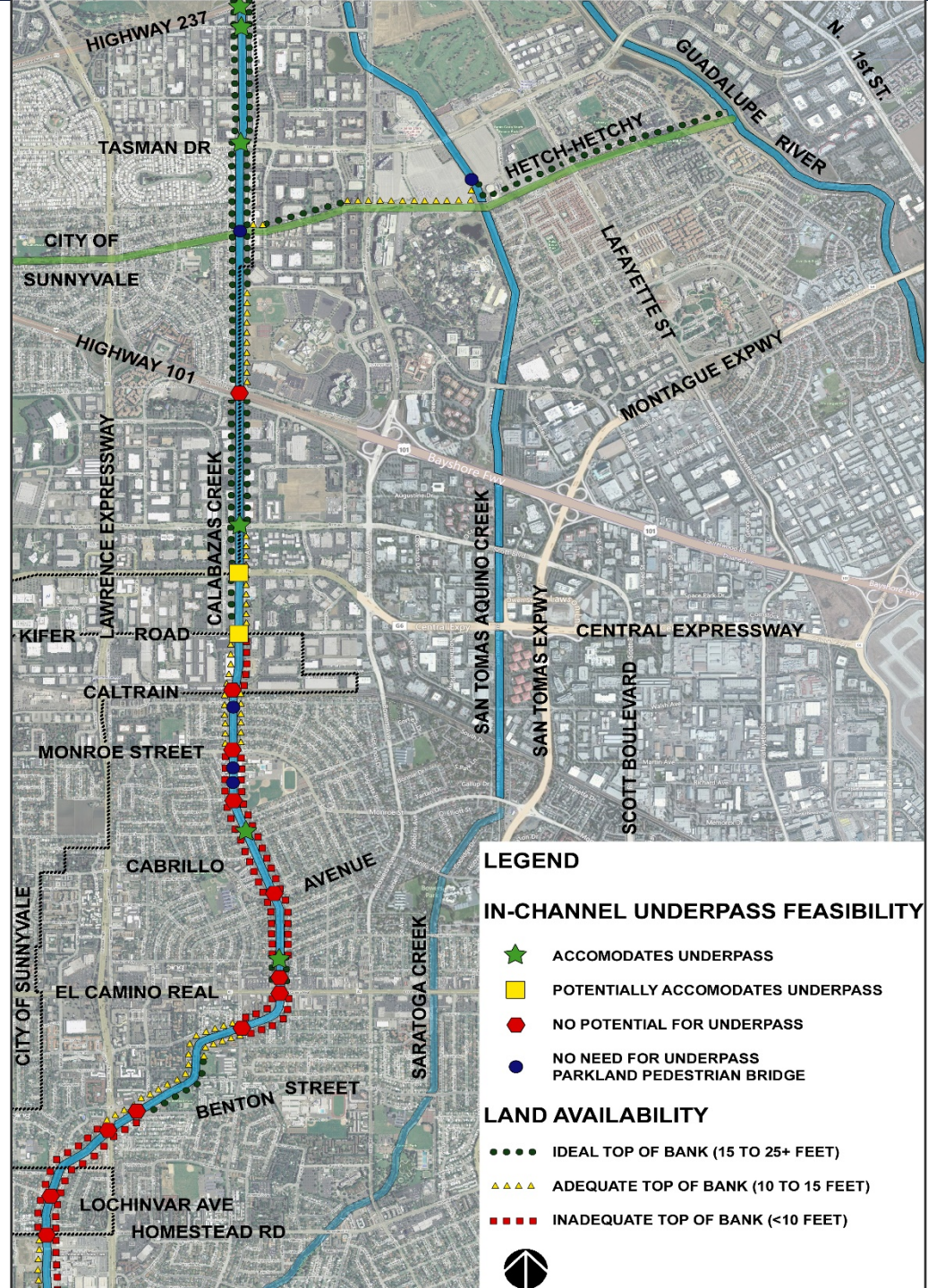
Stevens Creek Trail LaAvenida Trailhead in Mountain View.



