



**City of St. Helena
Parks & Recreation Commission
Special Meeting
Monday, November 14 @ 5:30pm
Carnegie Building - Second Floor
1360 Oak Avenue**

PLEASE NOTE: Any person who wishes to speak regarding an item on the agenda or make a comment under the "Oral Communication" portion of the agenda may do so, but please observe the time limit of four minutes.

Simultaneous Spanish interpretation services during meetings can be scheduled upon request. To ensure interpreters are available, requests must be made at least 72 hours in advance by calling the Office of the City Clerk at (707) 968-2640 or emailing cityclerk@cityofstheleena.org. The schedule of upcoming meetings and published meeting agendas can be found on the City of St. Helena website at [/portal/](http://portal/).

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El horario de las reuniones publicadas y próximas puede ser localizado en el sitio de web de la Ciudad en [/portal/](http://portal/).

Page

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
Commission Chair: Michelle Deasy
Vice Chair: Matthew Demchuk
Members: Doug Boeschen, Tye Taylor, and Rebekah Weeman
City Council Member Liaison: Eric Hall
Staff Liaison: Dave Jahns, Parks and Recreation Director
3. REPORTS BY STAFF AND COMMISSION
Reports by staff and/or commission on items of general interest. Brief questions for clarification may be posed and answered, and Commission may request that items be placed on a future agenda. Except under certain circumstances, **the Brown Act prohibits any other discussion or action by the Parks and Recreation Commission.**
 - 3.1. City Staff
 - Parks Maintenance Update
 - Recreation Services Update
 - 3.2. City Council Liaison Update
 - 3.3. Commissioners Update
 - Park Observations
 - Subcommittee Updates

- 3.4. Receive a presentation from the Trails and Open Space Committee on the Walking Routes, Trails, and Publicly Accessible Open Space Draft Plan 3 - 109
- Discussion Item/Staff Report
- Prepared By: Dave Jahns, Parks & Recreation Director
- [Trails and Open Space Draft Plan Staff Report](#)
- [Walking Routes, Trails & Publicly Accessible Open Space Draft Report 2022](#)
- [Figure 5.6 - Walking Loops and Trails Map Addendum](#)
- [Public Comment Hyde](#)
- [Public Comment Nirenberg](#)
- [Public Comment Jacobacci](#)
- [Public Comment Patrick Kenealy](#)
- [Public Comment Ric Henry](#)
- [Public Comment Christopher Cole](#)
- [Public Comment Blue Zones](#)
4. CONSENT CALENDAR:
- Members of the Parks and Recreation Commission or the public may ask that any items be considered individually for purposes of considering alternative action, for extended discussion, or for public comment. Unless that is done, on motion may be used to adopt all recommendation actions.
- 4.1. Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes of October 17, 2022 110 - 112
- [Draft Minutes October 17 Meeting](#)
5. SCHEDULED MATTERS:
- 5.1. Review Commission's 22-23 Goals and Subcommittee Assignments 113
- Discussion Item/No Staff Report
- Prepared By: Dave Jahns, Parks & Recreation Director
- [PRC 2022-23 Goals and Committee Assignments 10.17.22](#)
6. ADJOURNMENT

The next regular Parks and Recreation Commission meeting is scheduled for December 19, 2022 at 5:30 pm, Carnegie Building, 1360 Oak Avenue.

This agenda was posted at City Hall, 1572 Railroad Avenue and 1360 Oak Avenue on November 11, 2022

/s/ Dave Jahns

Dave Jahns, Parks & Recreation Director

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in the meeting, please contact City Hall at (707) 967-2792. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting (28 CFR35.102-35.104 ADA Title II). However, City staff will attempt to assist at any time with accessibility.



Report to the Parks and Recreation
Commission
Special Meeting of November 14, 2022

Agenda Section: Scheduled Matters – Item 5.1

Subject: Presentation from the Trails and Open Space Subcommittee on the Walking Routes, Trails, and Publicly Accessible Open Space Draft Plan

**CEQA
Determination:** Not a CEQA project

Prepared By: Dave Jahns, Parks & Recreation Director

Reviewed By: Dave Jahns, Parks & Recreation Director

Approved By: Dave Jahns, Parks & Recreation Director

BACKGROUND

In 2019, The Parks and Recreation Commission established a Trails and Open Space ad-hoc subcommittee as part of their annual workplan. The subcommittee's mission was to develop a framework which recommends how to accomplish walking, access, passive recreation, and connectivity goals contained within the 2019 General Plan and the 2017 Pedestrian Plan.

The subcommittee, consisting of Parks & Recreation Commissioners, local volunteers, and contributions from City staff, spent two and a half years studying relevant plans and projects, researching existing and potential trails, and mapping potential walking paths throughout St. Helena. The product of the subcommittee's work is a comprehensive report called the Walking Routes, Trails, and Publicly Accessible Open Space Draft Plan (Plan) that lays the groundwork for a network of paths and trails, which encourage more pedestrian activity and connections throughout the City and adjacent unincorporated areas.

The Plan provides a proposed sequence of steps, budget, timeline, and suggested staff and community resources needed for implementation over an anticipated four-year period. The report is broken down into five sections and accompanying appendices:

1. Published Walking Loops and Trails
2. Existing Opportunities for Walking Paths and Trails

3. Voluntary Open Space Easements or Access
4. Development Agreements
5. Implementation Framework
6. Appendices

If adopted, implementation of the Plan would be carried out by the subcommittee, in partnership with City staff, with necessary approvals moving through the the Parks and Recreation Commission, Planning Commission, and City Council as appropriate.

