

Parks and Trails for All

-- a quick overview

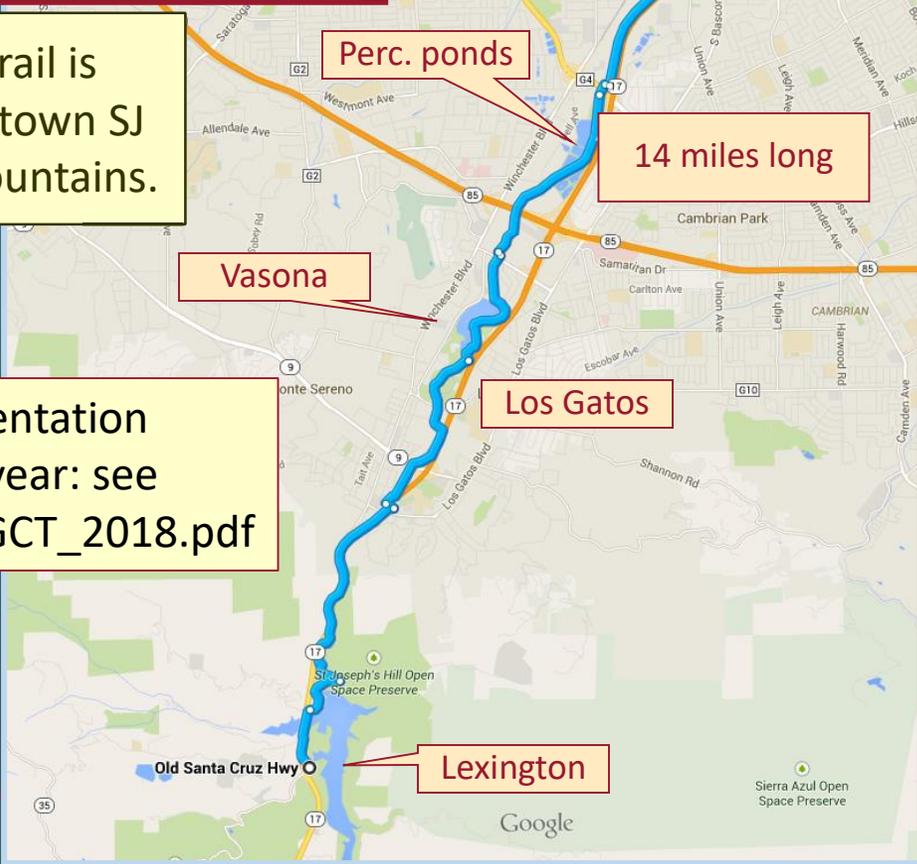
Larry Ames
Larry@L-Ames.com



Los Gatos Creek Trail is one of the first and most popular trails in the South Bay

Los Gatos Creek Trail is 14 miles long, downtown SJ to the Santa Cruz Mountains.

I gave this presentation to the SVO last year: see www.L-Ames.com/LGCT_2018.pdf



Trails can provide easy access to Diridon Station

Diridon Station

Google's area

3 miles to Diridon

to Campbell & Los Gatos

to Alviso

to Almaden

Downtown San Jose

Guadalupe River Trail

(WG Trestle)

