Coyote Meadows Tour Aug 6, 2017

Route and talking points, by L.L.Ames, 7/17/17, revised 8/5/17 w/ input by Deb Kramer and Pat Pizzo



Meet at Story Rd at Roberts Ave: the underused parking lot on the corner to the west of the intersection.

1. Welcome

Welcome & introductions. Introduce trip: length (about 2-1/2 miles), bathroom break at midpoint, etc. Check in and sign photo/waiver release.

Distribute water bottles. Also distribute 3x5 cards & pencils to collect questions and suggestions.

2. Ashworth-Remillard House

Listed on the Naional Register.

1860's farmhouse of James Ashworth, a gold rush pioneer; sold in 1891 to Peter Remillard, who expanded family's brick-making business to SJ. Major brick supplier for Bay Area; nearby clay pits.

3. Coyote Creek Trail

Summarize overall trail system; Coyote goes from Morgan Hill to Tully Rd (1.5 mi away),

soon to Kelley Park, here, and hope to connect to segment in N. SJ and Milpitas.

Bay Area Ridge Trail - "Interim Alignment" (up to Penitencia Crk Trail)

Also: can Remillard Ct give vehicle access to on-site parking?

4. Landfill

Former clay pit. Landfill closed & capped when I-280 was built early 1970s.

Opportunities and limitations. Access?

Ideas for use? Play fields? Sculpture garden? Passive & unstructured? Parking lot? Solar panels?

View of downtown; views of park. (See photos below of downtown views.)

5. Slopes

Use of slopes? Stair? Slides? Climbing structures? Landscaped or left untouched?

Slopes are rather rare in SJ Parks: at Willow St. Park, kids will slide down hill on blocks of ice in summer.

6. Riparian Corridor

Discuss habitat, constraints.

Point out "Habitat zone, a former homeless encampment" on opposite bank.

Part of area is for habitat restoration. (Include comments from SCVWD?)

7. Trestle

Quick history of Western Pacific, and the breaking of Southern Pacific's monopoly.

"Matched pair": along w/ WG Trestle, they "bookend" the 3-Creeks Trail.

See photo of trestle during Feb. 2017 floodwaters & flood area map.

8. Antenna array

Discuss proposal for self-supported antennas, freeing up area for use.

Part of area is for habitat restoration.

Access? Ped bridge past SCVWD wells to Martha/12th? – it's been done elsewhere (e.g., on Los Gatos Crk Trail at Meridian, and on LGCT at Home St. by midtown dog park). See flooded antenna photos.

9. Under I-280

Any ideas for a use?

10. Olinder Park

Bathroom break

Q: Should Coyote Meadows have bathrooms and drinking water? Where?

Connection to William St. area.

11. Five Wounds Trail

Point out connection north & south. See photo of 5-Wounds Church.

5-Wounds Trail can bypass an infeasible segment of Coyote Crk Trail to allow network connections.

12. Under I-280 (2)

Large area, over former rail yard.

Use? Access?

13. Five Wounds Trail (2)

Overlook of antenna field. (see flooded antennas photos again.)

14. Cross the Trestle

For those hesitant to cross, can go down to Coyote Crk Trail and meet group back at the starting point.

15. Entrance

Good access; high-and-dry; good bike/ped connection to park. Connection to 3-Crks Trail, and thence to Guadalupe & Los Gatos Crk Trails. Public transit access. (Parking?)

16. Lowlands overlook

Viewed from Story Rd. sidewalk.

Sensitive riparian "habitat zone" – a former homeless encampment

Subject to flooding. See flooded lowlands photo.

Use? (Need use to keep it "activated" so that it doesn't again become homeless encampment).

Tied to Kelley Park? Summer day-camp? Passive trails & picnic sites? Memorial to the homeless?

17. Finish

Answer questions
Contact for future updates and notices?
Follow-up discussion over lunch?

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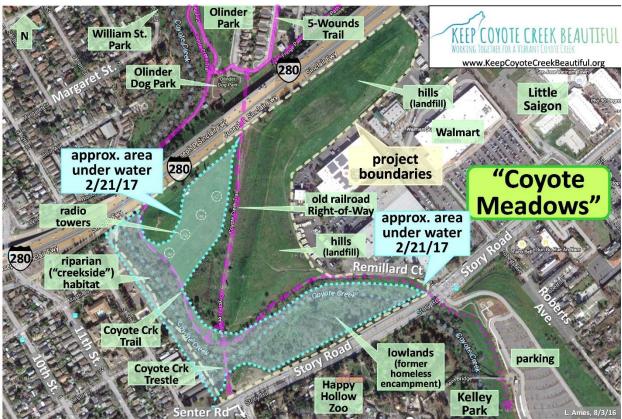
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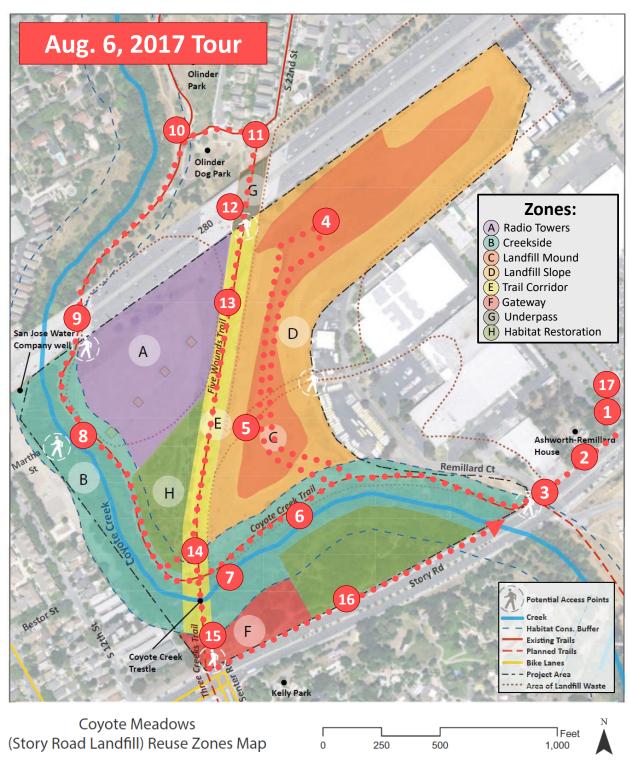


Diagram showing tour route and the various "zones" within the park site.