DISCUSSION

The subcommittee initially presented a draft of the Plan to the Parks & Recreation Commission at their July 26, 2021 meeting, at which time the Commission provided their endorsement of the Plan to move forward for City Council adoption. Since that meeting, staff recognized the need to bring forward a General Plan Amendment as part of the approval process, so that the network of trails shown in the Plan is consistent with the Pedestrian Facilities (Figure 5.4) section of the City's General Plan. During this time, staff also created a draft map of the proposed walking loops and trail (Figure 5.6), attached as an addendum.

One other change to highlight is the discussion of the Adams – Pine Pathway (Section 1, subsection 2, Item B, pages 24-25). Members of the subcommittee met with City staff in the Planning and Police Department to discuss neighborhood security concerns around this space. While the subcommittee encourages pursuing this pathway as part of the future network of walking paths, the recommendation for this item has been revised as noted below:

Section 1, subsection 2, Item B (Adams – Pine Pathway)

- July 2021 recommendation:
 - Take down gate currently blocking public access
 - Engage in a one-time clean-up so no debris blocks the path
- October 2022 revised recommendation:
 - Once priority items within the plan have been executed, consult with neighbors and police department to consider removal of the gate currently blocking public access
 - If the paths is re-opened, engage in a one-time clean-up so no debris blocks the path

No other major changes have been made to the Plan since the commission last reviewed it in July 2021.

The purpose of this meeting's discussion is to provide the Commission and community the opportunity to provide public feedback prior to the Plan moving forward to the Planning Commission for review in 2023. Members of the Trails and Open Space Committee and City staff will be present to provide an overview of the Plan, provide an outline of next steps, and answer questions.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no direct fiscal impact with this meeting's discussion item, though the subcommittee estimates the following budget assumptions for implementation in the report:

Marketing:

- Web-site and map design: \$10,000
- Digital print maps: \$10,000

Capital costs:

- Benches: \$1,000 per bench
- Picnic tables: \$2,000 per table
- Sign design (one-time): \$5,000
- Signs: \$250 per sign
- Fencing and new gates: \$20,000
- Stone steps design/build: \$20,000
- Walking trail building: \$70,000 per mile
- Vegetation: \$1,000 per mile
- Gravel parking: \$2 per square foot

Any outcomes of the proposed plan that would have a significant impact on the City's budget, would be brought forward as individual items for consideration at future Commission and/or City Council meetings as appropriate.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Staff recommends that the Commission review and provide feedback on the Walking Routes, Trails, and Publicly Accessible Space Draft Plan Trails as desired.



Walking Routes, Trails, and Publicly Accessible Open Space

REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

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Executive Summary

In this report, the Parks & Recreation Commission's Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Walking Routes, Trails, and Publicly Accessible Open Space presents its findings and recommendations to help the City of St. Helena become a world-class rural walking town.

The report provides the sequence of steps, budget, timeline, and suggested staff and community resources over an anticipated four-year period. The aim is to protect existing walking paths, expand walking opportunities today, and create ways to enhance this legacy in the future. The key components of the report are:

- (1) A proposed set of ***published walking loops & trails*** which will require minimal planning and development activities. These could be accomplished in Q1 to Q3 of 2022-23, and ready for a celebratory "Opening Day" on April 22 (Earth Day), 2023.
- (2) A number of ***existing opportunities for walking paths and trails***. These include already identified and existing pedestrian paths in the General Plan and Pedestrian Plan, city-owned walking opportunity properties, and city-owned easements that could be converted to walking opportunities. Signage and fairly minimal restoration work are identified as well as a timeline for the work running through Q3 of 2026. New trail openings could be celebrated on Earth Day in April of each year for the next 4 years.
- (3) A ***plan for voluntary open space easements or access***, to allow open space lands to remain open for those property owners who volunteer to allow access—creating a win-win for property owners and walkers. It is expected that a demonstration route could be completed within year 1 in time for spring 2023.
- (4) A model for ***development agreements***, in which new projects contribute to St. Helena's network of walking trails as part of their permit approval process. These agreements to include walking trails have a long history in this town and should be codified as part of the city's negotiation posture. Updates to the city's permitting process could be complete mid-way through FY 2023-24.

Low- to no- cost opportunities (of which there are many) will be taken on first. Undertakings requiring more meaningful funding are presented as potential, but optional, opportunities for the future. Taken together, the work represents a modest investment with large scale benefit. There will also be some private participation in certain items, such as benches. City staff will oversee the activities in partnership with subcommittee members, other residents, Parks and Recreation committee members and other interested parties from the community.

This report is the result of over 2.5 years of work by local volunteers under the auspices of the Parks & Recreation Commission and helps lay the groundwork for a significant community amenity that will enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors

Overview

The Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Walking Routes, Trails, and Publicly Accessible Open Space was created by the Parks & Recreation Commission in early 2019. Its mission is to develop a comprehensive and clearly articulated framework for the City of St. Helena to deliver the walking, access, passive recreation, and connectivity goals contained within the 2019 General Plan and the 2017 Pedestrian Plan.

The city can be a center for walking and passive recreation, creating a year-round amenity for those who live, work, and visit our lovely town. As we have seen during the pandemic, we are a walking and walkable rural town—and not just by those needing to get in their steps. By adding the specific elements within this plan, we believe the city can further take advantage of existing but currently unavailable pathways and our spectacular setting and abundant rural charm, providing an additional world-class amenity beyond our wines, wineries, food, and hospitality.