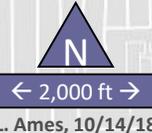
Three Creeks Trail

Possible alignment of future trail

Existing trail

future Guadalupe River Trail

FWY 87 Trail

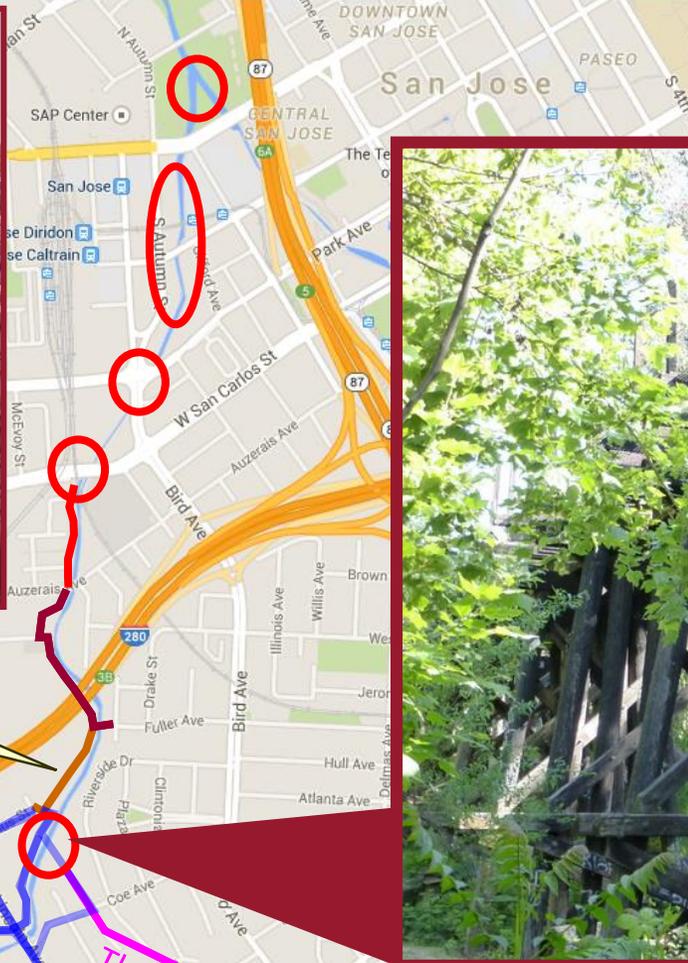


L. Ames, 10/14/18

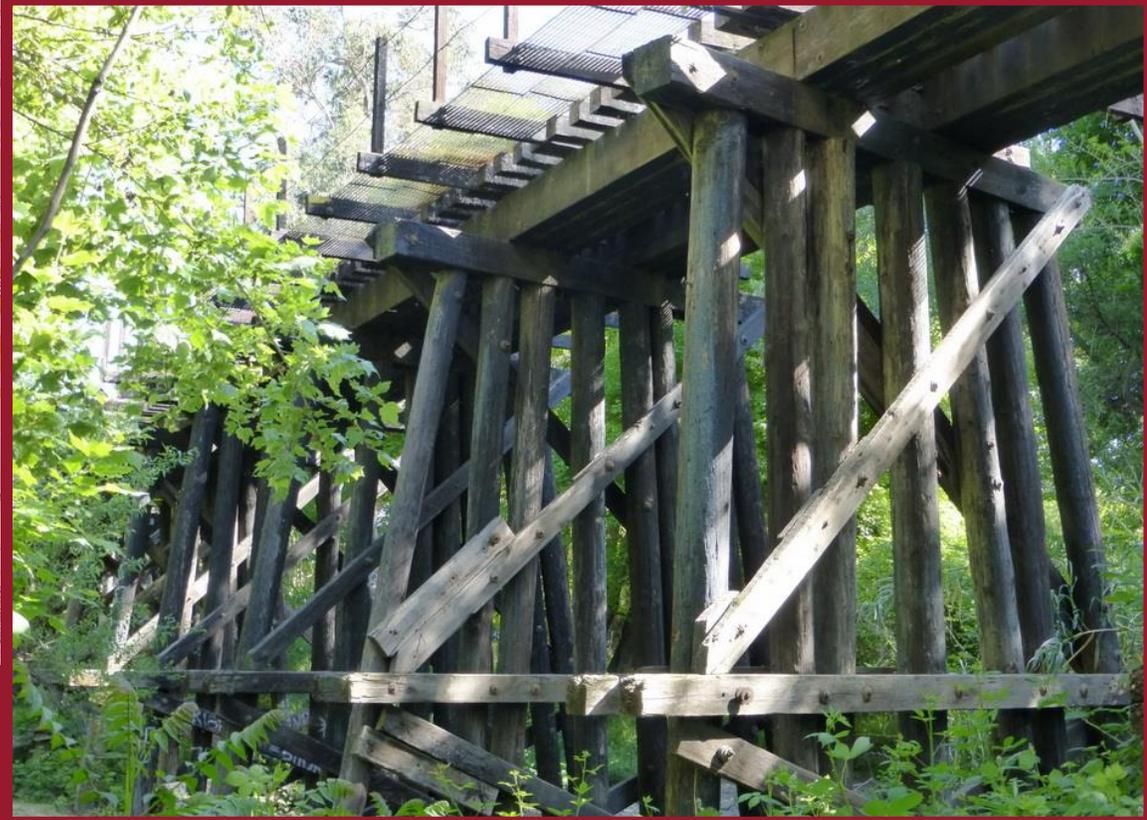


10/20/07

It took over 20 years to open this segment of trail...



How to connect the Three Creeks & Los Gatos Trails?
Restore a historic railroad trestle,
or replace it with a generic prefab steel truss?



There are a number of ways of "filling the gap" between Meridian and Lincoln: just need to work w/ the community to select the best alternative!



www.WGTrestle.org



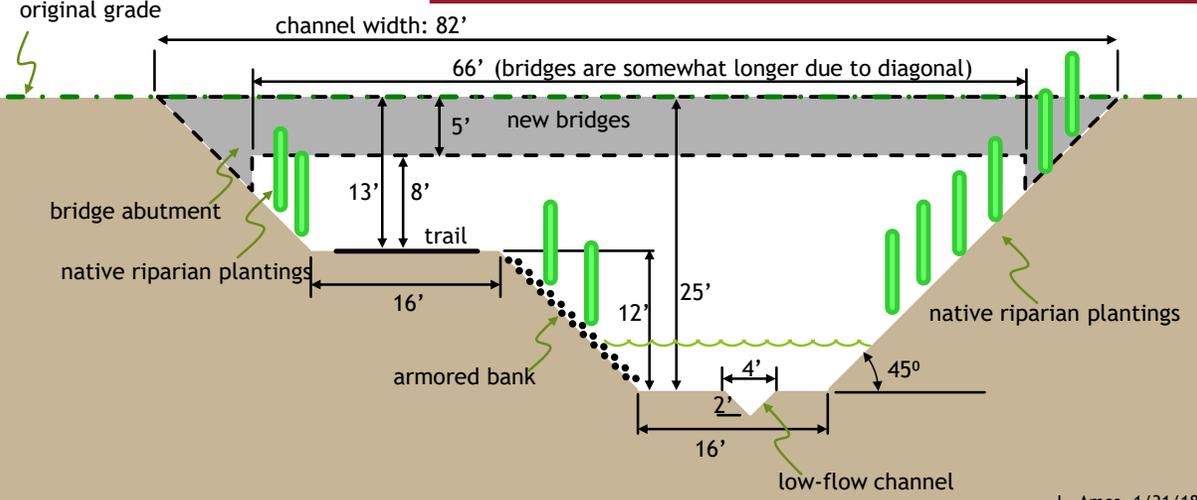
Double barrel concrete box culvert, each 17 feet high & 22.6 feet wide.



New CalTrain bridge supposedly has clearance for trail to pass



Concept for "daylighting" the Los Gatos Creek



How about making the creek by the Diridon Station an *attraction*?

