

# Richmond-San Rafael Bridge - Bay Trail Connections (Marin)

*Richmond-San Rafael Bridge to Remillard Park in Larkspur*



**BAY AREA TRAILS  
COLLABORATIVE**

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

After much anticipation and decades of advocacy, a separated multiuse pathway across the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge (R-SR Bridge) opened in November 2019. Ridership has steadily increased since its opening, with a monthly high of 11,967 bicycle trips logged in May 2020 despite high-speed roads and a lack of bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure on the bridge's Marin side. This is in stark contrast to the East Bay side, where safe walking and bicycling connections have been seamlessly integrated into the region's active transportation network via a series of interconnected multiuse pathways.

Fortunately, the situation in Marin is beginning to improve. The Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA) and the Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) are pursuing funding to complete a 0.5-mile multiuse pathway along Francisco Boulevard, from the R-SR Bridge to Grange Avenue in San Rafael. This pathway, when complete, will connect users to a recently completed, protected bikeway that traverses the I-580 Freeway and terminates on Sir Francis Drake (SFD) Boulevard at the intersection of Andersen Drive. Once this project is finished, all that will remain in an otherwise car-free route between Marin's most popular bicycling routes and the East Bay is a 0.7-mile gap along SFD Boulevard between Andersen Drive and Remillard Park in Larkspur.

The Richmond-San Rafael Bridge – Bay Trail Connections project is one of 13 projects that the Bay Area Trails Collaborative has prioritized as critical to completing its 2,700-mile regional trail network. The Bay Area Trails Collaborative is a Rails-to-Trails Conservancy TrailNation™ project—a nationwide initiative to create model regional trail networks that demonstrate the powerful impact trails have on communities.

## PROJECT DATA

- **Total Project Miles:** 1.25
- **Miles Completed to Date:** 0.3
- **Total Miles in These Segments:**
  - R-SR Bridge to Grange Avenue: 0.25
  - Andersen Drive/Sir Francis Drake Blvd. to Remillard Park: 0.7
- **Total Estimated Cost for These Segments:**
  - R-SR Bridge to Grange Avenue: \$6.9 million
  - Andersen Drive/Sir Francis Drake Blvd. to Remillard Park: Unknown
- **Funds Secured for These Segments:**
  - R-SR Bridge to Grange Avenue: \$1.9 million
  - Andersen Drive/Sir Francis Drake Blvd. to Remillard Park: \$0



A nearly complete bidirectional bikeway connecting Francisco Boulevard in San Rafael with Sir Francis Drake (SFD) Boulevard in Larkspur

## TRANSFORMATIVE IMPACT

**Creating Linkages:** Completing the Bay Trail between the R-SR Bridge and Larkspur would provide the missing link between the East Bay's trail network and the epicenter of Marin County's trail network, establishing connections to the North-South Greenway (Marin's primary north-south bike route), the Corte Madera Creek Trail (a route between Ross and Larkspur) and sections of the Bay Trail in San Rafael and Corte Madera.

**Safe Routes to Jobs:** Westbound traffic congestion over the R-SR Bridge has dramatically increased in recent years, with many people who work in Marin commuting from across the San Francisco Bay due to the high cost of housing. These connections to the R-SR Bridge will provide a safe alternative to driving for the nearly 4,000 people who work in the vicinity of the proposed pathway connections, making bicycling a viable option for cross-bay commuters.

**Connecting East San Rafael to the Bridge:** People who live in San Rafael's eastern neighborhoods—including the Canal Area, a densely-populated Metropolitan Transportation Commission-designated [community of concern](#)—currently enjoy access to 2 miles of continuous Bay Trail along the eastern shoreline, but face a challenging final half-mile of roadway to reach the R-SR Bridge. Completing this trail gap would result in a seamless connection between the Canal Area and the bridge.

## PROJECT ACTION PLAN

- Support funding applications for the 0.25-mile segment from the R-SR Bridge to Grange Avenue.
- Encourage TAM to prioritize completion of the 0.7-mile segment between Andersen Drive/Sir Francis Drake Blvd. and Remillard Park in Larkspur:
  - Update project cost estimates (previously studied and conceptually designed in 2011).
  - Secure funding to complete environmental/engineering work, followed by construction.

## PROJECT LEADS

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*Published October, 2020*



## PARTNERS AND STAKEHOLDERS:



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