

Guadalupe River Trail

Virginia Street to Chynoweth Avenue Gap Closure



PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Guadalupe River Trail is a regional trail in the City of San Jose that, upon completion, will connect the San Francisco Bay Trail to South San Jose via Downtown San Jose, with links to several connector trails in between. More than half of the trail has already been developed, with over 9 miles extending from the San Francisco Bay to Downtown San Jose, and over 1 mile in South San Jose. In addition to making regional trail connections, the tranquil riverside pathway will ultimately connect users to the 250-acre Guadalupe River Park, the world-class SAP Center (home of the San Jose Sharks) and some of the region's largest employers.

The Guadalupe River Trail is a recreation and active transportation treasure for both the City of San Jose and the larger Bay Area. Annual trail access already approaches 1 million users and is projected to increase significantly once the entire trail is complete. Development of the Guadalupe River Trail's final 6 miles from the downtown area to South San Jose is a top priority for the city, as it will establish a core spine of the citywide trail network. The trail has already gained national recognition as one of four trails within San Jose's growing trail network designated as part of the National Recreation Trail System.¹

The Guadalupe River Trail 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 trail networks that demonstrate the powerful impact trails have on communities.

PROJECT DATA

- Total Project Miles: 19
- Miles Completed to Date: 12.6
 - 9.4 miles: Gold Street (Bay Trail) to Virginia Street (downtown core); open and paved Class I bikeway
 - 1.4 miles: Chynoweth Avenue to Coleman Road; open and paved Class I bikeway
- Total Miles in This Segment: 6 (Virginia Street to Chynoweth Avenue)
- Total Cost for This Segment: \$46.3 million (for 6.0-mile Virginia Street to Chynoweth Avenue gap closure)
- Funds Secured for This Segment: \$1.35 million

TRANSFORMATIVE IMPACT

Urban Trail Experience Serving 1 Million Users: The Guadalupe River Trail system (from Downtown San Jose to the San Francisco Bay) is used by more than 920,000 people annually² with up to 55% reporting regular commuting to and from work.³

Safe, Separated Path Through Silicon Valley: The trail extends 9.4 miles from Downtown San Jose to the Bay with only two at-grade crossings, with many of San Jose's largest employers along the way.

Melding Public Art and History: A 12-foot tall "Lupe the Mammoth" sculpture celebrates the discovery of fossils along the banks of the Guadalupe River; the public art piece now greets trail users just north of Norman Y. Mineta San Jose International Airport.⁴

PROJECT ACTION PLAN

- Proceed with design from Chynoweth Avenue to Branham Lane
- Secure right-of-way and negotiate joint trail agreements with public agencies from West Virginia Street to Chynoweth Avenue
- Track and align project development with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers flood control projects along the corridor where project overlaps
- Funding needed:
 - \$47 million for full development; includes four bridge structures that will ensure equity and access for adjacent neighborhood⁵
 - Leverage local funds to actively pursue local, state and federal grant funding resources

PARTNERS AND STAKEHOLDERS



SAN JOSE
PARKS, RECREATION &
NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES



Building Community Through Fun



Published May 2019

PROJECT LEAD

Yves Zsutty, Trail (Park) Manager
Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services
Trail Program
408.793.5561



Map of proposed Guadalupe River Trail gap closure route in San Jose, California | Photo courtesy City of San Jose

railstotrails.org/bay-area | [@RailstoTrails](https://www.facebook.com/RailstoTrails)

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

¹<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?NID=2891>

²<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/71874>

³<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/72040>

⁴<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/47682>

⁵<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/70280>