Adopting all the elements of this plan—protecting existing walking paths, expanding walking opportunities today, and creating ways to enhance this legacy in the future—will improve the quality of life for full-time residents, will attract new visitors, and will encourage existing visitors to spend additional time in town, which will also further help our downtown to remain a lively and active place and help our merchants.

The goal of this report is to preserve, develop and open walking paths. Walking paths, as compared with multi-modal trails, are attractive for several reasons: they can be used more safely by older walkers and younger children, who may not mix well with fast-moving bicycle traffic; they have less impact on the surrounding environment and on neighbors and neighborhoods; and they are cheaper and easier to develop, build and maintain. At the same time, multimodal and bicycle paths are an important part of transportation and recreation in this town, and the existing Napa River Walk included in this report is in fact a multimodal trail.

The city should adopt these policies under the banner of “St. Helena Trails and Open Space” as other cities do, to allow for a unified name and branding.

This report contains 5 sections and an appendix:

1. Published walking loops and trails **Page 7**

Mapped and signed walking paths of various lengths which start and finish at the chamber headquarters downtown, to take advantage of existing historic, open space, church and residential walks for visitors.

2. Existing opportunities for walking paths and trails **Page 20**

A set of no- to low-cost improvements to be made to the City of St. Helena's existing pedestrian paths as shown in the General Plan and Pedestrian Plan, as well as opening up existing trails on city-owned property to enhance the walking experience for residents and guests. Some require additional work with other stakeholders before adoption.

3. Voluntary open space access or easements **Page 44**

Agreements the city can use with property owners who voluntarily welcome pedestrians to specific pathways on their property in exchange for liability coverage, allowing an expansion of walking opportunities in St. Helena.

4. Development agreements **Page 48**

These are agreements the city can use to encourage walking access and dedicated easements in larger developments in town. It is expected that most times these follow existing walking routes that have been used by residents for years when the land either lay fallow or was used for agricultural uses.

5. Implementation Framework **Page 51**

Anticipated as a four year project, the plan provides the sequence of activities, budget, timeline, and suggested staff and community resources.

6. Appendices **Page 56**

Maps, resources from other jurisdictions, and additional findings to help create a truly walkable town uncovered during our investigations.

Those that contributed to this report include:

- Committee members
 - Anne Cottrell, law
 - Michelle Deasy, non-profit management
 - Bob Frescura, retired landscaping
 - David Knudsen, data and technology
 - Richard Seiferheld, retired real-estate
 - Pam Smithers, retired accounting
 - Rebekah Weeman, marketing
- Staff
 - Mark Prestwich, City Manager
 - Maya DeRosa, Planning and Building Director
 - Andre Pichly, Parks & Recreation Director (former)
 - Mark Rincón-Ibarra, Public Works Director/City Engineer
 - John Wanger, Public Works/Engineering Consultant, Coastland
- Parks & Recreation Commission
 - Matthew Demchuk, Chair
 - Rebekah Weeman, Vice-chair
 - Michelle Deasy
 - Tye Taylor
 - Susan Kenward (former)

Thanks also to many members of the public with whom the subcommittee met, and who provided both insight and help, and gave advice and thoughts throughout this process, and with whom we've spent many hours walking together within our city's boundaries and beyond.

Section 1: Published walking loops and trails

St. Helena Trails and Open Space published walking loops and trails will be mapped and signed walking routes, which start and finish at the Main Street and Hunt Avenue intersection, near the Chamber of Commerce's headquarters downtown. These routes will take advantage of historic, open space, church, and residential walks for visitors, similar to the signed bicycle routes through town. Maps will be available at City Hall and at the Chamber of Commerce, as well as on the web or on apps, and will promote additional activities for first-time and returning visitors to St. Helena.

Walks will be of a variety of distances and types. From a short 20 minute walk to longer loops, they will guide walkers to various parts of St. Helena, including our public parks, Historic St. Helena, open space and vineyard-adjacent walks and will point out specific sites. There should be a walk to appeal to each and every visitor. They will be governed by a set of rules and regulations similar to the city's current rules for Crane Park and other parks. This is consistent with what other municipalities do, including the City of Napa.

Note—these walks are not the complete list of walks shown in the General Plan or Pedestrian Plan—many of those are so-called 'secret walks,' connecting neighborhoods or dead-end streets, and are generally discoverable while walking or exploring by St. Helena residents and frequent visitors. Rather, these published walks are a jumping-off point for welcoming visitors and encouraging them to enjoy St. Helena's many amenities, including our parks, our businesses, our neighborhoods, and our agricultural setting.

Proposed amenities for each walk will be:

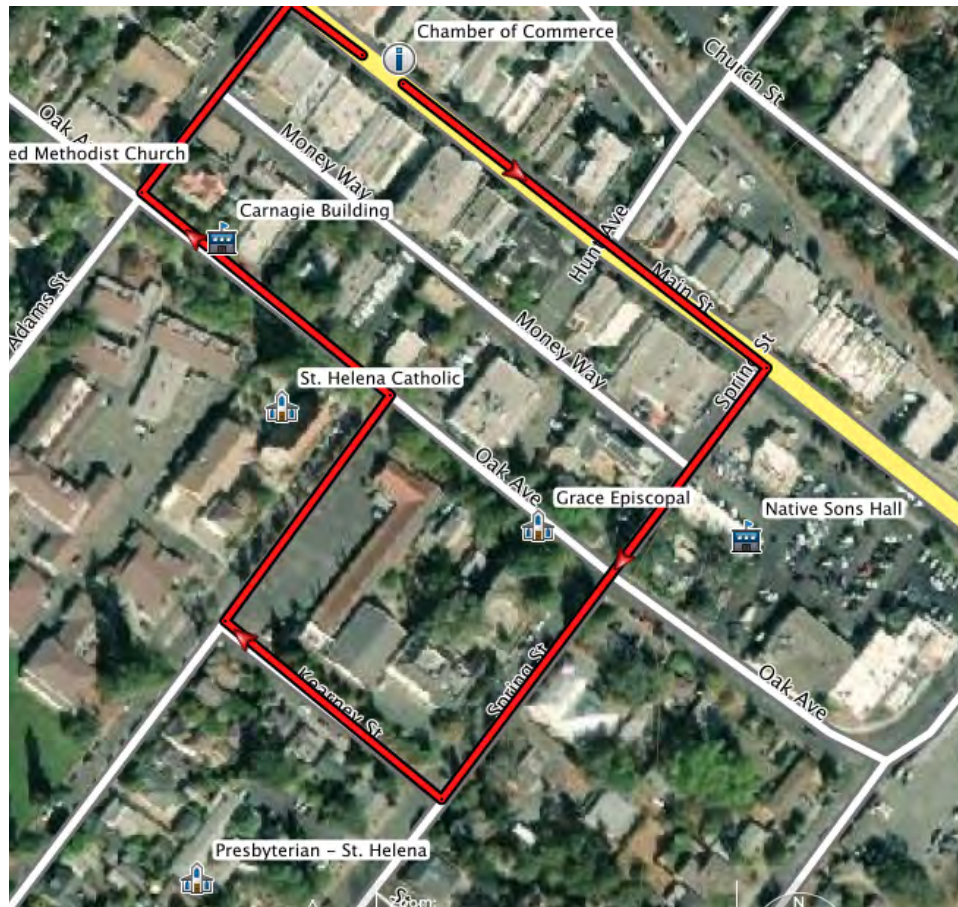
- Signage on route (coordinated with downtown streetscape or other related city signs such as historical markers, and with the same quality)
- Benches en route (recommended at least every mile)
- Complimentary paper map at the Chamber Commerce
- Maps on city and chamber websites

Additionally, these walks should also be promoted on hiking and walking sites and apps such as www.alltrails.com and www.trailforks.com to appeal to outdoor-minded visitors.

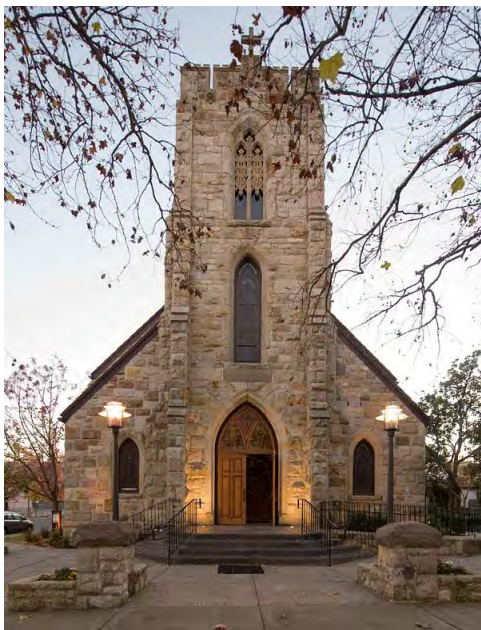
Initial walks suggested by the subcommittee with input from the Chamber include:

1. Oak Avenue/Church Walk

A short walk that brings the walker to many historic St. Helena churches, just off Main Street.



Oak Avenue/Church Walk



Total length: .6 miles

Time to complete: 20-30 minutes

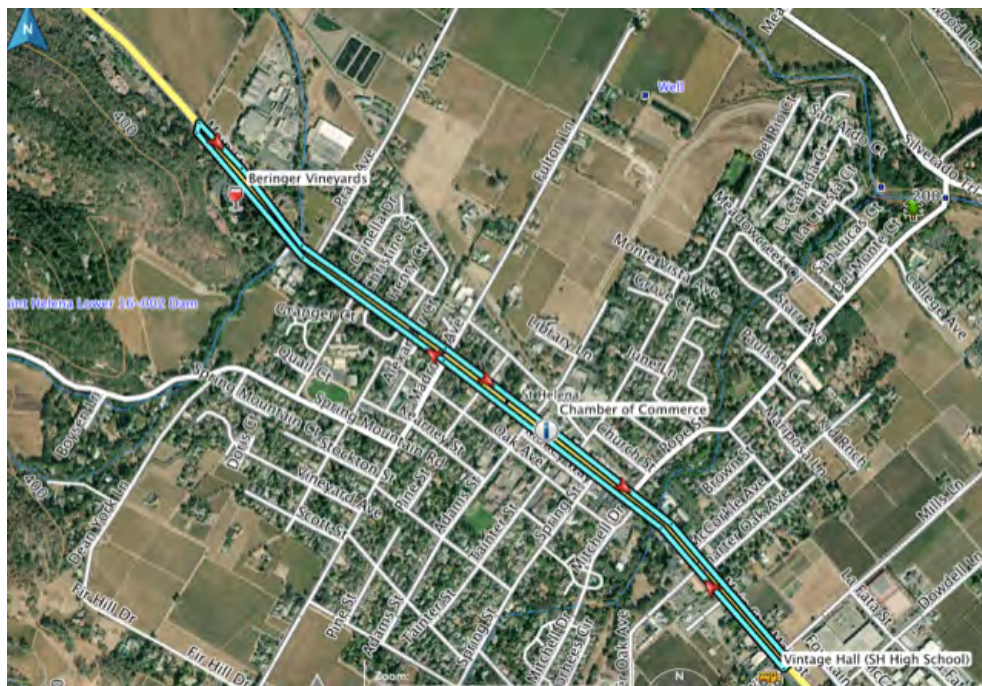
St. Helena Trails and Open Space

Notable waypoints:

- United Methodist Church
- St. Helena Catholic Church
- Grace Episcopal Church and Labyrinth Walk
- Native Sons Hall
- Presbyterian Church-St. Helena
- Carnegie Building

2. Main Street Stroll

A walk amidst the historic stone, masonry, and stick-built structures that dot our Main Street, from Beringer Vineyards' iconic setting in the northern reaches of our town, to beautiful St. Helena High School's Vintage Hall which anchors the southern entrance to town.



Main Street Stroll



Total length: 3.0 miles roundtrip for both directions
1.5 miles roundtrip for each wing

Time to complete: 2 hours round-trip for both direction
1 hour for each wing

End-points:

- Beringer Vineyards (north)
- St. Helena High School's Vintage Hall (south)

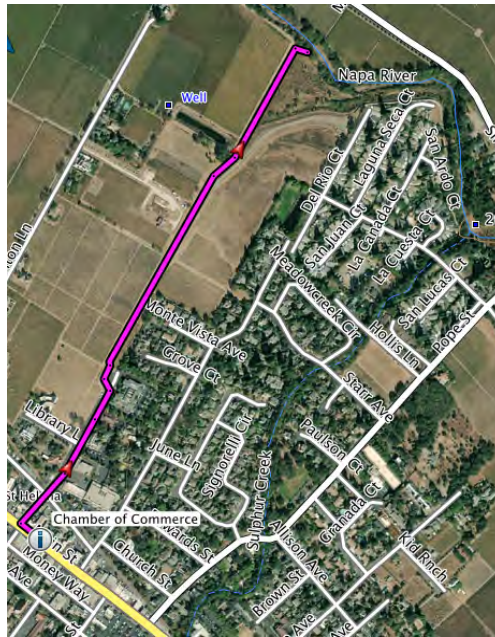
Notable waypoints:

- Lyman Park
- The Star Building (Caldwell Snyder Gallery)
- The Sherry Building (Charter Oak)
- Taylor Refresher Sign (Gott's)
- Sulphur Creek Bridge
- York Creek Bridge

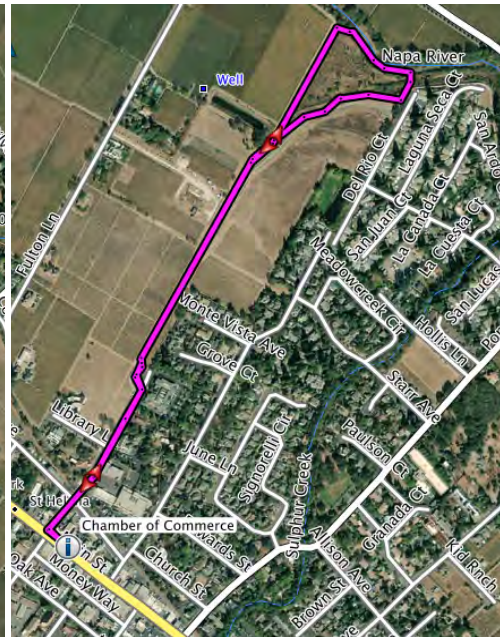
3. Napa River Walk

A walk along agricultural lands and open space vineyards from downtown to a Napa River overlook, also with a possible loop extension around the flood control project's overflow catchment basin and return along the top of the levee. The loop extension goes partially along a path on the top of the Napa River banks, detailed in the city's General Plans going back three decades, if not more.

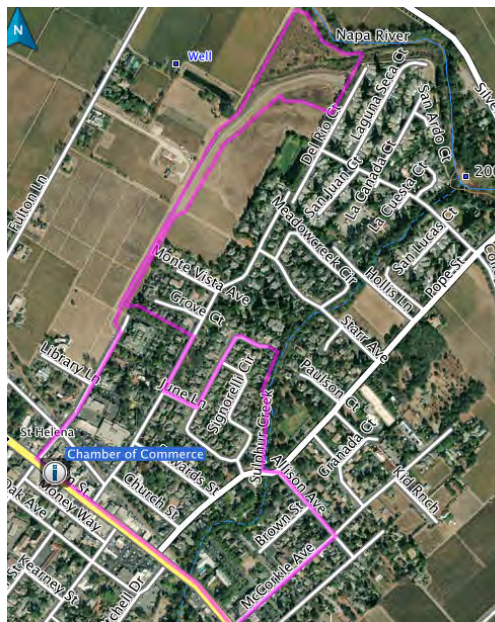
The loop extension could be combined with a further loop through eastside neighborhoods and along Sulphur Creek. More details about this walk and desired improvements are included in Section 2 below.