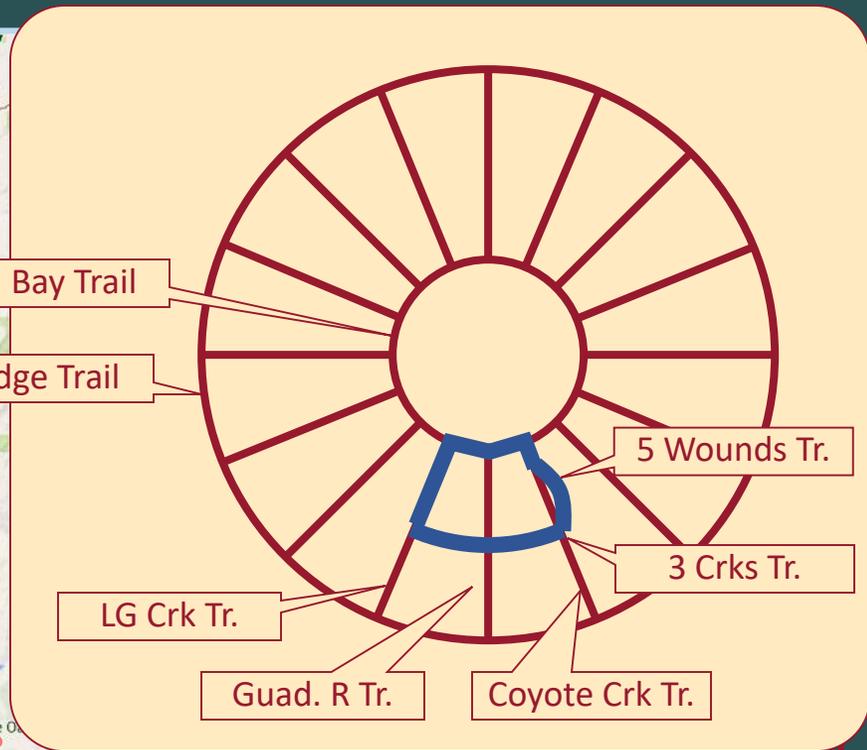
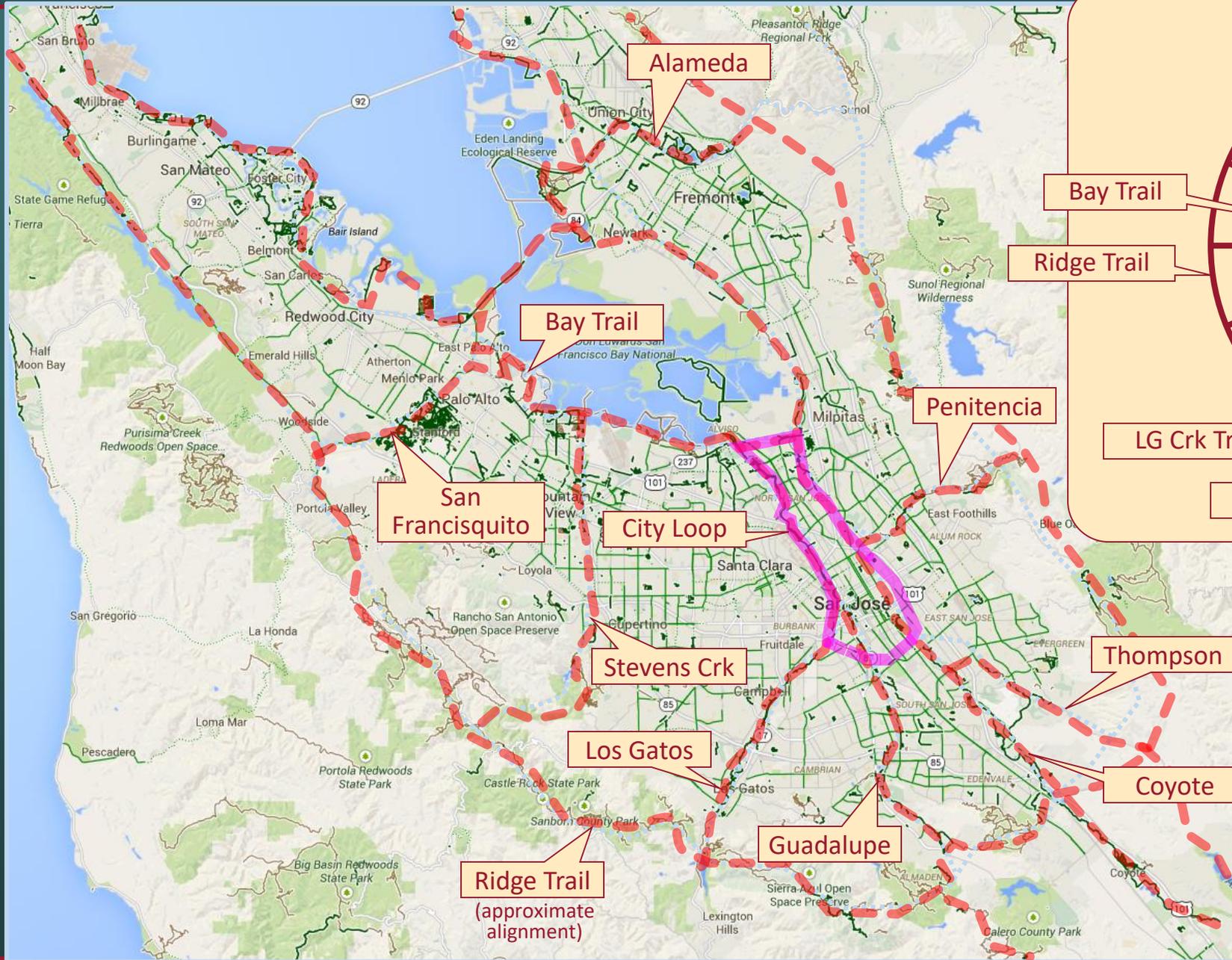
Diridon Station Area Advisory Group (SAAG):
<https://www.diridonsj.org/>



San Antonio Texas is famous for its “River Walk”: 2.5 mile long, lined with shops & restaurants; almost like a Disneyland ride.

San José has the potential, but we should do it “San José style” — trails and attractions along the sides, but natural and wild at heart!

Habitat & the public can coexist: in Campbell, the LG Crk Trail is used by hundreds daily, w/ trail on both sides, & the habitat has grown & thrived.