Guadalupe River Parkway River Oaks Pedestrian Bridge in San Jose.

Calabazas Creek

Land Availability Map



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Calabazas Creek Trail Crossings

- **5 Undercrossings and Ramps:**
 - Kifer Road
 - East Arques Avenue/Scott Boulevard
 - Tasman Road
 - Old Mountain View – Alviso Road
 - Highway 237



Old Mountain View – Alviso Road bridge under reconstruction and completed with trail access.





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

*At-grade trail connection
along the San Tomas
Aquino Creek Trail.*





Calabazas Creek Challenges

- Requires three pedestrian overcrossings that need right-of-way
- Sea level rise has potential to impact downstream trail undercrossings



Right-of-way needed to continue the trail along Mission College Blvd.



Looking downstream at the potential Highway 237 trail underpass.



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Potential Highway 101 Pedestrian/ Bicycle Overcrossing Concept





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*Potential
Kifer Road
Trail Underpass
Concept*





Calabazas Creek Opportunities

- Provides grade-separated trail through the city
- Uses existing elevated levees



*Elevated
levee and
ramp at Old
Mtn. View –
Alviso Road.*



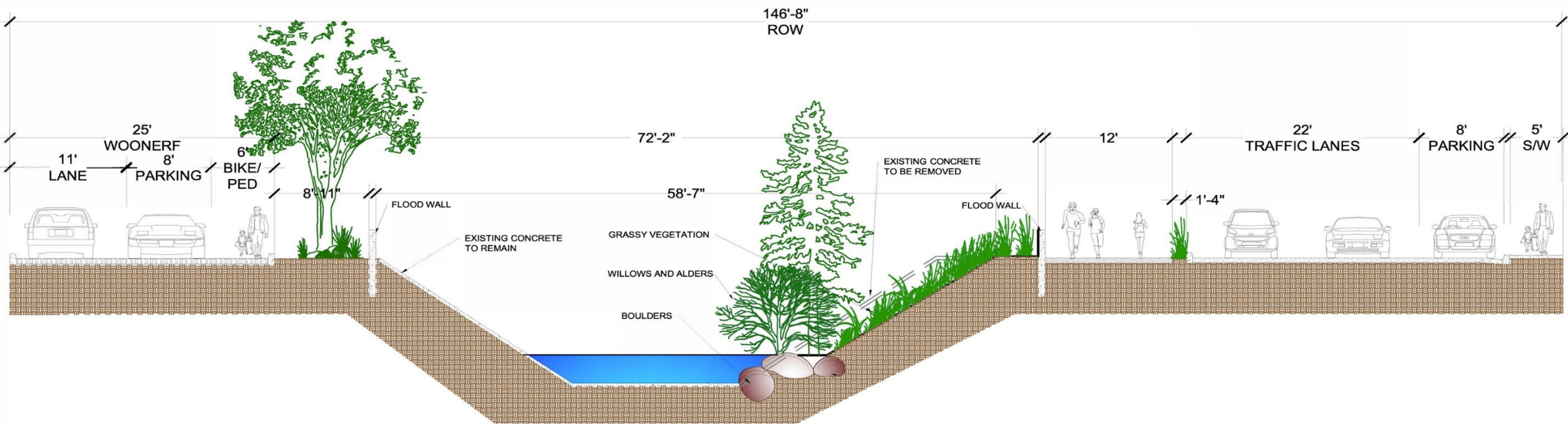
*Looking downstream from the pedestrian bridge connecting to
John W. Christian Greenbelt in Sunnyvale.*



