

TRAIL ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19



Identify

Undeveloped projects identified in the Trail Database

14.57 miles

Study

Projects that have been or are currently being studied to determine a feasible alignment.

16.92 miles

Plan

Projects that have been or are currently being master planned for future development.

39.97 miles

Design

Projects that have been or are currently being designed (construction documents).

10.56 miles

Build

Projects that are under construction.

0.07 miles

Open

Projects that are open to the public.

61.61 miles,
composed of:

50.74 miles (paved)
8.87 miles (interim)

Overview

San José seeks to be the national leader in urban trail development. The Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services' Trail Program advances this vision in three ways; 1) delivering the highest quality trails that meet Class I Bikeway (Trail) standards, 2) creating an network of over 100 miles, and 3) interconnecting 40 unique trail systems.

On-going projects support growth of the interconnected network. San José already has one of the nation's largest urban trail networks measuring over 61 miles composed of Core and Edge trail systems. Linkages to Rural trails within San Jose's regional parks and open spaces contribute further to the recreational amenities available in the region. Several of these trail systems are recognized as part of regional, state and national systems that reinforce San José as a leading trail city.

The existing 61.61 mile Trail Network grew by 1.7 miles over the past 12 months with Three Creeks Trail, Guadalupe River-Coleman Road Undercrossing, and Penitencia Creek Trail (pending opening of Berryessa BART Station).

Funding for trail projects was \$25.4M. This amount was similar to the prior fiscal year (2017/18). This report provides an update for many of the active projects over the past 12 months.

Program Updates

Awards and Recognition

The City of San José received the Advancing Trails Award, in the Trail Planning & Design category, from the International Trails Symposium held in Syracuse, New York. The award acknowledges the City's unique approach to interpreting the former railway corridor's history through landscape and

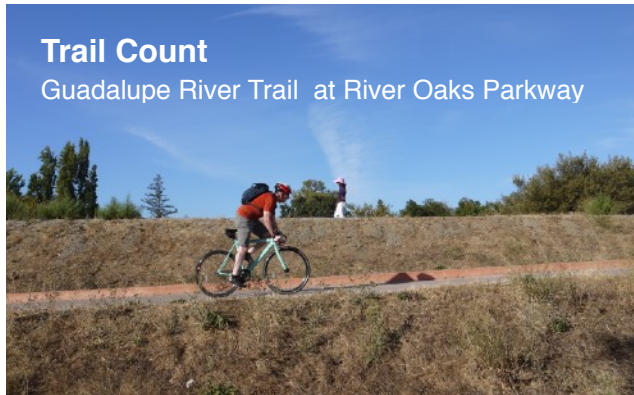


Award-winning
Three Creeks Trail



Trail Count 2018

San José's twelfth annual count & survey of trail users occurred on Wednesday, September 12. Volunteers at six count stations counted and offered survey cards to trail users over a 12-hour period. Results showed both increases and decreases in use which are somewhat expected over the long-running count effort. Of note, Trail Count documented the significant impact resulting from formal trail development, as the Three Creeks Trail transition from informal walking path to paved/



Trail Count

Guadalupe River Trail at River Oaks Parkway

landscaped trail system.

Guadalupe River at Coleman Avenue: 996 trail users in 2017 vs. 889 in 2018; a **10.7% decrease**.

Guadalupe River at Riverpark Towers: 724 trail users in 2017 vs. 892 in 2018; a **23.2% increase**.

Guadalupe River at River Oaks Parkway: 2,376 trail users in 2017 vs. 2,424 in 2018; a **2% increase**.

Los Gatos Creek at Hamilton Avenue: 1,135 trail users in 2017 vs. 1,072 in 2018; a **5.5% decrease**.

Los Gatos Creek at Auzerais Avenue: 160 trail users in 2017 vs. 173 in 2018; an **8.1% increase**. Data collection was limited to AM and PM 4.

Los Alamitos Creek at Camden Avenue: 832 trail users in 2017 vs. 860 in 2018, a **3.4% increase**.