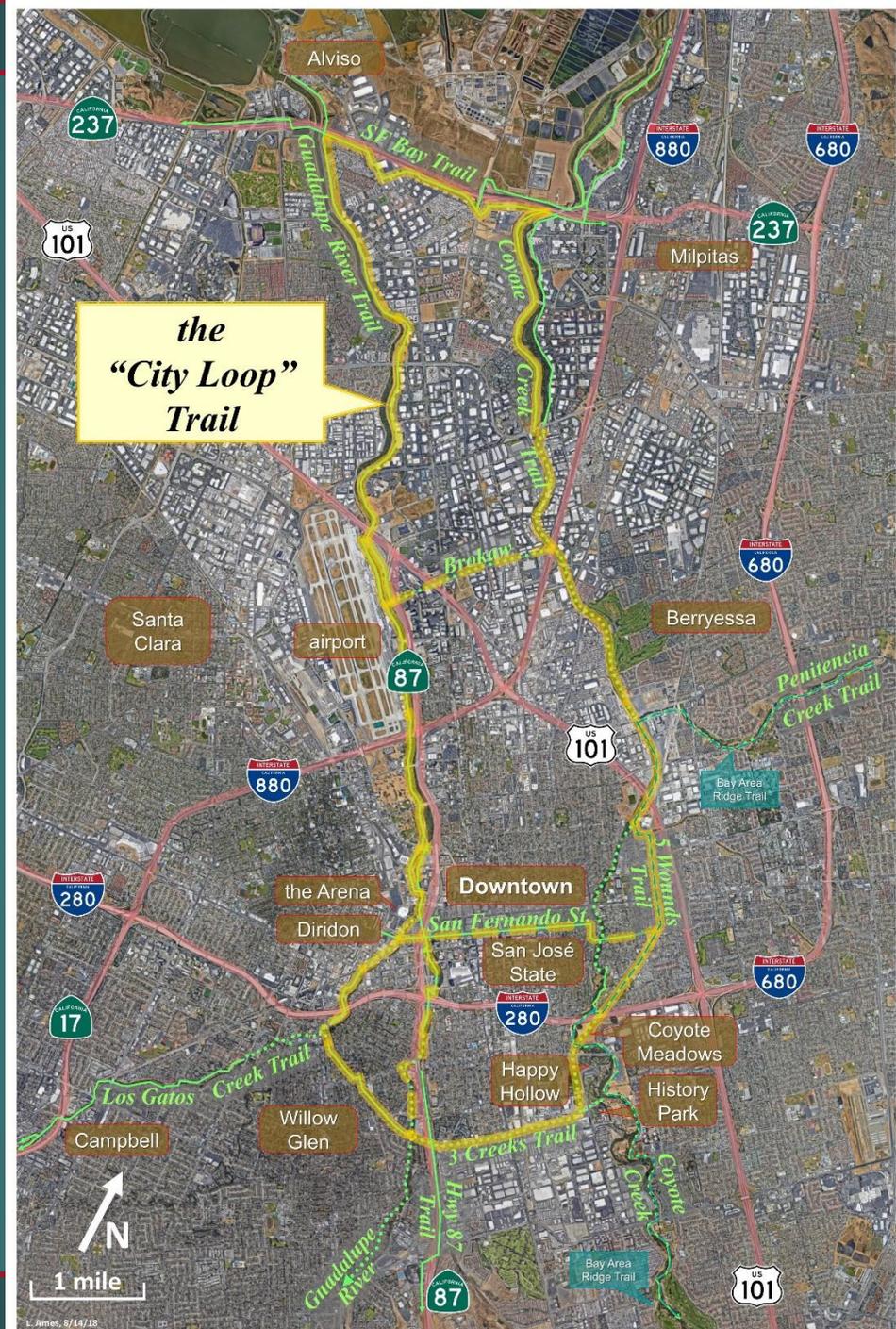


<http://baytrail.org/>
<https://ridgetrail.org/>

City Loop Trail

- Concept for a 24-mile loop trail
- Comprised of existing and planned trails
- Way of raising public awareness and to advocate for its completion.