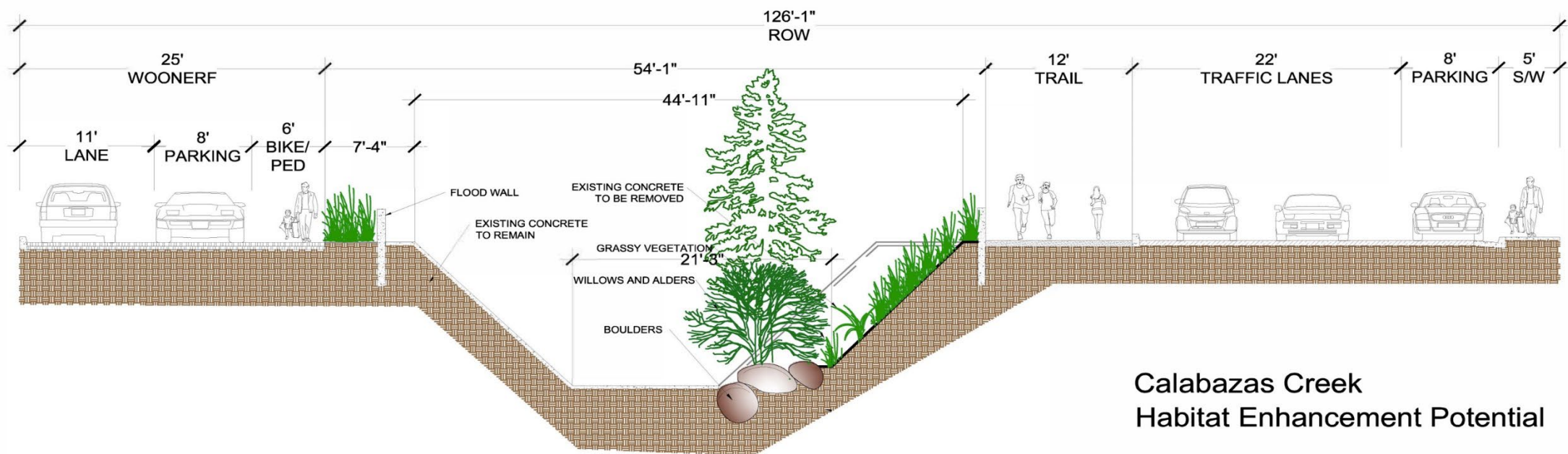
Potential opportunity for habitat restoration of Calabazas Creek and development of a trail from Pomeroy to Georgetown