Napa River Walk (existing)



Napa River Walk (with levee return)



Napa River Walk (with levee return and eastside extension)



Total length:

- Out-and-back only: 2 mi round trip
- Including loop extension: 2.2 mi
- With eastside extension: 3 mi

Time to complete:

- Out-and-back only: 45 minutes total
- Including levee return: 1 hour round-trip
- With eastside extension: 1½ hours total

End-point: Napa River overlook

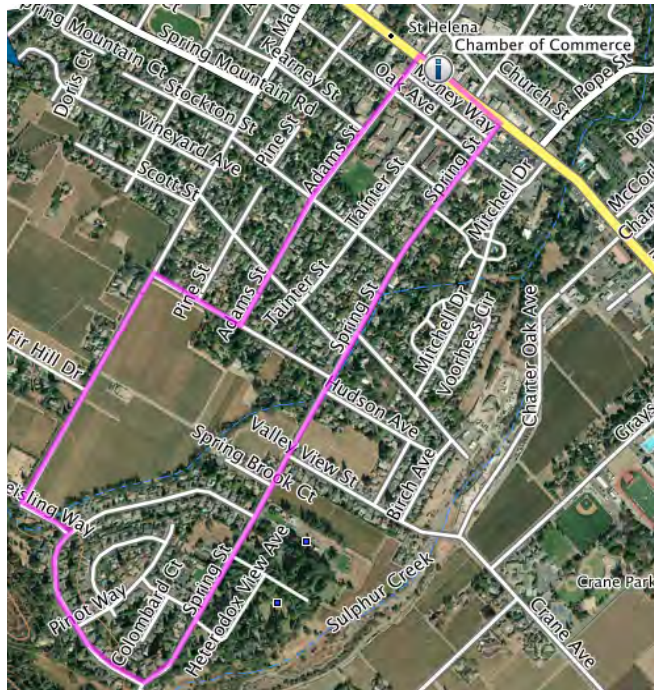
Notable waypoints:

- St. Helena Library
- Napa River overlook
- Napa River conservation catchment basin
- Napa River levee
- Sulphur Creek
- Jacob Meilly Park

- Sulphur Creek Bridge

4. Westside Neighborhoods walk

A popular walk among local residents, this walk takes the stroller along historic Spring Street, out amongst residential neighborhoods, vineyards and open space and back into town.



Westside Neighborhoods Walk



St. Helena Trails and Open Space



Total length: 2.75 mi loop
Time to complete: 1.5 hours

End-point: Entry of Sulphur Creek Canyon

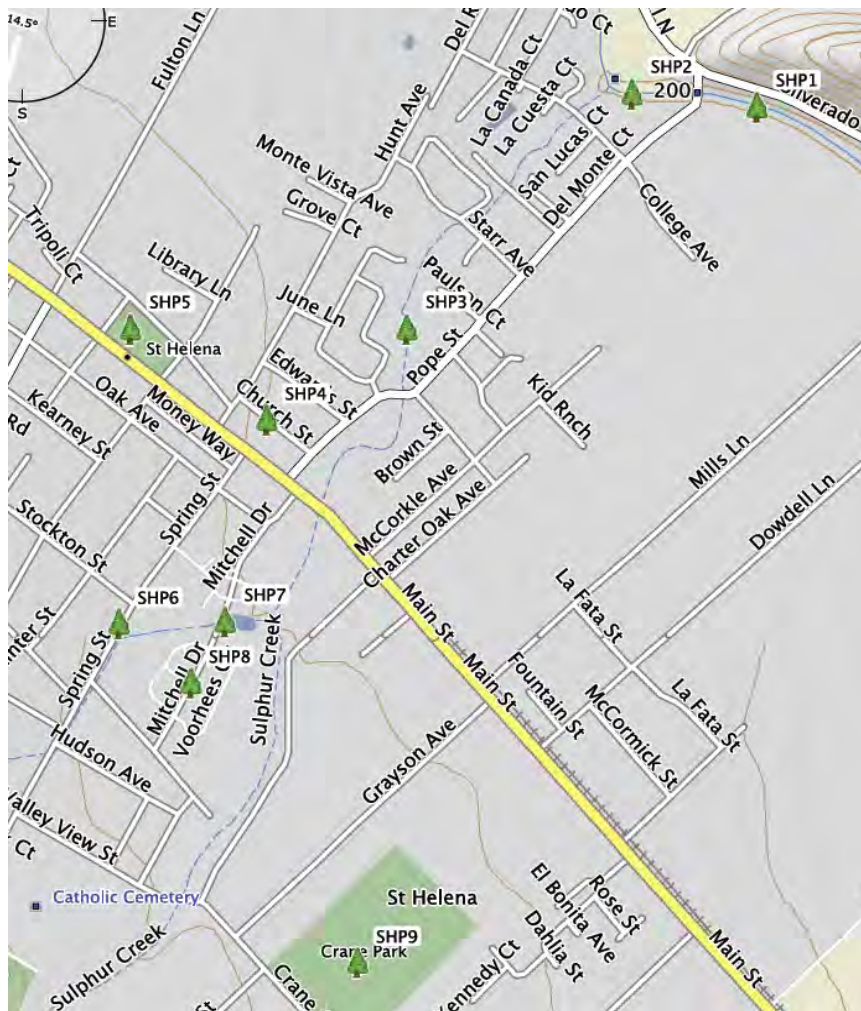
Notable waypoints:

- United Methodist Church
- Grace Episcopal Church and Labyrinth Walk
- Native Sons Hall
- Presbyterian Church-St. Helena
- Starr Baldwin Park
- St. Helena Catholic Cemetery
- St. Helena Public Cemetery

- Spottswode Winery
- Carnegie Building

Additional walk ideas

Further walks could be added over time. One idea is to connect many of our city parks in dedicated walks. Today these routes would be on city streets, but it's no surprise that many of these parks rest adjacent to or near the Sulphur Creek corridor, identified in the General and Pedestrian Plans as a location for pathways and access.