<http://www.SaveOurTrails-scc.org/>



June 22, 2018
10 AM - 1 PM

13-mile Road
and Trail Bike
Ride

Hosts

Save Our Trails

Coyote Meadows
Coalition

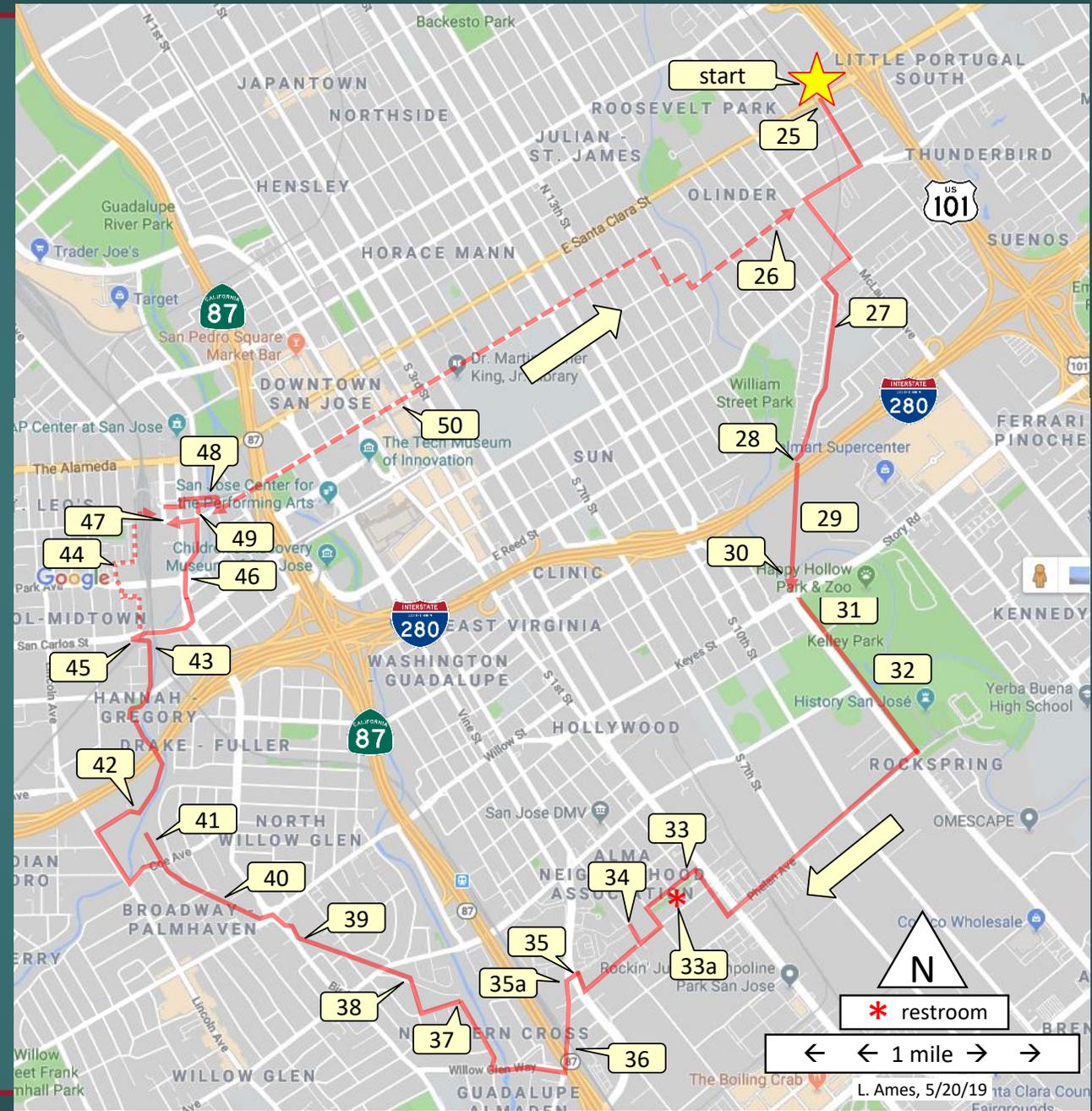


The City Loop Trail Bike Outing

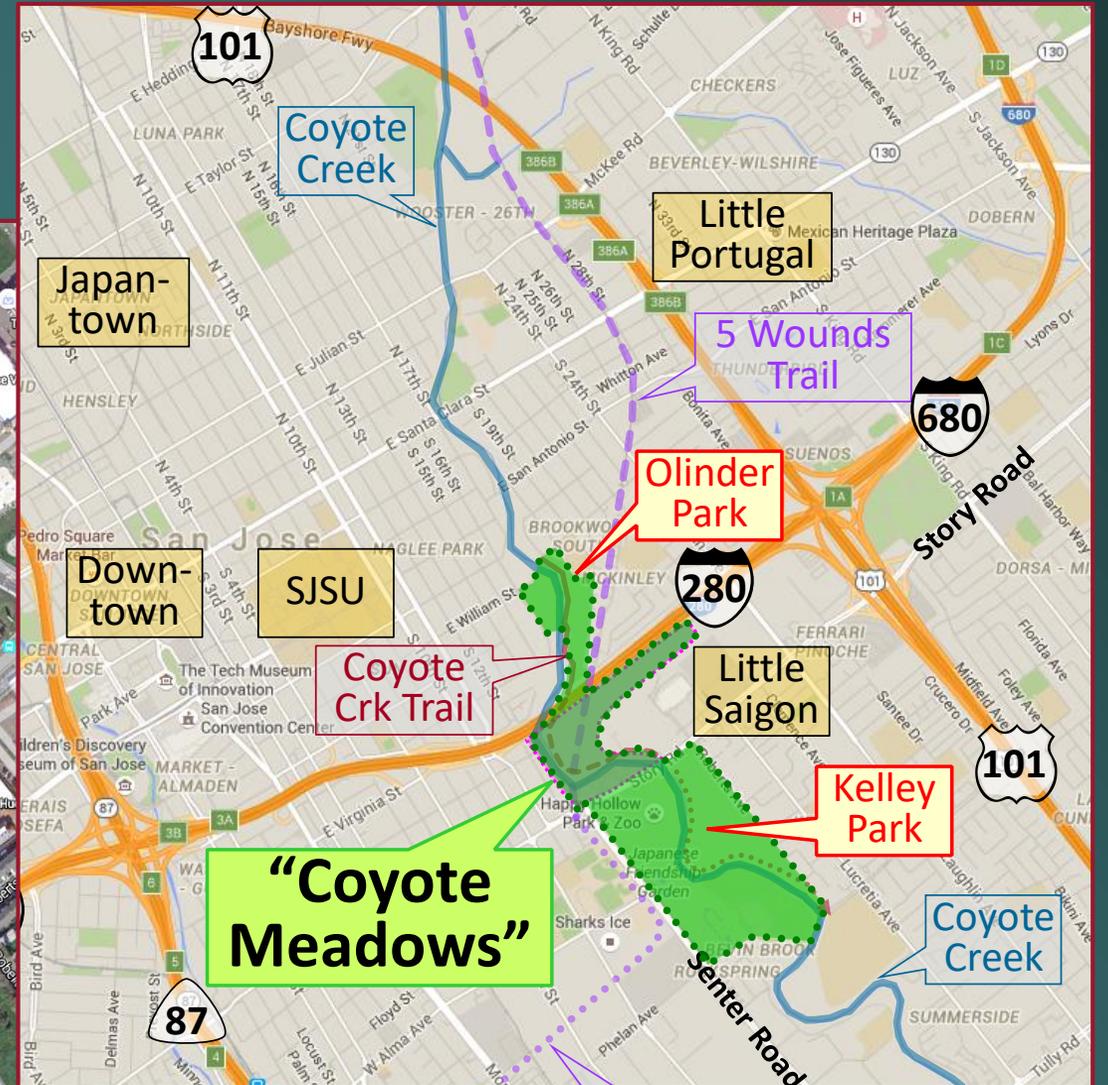
Five Wounds Portuguese Church
1375 East Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95116