Three Creeks Trail at Willow Street: This is the first year for a 12-hour count, with 258 persons using the trail. Comparing peak hour counts from 2016 (last year counted before paved trail development), we saw **133% increase** in AM (21 vs. 49) and **233% increase** in the PM (21 vs. 70).

The data gathered from Trail Count 2018 supports trail planning and competitive grant writing. A Fact Sheet and comprehensive Summary Report were produced by the following week. Both documents offer data to the community and leaders about the integral role of trails in San Jose's Parks System and balanced transportation system.

This successful effort was made possible by hardworking volunteers, advocates, agency partners & local companies like Jacobs Engineering, Callander Associates, Mark Thomas & Company and our partners at the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy and Save Our Trails.

Visit the [Trail Count page](#) for more information about Trail Count 2018.

Grant & External Funding

Trail development is supported by City funds collected from residential development fees and Construction & Conveyance Taxes. To supplement local resources, staff pursue grant programs from a variety of supporting agencies.

Project	Amount	Status
Five Wounds Trail (Story-Mabury)	\$34M	Declined
Five Wounds Trail (Story-Whitton)	\$83k	Pending
Coyote Creek - Singleton Crossing	\$140k	Pending



Active Trail Projects

Bay Trail (Marriott Hotel Frontage): A 350' section of the Bay Trail is being constructed alongside a new hotel in the Alviso neighborhood. Although short in length, the paved trail provides a public access point for persons to visit and view the Alviso Slough as it meanders to the Bay. Is the alignment is consistent with the City's completed design documents for this reach of the SF Bay Trail. The project includes four dedicated parking spaces for visitors and access to the hotel's public restroom.

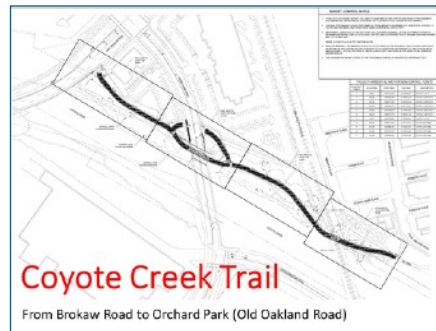


Communications Hill Phase II: Development of trails upon the hill continues as residential neighborhoods extend across the hill. Phase II of the trail system now nears completion and will add 0.25 mile to the Trail Network. Additional phases will link trails to the Light Rail System via the Highway 87 Bikeway Trail.



Coyote Creek Trail (Brokaw Road to Orchard Park): Design work reached the 95% stage for paved trail and an under-crossings beneath Ridder Park Drive and Union Pacific Railroad. Efforts to secure permits via the California Public Utilities Commission has been an on-going effort. Design documents are now being updated to meet the most recent design

considerations. Funding is in place for future construction.



Coyote Creek Trail (Mabury Road to Empire Street): Design work now underway for a paved trail, pedestrian bridge and under-crossing. A grant extension for design and construction were secured from the California Transportation Commission for additional need to deliver the complicated project.

Coyote Creek Trail (William Street to Story Road): Staff obtained authorization to proceed with construction. Staff has been working with Caltrans over the past 20 months to release federal funds for the project. The project was advertised for Construction in May and a construction contract is now being negotiated. Construction is expected to commence in the fall.

Coyote Creek Trail (Story Avenue to Phelan Avenue): Plans have been prepared to the 95% stage and staff is pursuing construction permits. Once permits are secured, staff will make final adjustments to the plans and proceed with bidding. Funding is in place to award a construction contract.

Coyote Creek Trail (Phelan Avenue to Tully Road): The project was master planned in 2008. The project team conducted a site visit in May to revisit the alignment and determine site challenges, such as topography, real estate needs, and constrained areas. The design consultant is surveying the site in order to define a viable alignment and options for options for addressing the most difficult site conditions.

Coyote Creek Trail (Singleton Road Barrier Removal & Bridge):

An Initial Study is being prepared per the California Environmental Quality Act. Hiring of a design consultant for design work is on-going. City and SCVWD staff have formed a Focus Group to investigate potential short-term alternatives to remove the in-channel fish barrier. The alternatives will be presented to regulatory agencies to weigh benefits and timing of short-term and permanent solutions at this site.