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

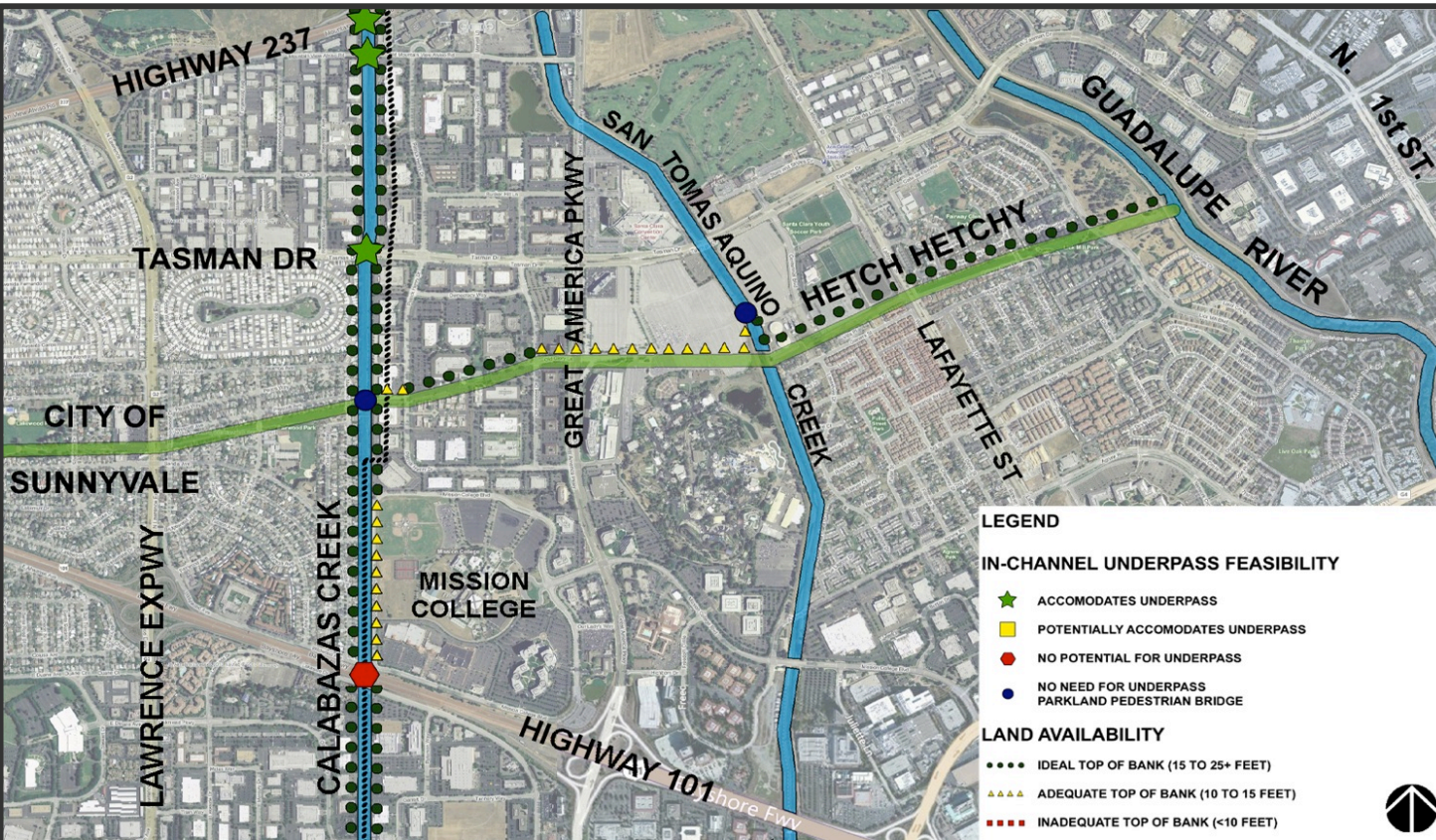


Georgetown PI to El Camino Real



Calabazas Creek
Habitat Enhancement Potential

El Camino Real to Pomeroy Ave



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.



Hetch Hetchy Challenges

- Construction limitations of the HH right-of-way
- Passing adjacent to Levi's Stadium
- Crossing of the railroad and Lafayette Street
- Elevation changes connecting to Calabazas Creek, San Tomas Aquino Creek and Guadalupe River



Hetch Hetchy right-of-way behind Levi's Stadium.



Hetch Hetchy Opportunities

- Connects to Sunnyvale and Mountain View
- Connects to three trails - Calabazas Creek, San Tomas Aquino Creek and Guadalupe River



*San Tomas Aquino
Creek Trail at Levi's
Stadium.*



John W. Christian Greenbelt in Sunnyvale.

LEGEND

IN-CHANNEL UNDERPASS FEASIBILITY

- ★ ACCOMODATES UNDERPASS
- POTENTIALLY ACCOMODATES UNDERPASS
- NO POTENTIAL FOR UNDERPASS
- NO NEED FOR UNDERPASS
PARKLAND PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

LAND AVAILABILITY

- IDEAL TOP OF BANK (15 TO 25+ FEET)
- ▲▲▲▲ ADEQUATE TOP OF BANK (10 TO 15 FEET)
- ■ ■ ■ INADEQUATE TOP OF BANK (<10 FEET)