RSVP
<http://bit.ly/JuneCityLoop>

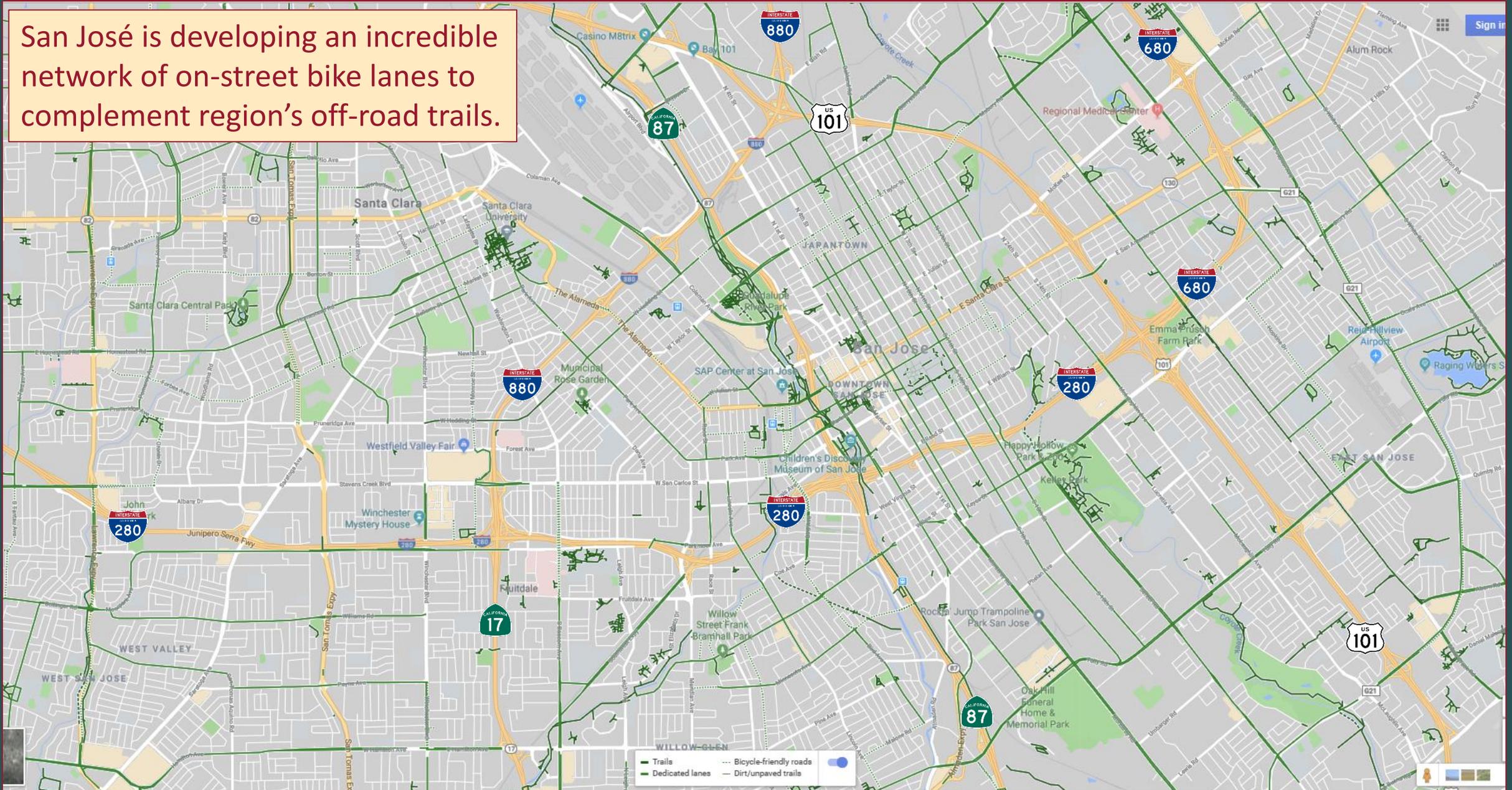


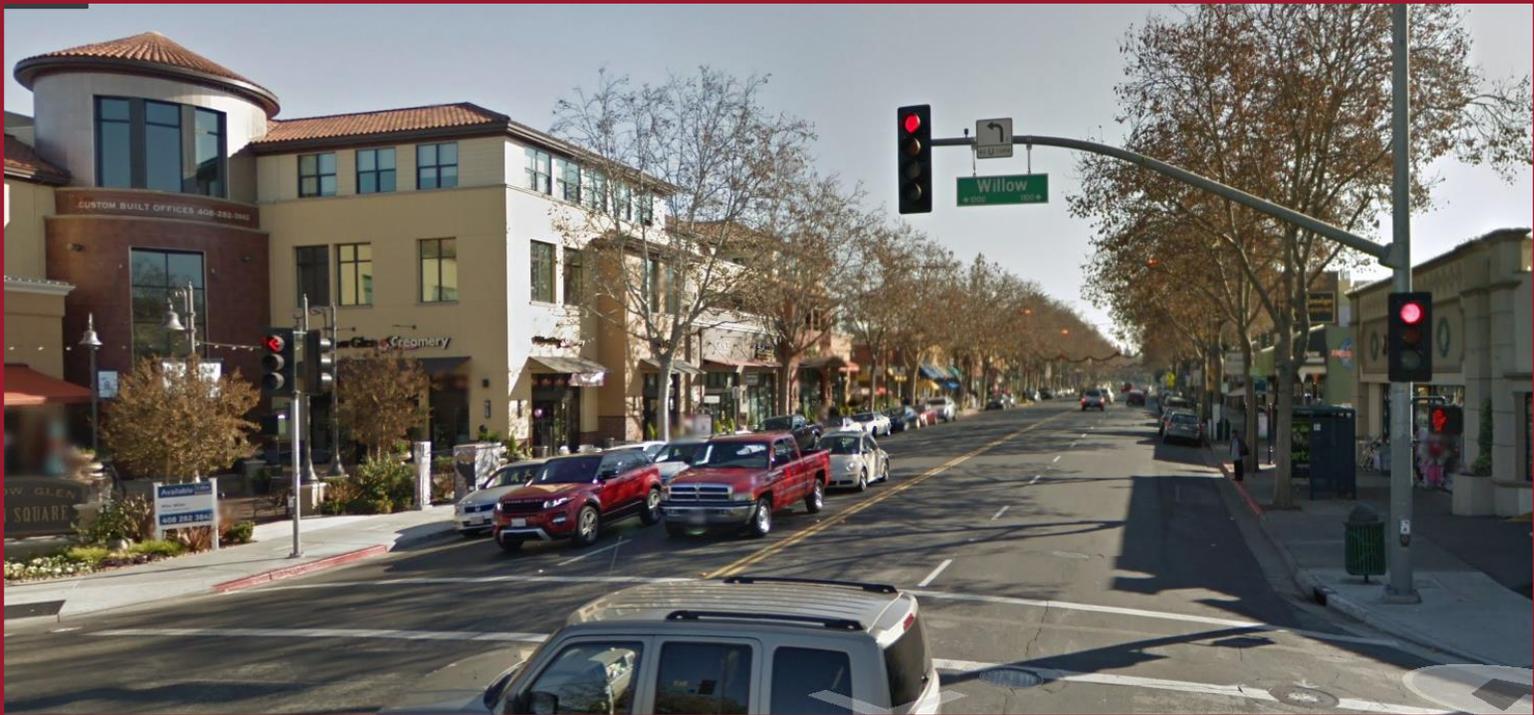
Coyote Meadows



<http://CoyoteMeadowsSJ.org/>

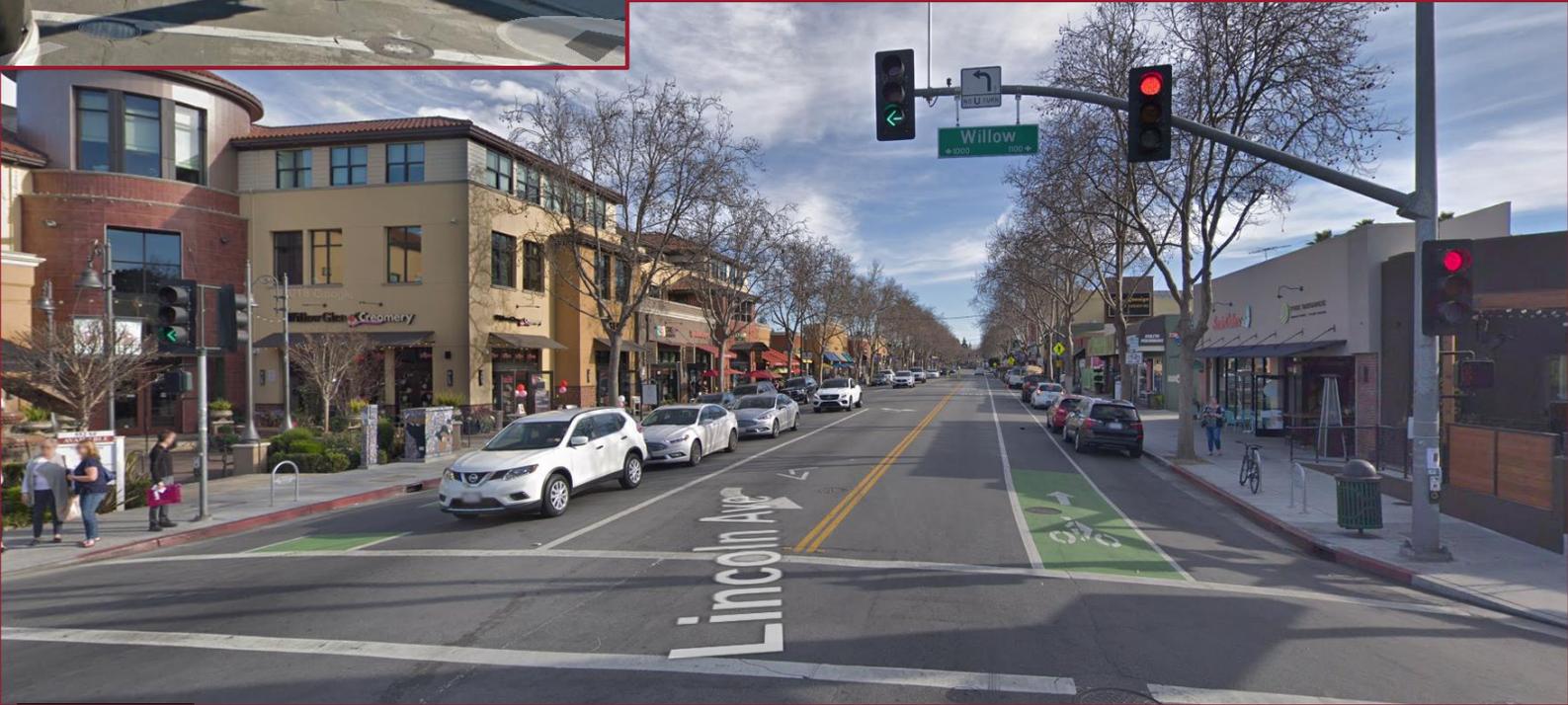
San José is developing an incredible network of on-street bike lanes to complement region's off-road trails.





