

Friends of Stevens Creek Trail Press Release: Trail Medallion & Signage Project

For immediate release: July 2022

First Installation Stevens Creek Trail Medallion

The Friends of Stevens Creek Trail (The Friends) is excited to announce the first installation of the new symbol to unify the Stevens Creek Trail (SCT) in Santa Clara County. The new medallion can now be found on 4 miles of trails in Monte Bello Open Space Preserve. This achievement is in partnership with Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (Midpen) that began in July 2020. In October 2021, Midpen's Board approved the designation of the White Oak, Skid Road, and Stevens Creek Nature Trails as part of the regional Stevens Creek Trail.



Midpen Planner Melissa Borgesi Shares New Trail Symbol with Friends President Greg Unangst in Monte Bello Open Space Preserve

The new symbol was developed to better highlight the route for its many users following the Creek as it descends from the Santa Cruz Mountains to the Bay. The Friends collaborated on medallion design with local agencies from the cities of Mountain View, Sunnyvale, Cupertino, and Los Altos, and the regional organizations of Santa Clara County Parks and Midpen. SCT jurisdictions can choose to add this distinct symbol to their own unique signage along existing or planned trail segments to improve trail recognition and identity.

Friends of Stevens Creek Trail

Press Release: Trail Medallion & Signage Project

“The Friends is extremely pleased to now have Stevens Creek Trail in Monte Bello Open Space Preserve. This is a substantial addition to the Trail where users can enjoy the views and natural setting of a mountain environment. Midpen is also the first to deploy the new SCT medallion, developed in collaboration with all of our regional Trail partners. The medallion will help unify the Trail throughout the corridor. In Monte Bello, the medallions mark the furthest upstream portion of the Trail, a big step towards completing it from the mountains to the bay,” said Friends of Stevens Creek Trail President Greg Unangst.

Complete Trail Now In View

A project imagined in 1961 and underway since 1991, the Trail is now roughly 14 miles long with more segments in development or planned. The small local non-profit, Friends of Stevens Creek Trail, has supported the Trail from the very beginning, their mission being to promote community involvement and pride in the completion, enhancement and enjoyment of trails and wildlife corridors in the Stevens Creek watershed. The Friends’ goal has always been for the SCT to connect the Mountains to the Bay, following Stevens Creek as closely as possible.

Since the Trail crosses many different areas with a range of identifiers, it became clear that it also needed a consistent image of its own to be easily recognized and followed as other multi-regional trails currently are. The Friends initiated the project to develop the uniform signage and leads a working group consisting of members from all the Trail jurisdictions to guide the effort.



Graphics of the new symbol and an example directional arrow.

Benefits of the new, dedicated signage include: improved Trail navigation for users at low and high speed; highlighting features and points of interest; giving the Trail a strong identity that helps promote the Valley’s regional trail networks including Bay Area Ridge and SF Bay Trails; raising awareness of the Stevens Creek wildlife corridor; encouraging community involvement in conservation; and promoting Trail completion and enhancement, as well as community pride in it.

Look out for the new signage when you’re exploring the hills this summer!

[End]

Friends of Stevens Creek Trail

Press Release: Trail Medallion & Signage Project

About the Trail

Stevens Creek Trail currently consists of several segments in different jurisdictions of the region. A five mile segment is complete in Mountain View from Shoreline Park to Dale-Heatherstone Avenue, close to the Sunnyvale border. Mountain View will begin study of an extension from Dale-Heatherstone to Remington Avenue in 2023 as part of their VTA Measure B project. Mountain View also plans to extend the Trail further into the Bay via the multi-agency Salt Pond Restoration Project.

Cupertino opened its first section of trail in 2010 with a one mile segment from Stevens Creek Boulevard to McClellan Ranch. An additional 0.3 mile extension between McClellan Ranch Preserve and Linda Vista Park was completed in June 2021.

These segments join the 3.2 mile Stevens Creek Tony Look Trail in Stevens Creek County Park that runs from the park entrance to Stevens Canyon Road.

In 2021, the Midpen designated 4 miles of trail in the Monte Bello Open Space Preserve as part of the regional Stevens Creek Trail.

In 2022, Sunnyvale started the design of their segment from Remington Avenue to Fremont Avenue. This is part of their VTA Measure B project funding.

Ultimately, the completed trail will consist of 25 miles from the Santa Cruz Mountains in Monte Bello Open Space Preserve to the Bay in Mountain View Shoreline Park. Running through tidal marshlands and natural riparian habitats, the Trail provides recreation and education opportunities. It is regularly used, for example, for cycling, bird watching, commuting, dog walking, hiking, jogging, nature walks, running and skating.

About the Friends

The Friends of Stevens Creek Trail is a local community group whose goal is to raise community awareness and support for the completion of a trail in the Stevens Creek Corridor; the only organization dedicated to extending the Stevens Creek Trail from San Francisco Bay to the Santa Cruz Mountains while safeguarding the wildlife corridors of the Stevens and Permanente creeks.



Founded in December of 1992 to support on-going local government efforts, the Friends was incorporated as a 501(c)3 public benefit nonprofit corporation in March of 1993. The Board of Directors of the Friends of Stevens Creek Trail is made up of dedicated volunteers from the communities that the creek runs through.

Contact

Executive Director: Rajiv Mathur

E-mail: rajiv_mathur@stevenscreektrail.org

Telephone: (408) 255-5780