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

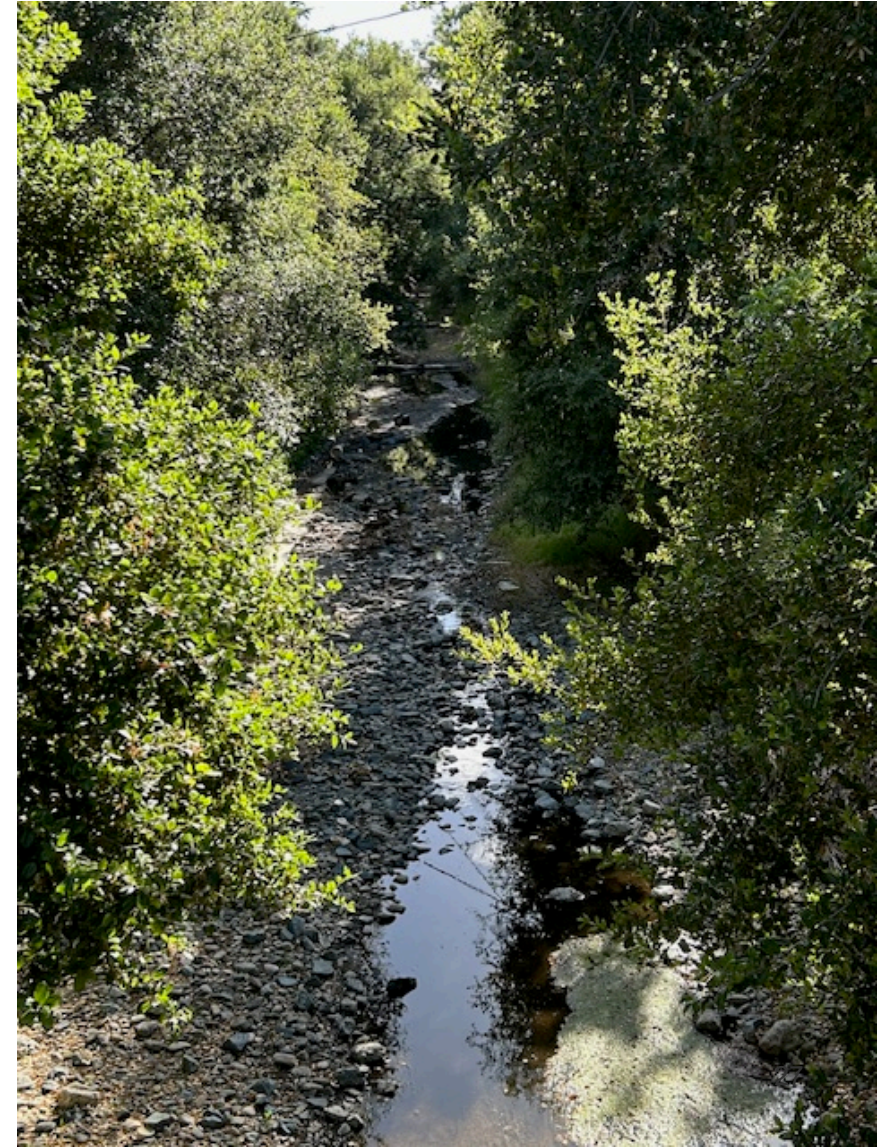


Limited top of bank for a trail in many areas along Saratoga Creek.



Saratoga Creek Challenges

- Vegetation Preserve from 1980s flood control improvements - Pruneridge Avenue downstream to Monroe Street at the confluence with San Tomas Aquino Creek
- Limited land along the top of bank to fit a trail





Saratoga Creek Opportunities

- Connects many city parks
- Provides an experience in nature in the dense urban core of Santa Clara



Shaded creek bank in Central Park.