St. Helena Parks

Index: SHP#

1. Wappo (including dog park)
2. Stonebridge
3. Jacob Meily
4. Lewis Station
5. Lyman
6. Starr Baldwin
7. Mary Fryer
8. Mennen
9. Crane (including bocce, skateboard and tennis)

Activities

The activities needed to bring these published routes to fruition are:

Planning

- Approval of initial routes and names (could include a naming contest)
- Specific waypoints to include on the map
- Sign messaging, design and determination of number of signs and locations
- Determination of any other physical improvements required to make the routes safe and easy to use, such as walkway repairs, bench installations, trash bins, dog-waste stations, or potentially motion detector web-cams in remote locations, monitored by public safety
- Determination of whether donations should be solicited for any physical improvements, such as benches, with plaque placement rights
- Develop route rules and regulations, just as the city has for its parks (e.g. sunrise to sunset, dogs on leash--except for existing portion of Napa River Walk which is non-leash and waste pick-up, and respect for private property)

Development

- Sign building and placement
- Other physical improvements
- Paper map development and creation
- Web map development and publishing
- Submission to trail apps and websites

Open

- 'Opening day' activities, including celebratory events and press
- Propose Earth Day, April 22nd, for opening

On-going

- Assessment and maintenance of walkways and physical infrastructure including engagement of volunteers to assist through the subcommittee or other groups of residents
- Pickup of trash bins and dog-waste stations, if included

Proposed sponsors (those who will help coordinate and drive the activities)

- Internal: Current head, Parks and Rec Department
- External: Amy Carabba-Salazar, Chamber of Commerce

These activities could be done within year 1, in the fiscal year ending June 2023 with opening of the walks in time for the spring 2023 tourist season.

The overall timeline and budget are included in Section 5 and the specific activities timeline is included here:

	2022 – 23	2023 – 24	2024 – 25	2025 – 26
Planning				
Approval and names	Q1			
Waypoints and signs	Q1			
Other improvements	Q1			
Rules and regs	Q1			
Development				
Sign creation	Q2 Q3			
Other improvements	Q2 Q3			
Paper maps	Q2 Q3			
App and web	Q2 Q3			
Open				
Opening day	Q4			

Section 2: Existing opportunities for walking paths and trails

The city can move forward on a set of no- to low-cost improvements to existing pedestrian paths (see the adopted Pedestrian Plan and General Plan, page 5-24). Additionally, we suggest opening up already-built trails on city-owned properties and formalizing walking opportunities on city-owned easements that allow the city to grant further access for pedestrian walking activities. These steps will enhance the walking experience for residents and visitors. These improvements will be the first tangible elements of the St. Helena Trails and Open Space initiative.

St. Helena is fortunate in that we had far-sighted city planning administrators who insisted on connectivity within our neighborhoods and between and across Sulphur Creek, the creekshed which bisects the heart of our town from White Sulphur Springs Canyon through to where it joins the Napa River near the Pope Street Bridge.

There are also many existing ‘secret’ walkways which allow intrepid and local neighbors access through easements and city-owned rights of way. Many of these surround Jacob Meily Park on the East side of town. Others connect dead-end streets to through-ways, providing simple connectivity and access. Finally, others are historic through-ways that may have fallen into disrepair. Each of these provide special walking connections within our town, and those that have lain fallow can be restored to their intended use, at least in terms of walking access. The St. Helena Police Department and Department of Public Works will be consulted before any path and trail openings.

In addition, the city has several spectacular properties that lend themselves to walking paths on existing dual track roads amidst open space, in our natural environment, and next to adjacent vineyards. Several of these paths are shown on the General and Pedestrian Plans. The city also owns several easements that can be converted into walking opportunities. The subcommittee believes these several locations can help St. Helena become a truly exceptional rural walking town.

