

# SMART PATHWAY

*Main Street to East Railroad Avenue (Sonoma County) and Puerto Suello Hill to North San Pedro Road (Marin County)*



**BAY AREA TRAILS  
COLLABORATIVE**

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

When complete, the Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit (SMART) Pathway will connect bicyclists and pedestrians to jobs, schools, transit hubs, housing and other destinations via a 71.3-mile multiuse trail alongside the SMART commuter rail system in Sonoma and Marin counties. Thus far, 28 miles of the pathway have been constructed (20.6 of which comprise a separated bicycle and walking path), 9.5 miles are under construction (as of June 2023), and the remaining 33.7 miles are either planned or in design. This project profile highlights two of the most important gaps along the pathway: Main Street to East Railroad Avenue in Sonoma County; and Puerto Suello Hill to North San Pedro Road in Marin County. Filling these gaps will result in increased connectivity throughout the region and boost the current usership.

**Marin County Segment:** When paired with an additional already-funded pathway segment, the Marin County segment will create an unbroken pathway between the City of Larkspur and the Gallinas Creek watershed and Hamilton Wetlands—comprising some of the county's premier outdoor recreational space. It will also connect northern San Rafael's equity priority communities with the city's downtown core.

**Sonoma County Segment:** The Sonoma County segment will connect the existing Class IV bikeway that currently terminates at East Railroad Avenue with a separated pathway. This will result in a continuous pathway from Petaluma to Windsor (including pathways currently under construction) and create new car-free connections to thousands of jobs for underserved neighborhoods in the area.

The SMART Pathway is one of 12 projects that the Bay Area Trails Collaborative has prioritized as critical to completing its 2,600-miles-plus regional trail network. The Bay Area Trails Collaborative is a Rails-to-Trails Conservancy TrailNation™ project—a nationwide initiative to create model trail networks and ultimately connect the country by trail.

## PROJECT DATA

- **Total Project Miles:** 71.3 (31.1 miles constructed or under construction)
- **Total Project Cost:** \$100+ million to date (SMART estimate)
- **Total Miles in These Segments:** 0.5 (Marin segment), 1.5 (Sonoma segment)
- **Total Costs for These Segments:** \$3.1 million to \$5.5 million (Marin segment), TBD for the Sonoma segment



*Rendering of proposed trail along SMART train right-of-way | Courtesy Sonoma-Marín Area Rapid Transit (SMART)*

## TRANSFORMATIVE IMPACT

**Connecting Communities:** The SMART Pathway priority project segments not only link equity priority communities on the outskirts of town to their city centers, but also connect these communities to the SMART commuter rail system.

**Reducing Congestion and Air Pollution:** Traffic congestion along the U.S. Route 101 corridor has increased dramatically in the last decade. U.S. 101 is one of the most congested freeways in the Bay Area; three of its North Bay segments made the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's "Top 50 Congested Locations, 2017—Ordered by Rank." Increasing active transportation along the pathway will reduce traffic congestion and air pollution along the U.S. 101 corridor by providing a safe and enjoyable alternative to driving.

**Access to Open Space:** In Sonoma County, the outdoor recreation sector contributes \$731 million annually to the local economy, and provides residents and visitors access to the region's beautiful and diverse landscapes.<sup>3</sup> Similarly, in 2019, Marin County saw between 12 million and 14 million visitors, contributing \$780 million in visitor spending. Completing the SMART Pathway will improve regional connections to key outdoor spaces, which would serve to strengthen both the outdoor recreation industry and the local economy.

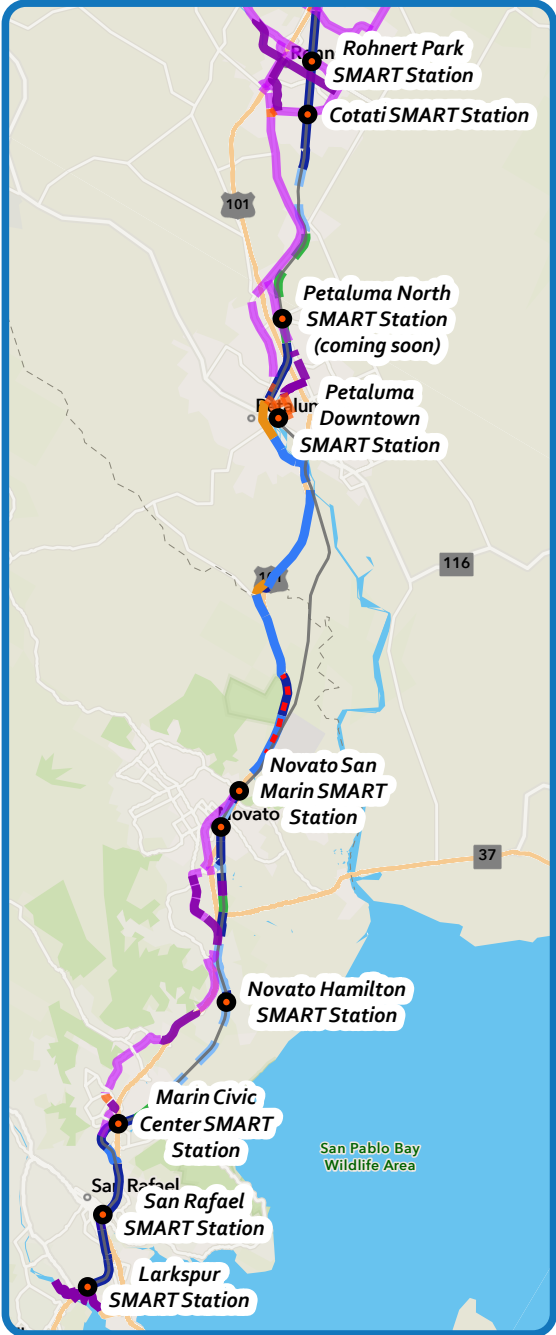
PROJECT ACTION PLAN

SMART and the City of San Rafael jointly funded a feasibility study for the Marin County trail segment. SMART is working on design and permitting, as well as seeking funding sources in conjunction with San Rafael.

Design is complete for the Sonoma segment, and funding needs to be secured.

PROJECT CONTACT

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● SMART Station	— SMART Track
— SMART Pathway Alignment	— City/County Gap Closure and Connecting Pathway
■ Class I Off-street Multi-use Pathway	■ Class I - Off-street Multi-use Pathway
■ Class I Off-street Multi-use Pathway (Planned)	■ Class II - On-street Striped Bike Lane
■ Class I Off-street Multi-use Pathway (Funded)	■ Class II - On-street Striped Bike Lane (Planned)
■ Class II On-street Striped Bike Lane	■ Class III - On-street Shared Car & Bike Route
■ Class III On-street Shared Car & Bike Route	■ Class IV - On-street Separated Bikeway
■ Class II On-street Striped Bike Lane (Planned)	
■ Class IV On-street Separated Bikeway	