TRANSFORMATIVE IMPACT

Connecting Open Space: The project links approximately 30,000 acres of protected public lands east and west of Highway 17—including Midpen preserves (Bear Creek Redwoods, El Sereno, St Joseph’s Hill and Sierra Azul) and Santa Clara County Parks (Lexington Reservoir, Sanborn and Almaden Quicksilver).

Closing Critical Gaps in the Regional Trail Network: The creation of additional trail segments will help close a major gap in the Bay Area Ridge Trail and ultimately establish a contiguous 50-mile section of trail from Russian Ridge Open Space Preserve to Almaden Quicksilver County Park.

Providing for Safe Movement of Wildlife and Recreational Trail Users: This area is a road-kill “hot spot.” Since 2008, one or more mountain lions have been killed each year by vehicle collisions on Highway 17 near the project area—in addition to 100 other animals, including deer, bobcats, foxes and coyotes, over the past decade. This project will meet the needs of both animals and recreational trail users by establishing a nonmotorized pathway across this high-speed, heavily trafficked road.

PROJECT ACTION PLAN

- Conduct environmental review (CEQA, NEPA)
- Develop construction plans, specifications and estimate
- Secure public access rights for crossing and trails
- Secure funding (Midpen is providing $15 million in Measure AA funds.)

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For information about the Bay Area Trails Collaborative, contact Laura Cohen: laura@railstotrails.org.
PROJECT LEADS

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
330 Distel Circle
Los Altos, CA 94022

Meredith Manning, Senior Planner
(Recreational trail crossing)
650.691.1200
mmanning@openspace.org

Aaron Peth, Planner III
(Connecting regional trails)
650.691.1200
apeth@openspace.org

Julie Andersen, Senior Resource Management Specialist
(Wildlife crossing)
650.691.1200
jandersen@openspace.org

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