Trail Construction and Habitat Restoration Takes Time – Years to Decades



*Trail construction and habitat restoration in
Mountain View and Cupertino.*





Community Outreach

Earth Day and Bike to Work Day

- General Support for More Trails
- Trail Connections
- Project Timelines
- Trail Maintenance

Parks & Recreation Commission

- Support for Trails Connecting Parks
- Concerns about Trail Safety
- Sea Level Rise and Potential Trail Flooding
- Impact on Creeks and Wildlife
- Cost/Funding and Project Completion Estimates





Community Outreach



Community Meeting

- Sound Walls and Neighborhood Trail Connections
- Trail Paving and Design Dimensions
- Trail Lighting Pros and Cons
- Right-of-Way Acquisition and Land Agreements
- Trail Flooding and Sea Level Rise
- Possible Effect on Future Stadium Detours
- Trail Design on Calabazas Boulevard
- Trail Crossings at El Camino Real



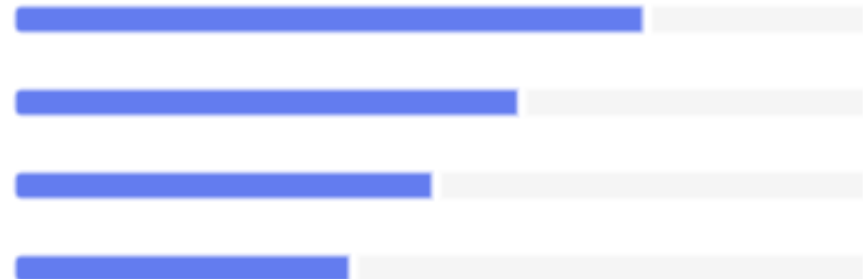
Survey Results

Reasons for Using Trails

90 Respondents

4. Rank the reasons why you use trails.

- 1 Exercise and fitness
- 2 Recreation or observe nature
- 3 Non-commute trips (shopping, library, parks, etc.)
- 4 Commute to work or school