Five Wounds Trail (William Avenue to Whitton Avenue, Acquisition):

Negotiations are on-going with the property owner, with formal Terms and Conditions agreed upon. Funding arrangements have been made with two other public agencies to support multi-agency ownership of the former rail corridor, and its future use as an urban trail.

Five Wounds Trail (23rd Street Gap):

Property was secured to permit development of the trail across about 200'. Construction of paved trail improvements were completed.



Highway 237 Bikeway Trail (San Tomas Aquino Crk – Guadalupe River): A funding and contracting agreement with Google (Alphabet Inc.) was executed to support improvement of the Bikeway Trail. Work included resurfacing of pavement, and addition of new signage and striping. Additionally, a 200' Class I Bikeway was built along Lafayette Street by reducing the roadway's width. The project re-opened in June 2019.



Guadalupe River / River Oaks

Parkway Study: A signage and striping study was completed. Installation of the recommended ladder intersection striping and "crossing ahead" and other warning and guidance signage.



Guadalupe River Trail (Coleman Road Under-Crossing):

The 600-foot under-crossing and related ramp improvements were completed in 2018. Mitigation for the project's minor impacts to the creek were completed along the nearby Calero Creek Trail in April 2019.



Los Gatos Creek Trail (Reach 5B Under-Crossing): Caltrain has completed its bridge project. Design work on the trail under-crossing has resumed, with development of a 90% design package now underway. The final 10% will be completed as construction funds are identified as it may impact the permits required.

San Tomas Aquino Trail (Study, City of Campbell): City staff is working collaboratively with City of Campbell to complete a study defining a trail that would travel through both jurisdictions.

Yerba Buena Creek Pedestrian Bridge Study: The study has been completed and confirms three viable and one preferred bridge alignment. The future bridge will support community access to the trail and nearby Evergreen Community College. Funding to advance design of the project was approved as part of the 2018/19 Budget.

Social Media

Twitter@sanjosetrails was initiated in January 2010 to offer regular Trail project updates, program milestones, upcoming closures and relevant news stories. The platform continues to draw an audience. In the past 12 months, the audience grew by 5%; from 2,943 to 3,140 followers.



Instagram@SanJoseTrails has a stronger visual focus, with filtered images of projects under construction, progress updates and downtown San José's best places to visit. In the past 12 months, the audience has grown by 32%; from 547 to 852 followers.



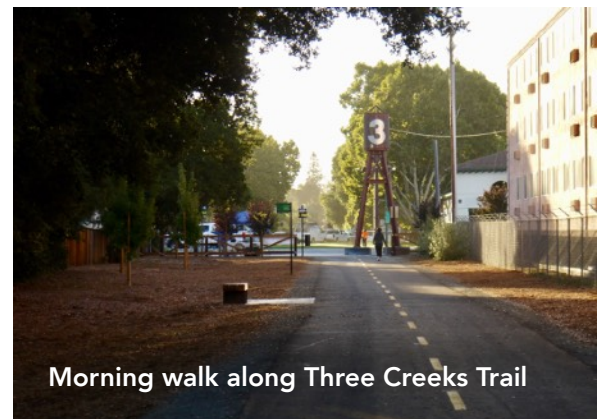
Partners

Development of trails can only occur through partnerships with agencies,

community groups and hardworking individuals.

Many of the projects in this report are possible with the support of:

- City of San José City Council
- Santa Clara Valley Water District - Board of Directors and Staff
- Staff from City of San José departments and offices
- Santa Clara County Open Space Authority
- County of Santa Clara
- Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
- State of California
- Association of Bay Area Governments
- San Francisco Bay Area Ridge Trail
- Adopt-A-Trail Volunteers
- Guadalupe River Park Conservancy
- Many residents, neighborhood groups and trail advocates who encourage and support expansion of the trail network.



Morning walk along Three Creeks Trail