Before
Road Diet
(Dec. 2013)

After
Road Diet
(Feb. 2018)

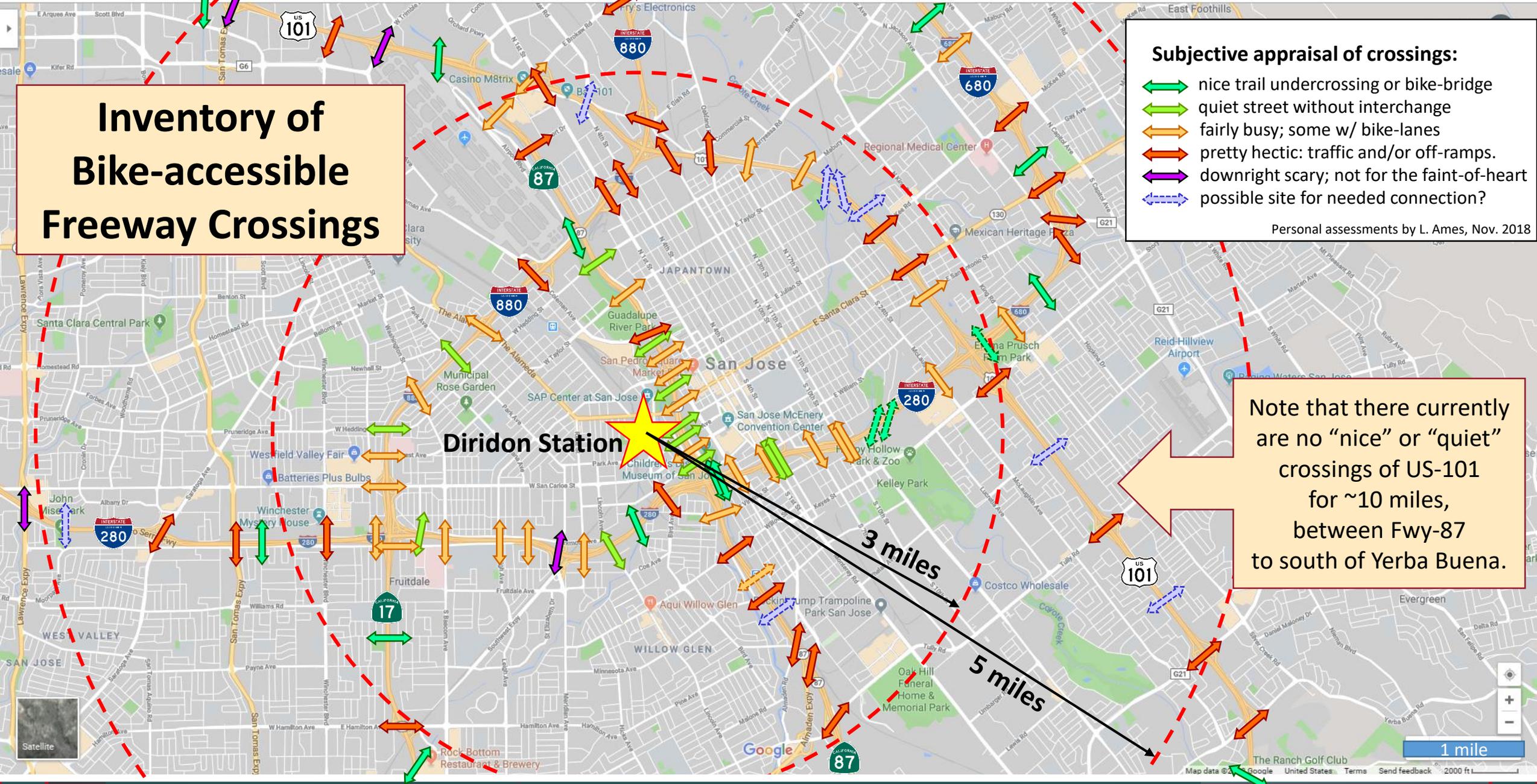


Inventory of Bike-accessible Freeway Crossings

Subjective appraisal of crossings:

- nice trail undercrossing or bike-bridge
- quiet street without interchange
- fairly busy; some w/ bike-lanes
- pretty hectic: traffic and/or off-ramps.
- downright scary; not for the faint-of-heart
- possible site for needed connection?

Personal assessments by L. Ames, Nov. 2018



Note that there currently are no "nice" or "quiet" crossings of US-101 for ~10 miles, between Fwy-87 to south of Yerba Buena.

Diridon Station

3 miles

5 miles

1 mile

Equality



Equity



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From ActivateSJ -- <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?NID=6331>

Goals in "ActivateSJ" (GreenPrint update)

- <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?NID=6331>
- This is a rewrite of the 2000 GreenPrint (PRNS Strategic Plan)
 - last updated 2009.
- 3.5 acres parkland per 1,000 residents
 - Park fee drives up the cost of housing
 - Waive fees for affordable housing?
 - Fewer parks for those who need it most: compact units w/o backyards.
- Have a park within 10-min (1/2 mile) walk of every resident
 - Necessary? Some parts of SJ are very sparse: few users per park
 - Sufficient? Some areas are very dense: parks need to be sized to accommodate all the users within the service area.
 - What to do about areas with unincorporated County pockets?

need for parks in commercial campus? picnics? lunch breaks?

central area: more development → more money for parks

west SJ: few parks, but many private backyards.

Downtown: are nearby parks adequate?

Also need to maintain our parks!

County pockets unserved?

underserved

Partners: County Parks; Open Space Auth.; MidPen.