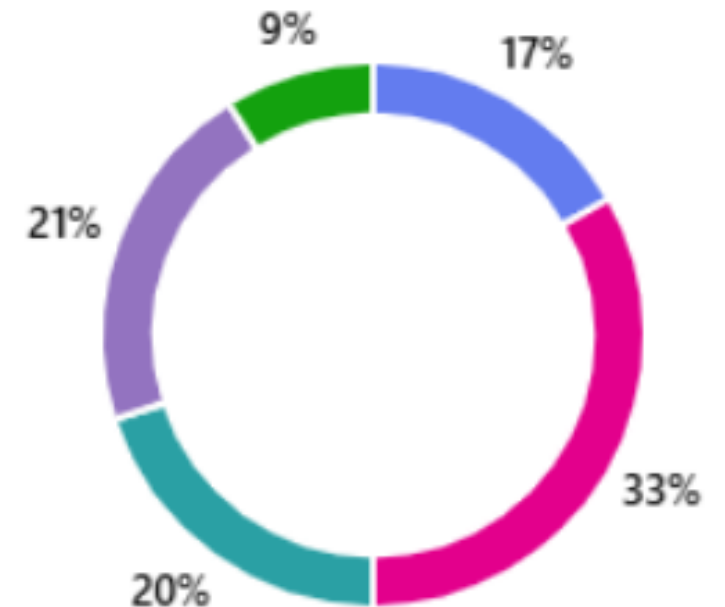


Survey Results

Frequency of Trail Use

2. How often do you use the San Tomas Aquino Creek Trail?

● Daily	15
● Weekly	30
● Monthly	18
● Occasionally	19
● Never	8

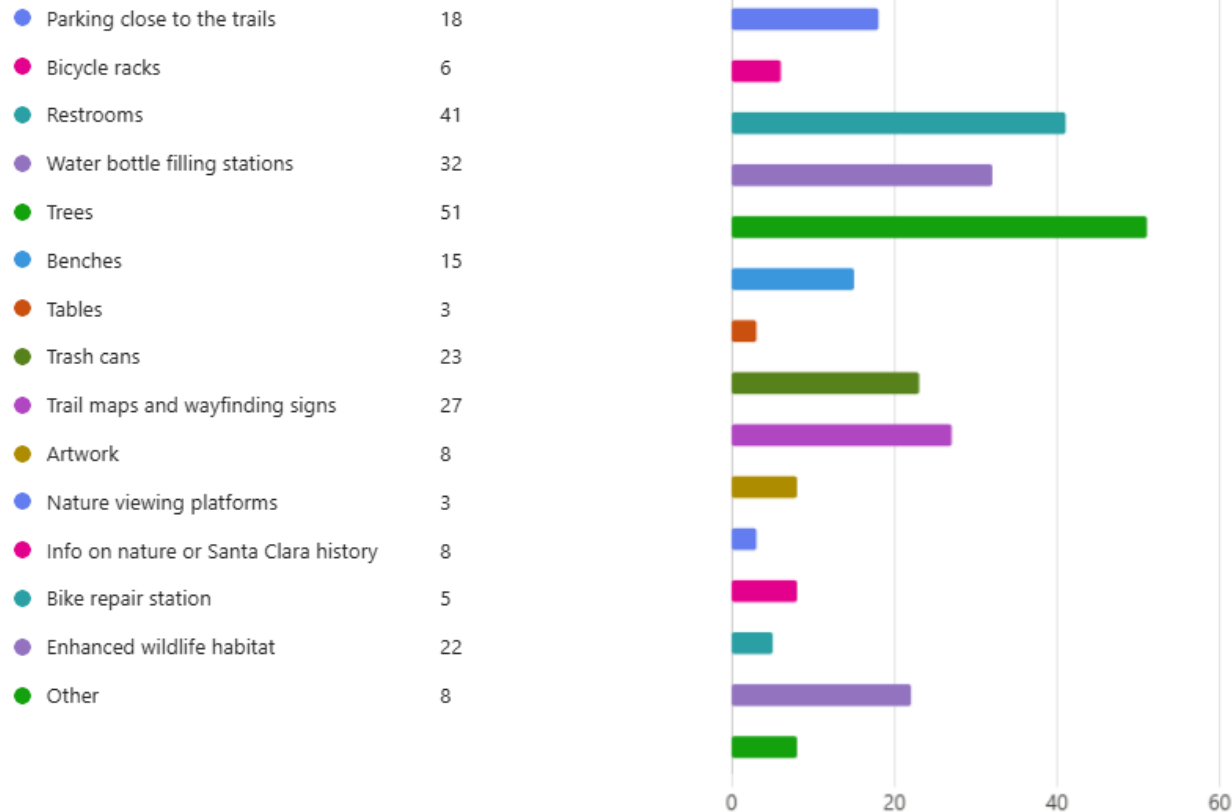




Survey Results

Preferred Trail Design Features

7. Select the top three elements Santa Clara should incorporate into future trails.





Survey Results

General Comments

- I think these trails would be a great addition to the bike network in Santa Clara and would definitely get me to take additional trips by bike that are currently too difficult. However, these need to be part of a broader network for them to be truly useful.
- Bicycles and cars don't mix well. Dedicated bike routes by far work the best if we can't reduce the number of cars on roads.
- It would be great to have a better-connected bike network, and better enforcement of existing traffic safety laws.
- Really excited to see a proposed path running along Calabazas Creek! It would pretty much connect my house to my workplace and make my bike commute even nicer. And a Hetch Hetchy connector to the Guadalupe Path would be nice too. I hope that the path could be wide and smooth enough for roller blading too.





Upcoming Events and Milestones*

- Upcoming Online Community Meetings
 - Saratoga Creek** – Thursday, June 26, 2025 at 6 p.m.
 - Hetch Hetchy** – Wednesday, July 16, 2025 at 6 p.m.
 - Calabazas Creek** – Thursday, July 24, 2025 at 6 p.m.
- Series of Follow Up Community Outreach Meetings – Fall 2025
- Circulation of Draft Creek Trail Master Plan – Winter 2025/26
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee – Winter 2025/26
- Final Creek Trail Master Plan – 2026

**Check project website for meeting details.*



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





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Questions and Comments



Stevens Creek Trail Pedestrian Overpass at Caltrain/Central Expwy/Evelyn Ave. in Mountain View.