Level of park need

- Very high
- High
- Moderate

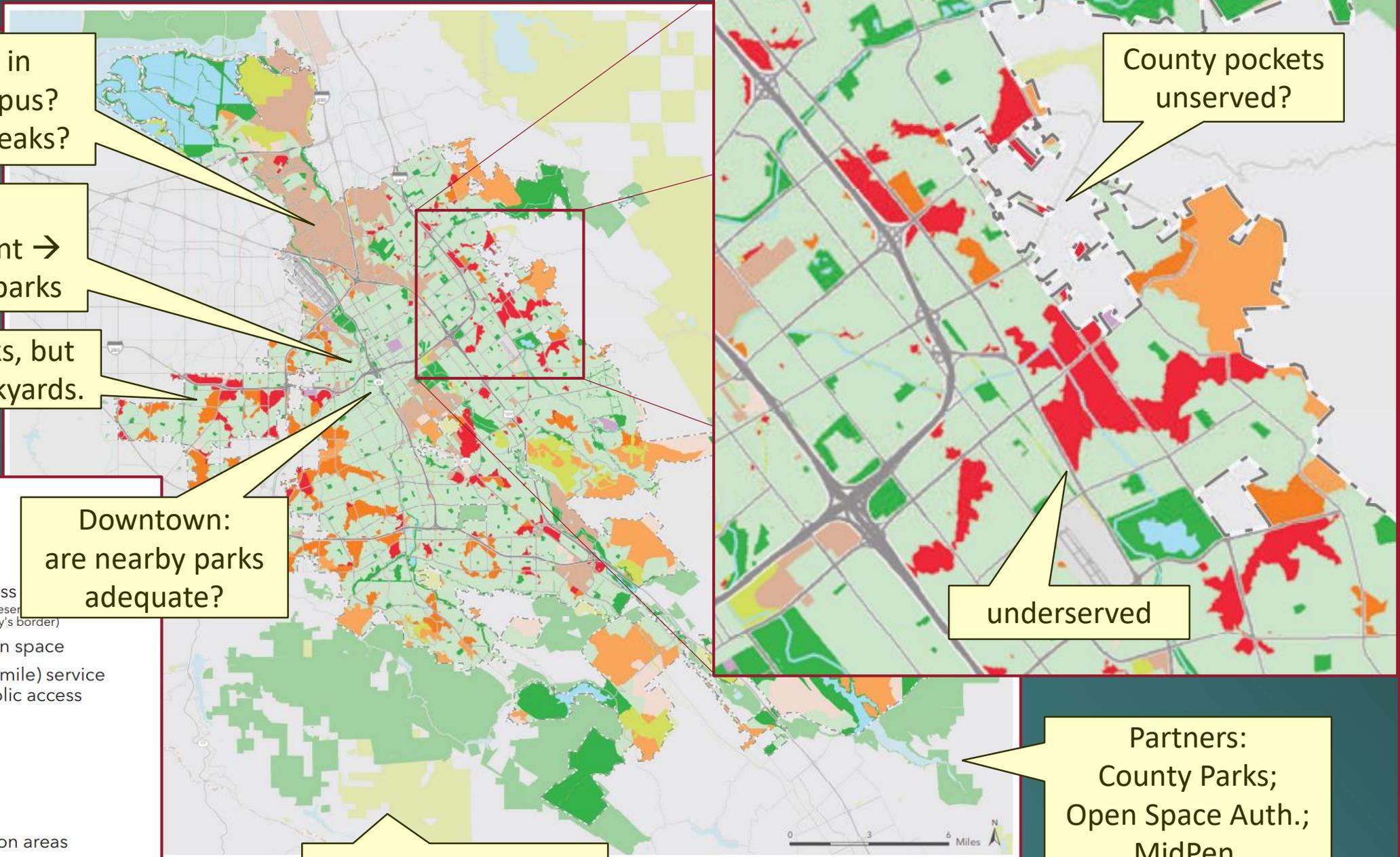
Park with public access
(Might include only partial representation with public access along the city's border)

- Other parks and open space
- 10-minute walk (half-mile) service area of park with public access

- Cemetery
- University
- Military
- Industrial

Vacant zero population areas

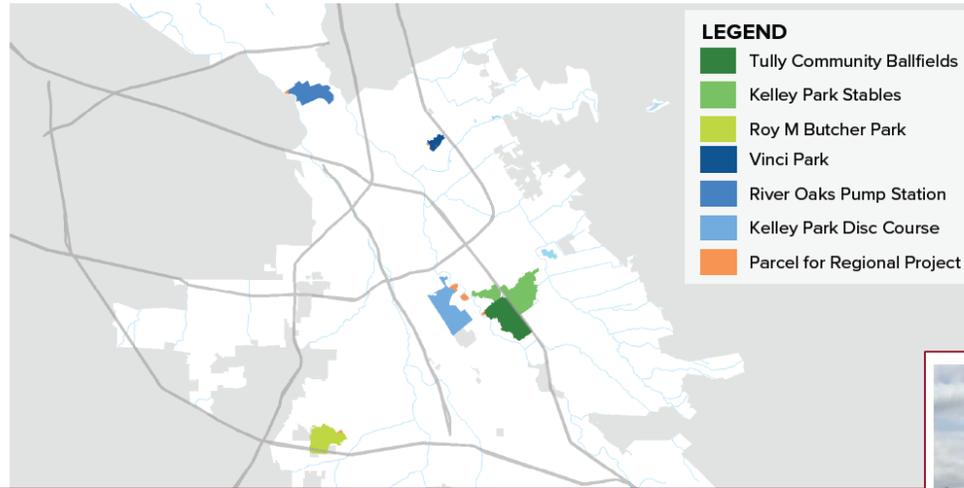
- City boundary
- County boundary



Keep the Parks that we do have ...

- Part of Lincoln Glen park has been ceded over for Fire Station 37
- Other parklands are being considered for future fire stations
 - and libraries? and affordable housing?
- An undefined portion of Arena Green is to be ceded over to the San José Light Tower Corp. for some future “icon”
 - <https://www.sanjoselighttower.com/>
- The Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) project has plans to use portions of city parks to capture and filter street runoff
 - marshy year-round: loss of use as parkland?
 - <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?NID=5722>

Drainage Area of Regional Project Candidates



Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI)



It's a nice illustration, complete with Photoshop'd birds. But land likely will be marshy due to run-off from broken sprinklers and washed cars, and contaminated by nearby industrial areas.

CONCEPT SITE DRAINAGE AREA



Sites selected by scores in a trade matrix:
 +5 points for the use of parkland,
 another +5 points if in a Disadvantaged Community ...

Summary

- There are many things happening!
- There are many ways to become involved!

Questions?

these charts are on-line at:
www.L-Ames.com/SVO_2019.pdf