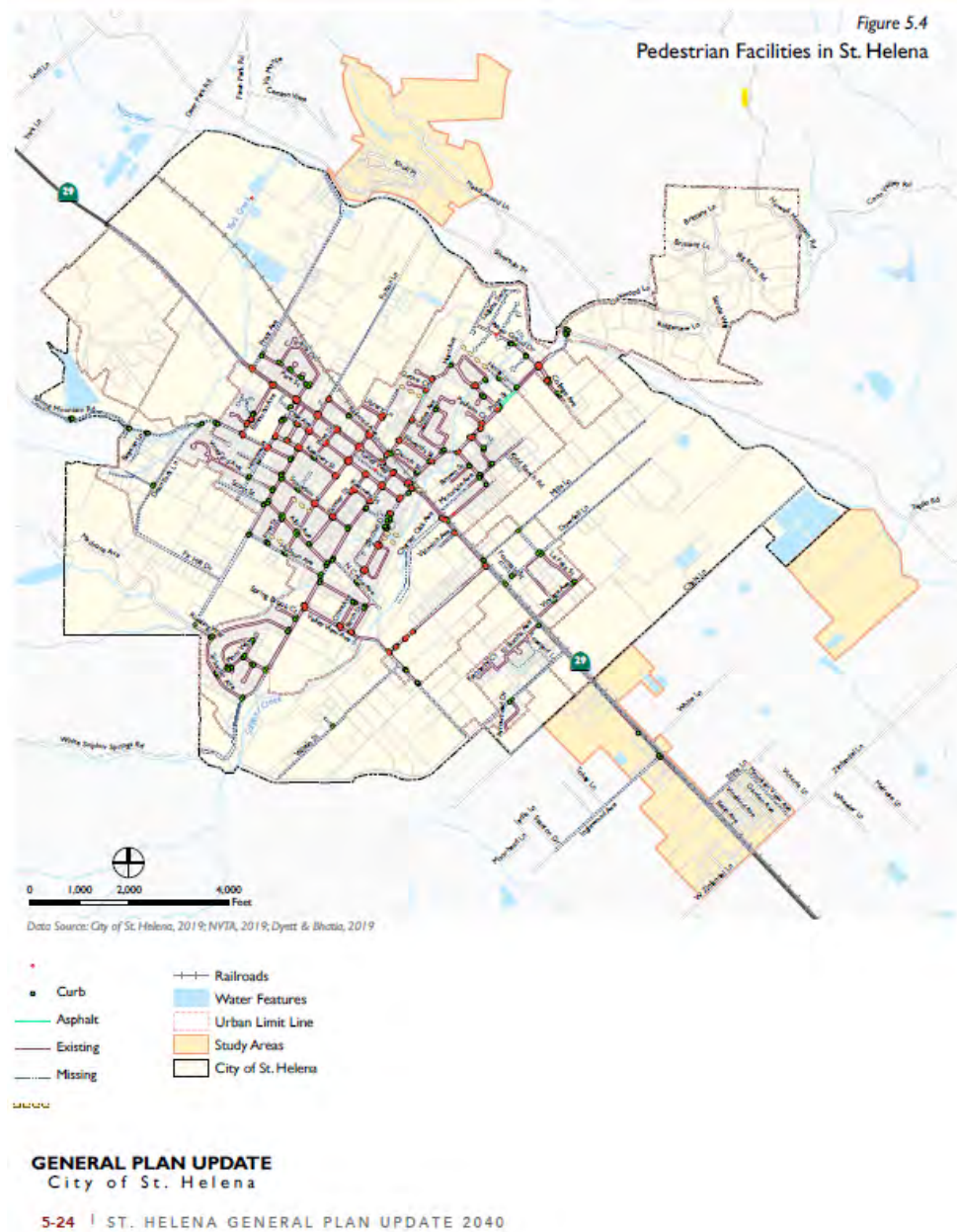
To summarize, existing opportunities for walking paths and trails include:

- Already-identified and existing pedestrian paths in the General and Pedestrian Plans
- City-owned walking opportunity properties
- City-owned easements that could be converted to walking opportunities

1. Current General Plan and Pedestrian Plan existing pedestrian paths

Both the General Plan (at Figure 5.4) and the Pedestrian Plan include a map showing abundant existing crosswalks, curb cuts, and existing and potential pathways. This report highlights the most important ones identified by these city guidance documents to ensure they have the proper attention and focus—they are a significant amenity that already exists within St. Helena. This report also includes suggestions to improve the map in the next General Plan amendment update. These are included as Appendix A.

5 circulation



Pedestrian Facilities in St. Helena (map from General Plan and Pedestrian Plan)

A. Napa River Walk Loop

Note: The loop aspect of this trail is a study opportunity and needs further analysis with the city before proceeding.

This remarkable trail, also discussed in Section 1, is utilized 365 days a year by walkers, cyclists, runners, and dog walkers. It provides welcome nearby open-space access to denizens of the eastside of town and for all residents and allows visitors to take in views of our majestic hills and vineyards alike.

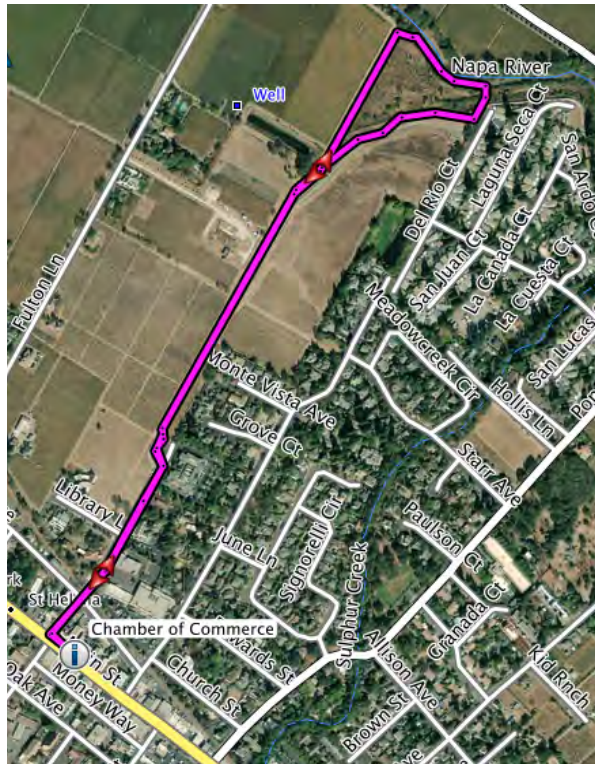
However, the path lacks signage and it dribbles out at the end where there is an ad hoc, heavily eroded path which tumbles down into the Napa River channel. The trail itself could easily be extended south along the high bank to the west of the Napa River, following the route proposed in the General Plan. This route marks the high boundary between the river channel and the flood control project's overflow restoration basin.

The basin itself will be excluded from any trail as it will be covered in the soon-to-be-finalized conservation easement agreement between the city and the state. The city also needs to confirm that a trail along the banks above the Napa River in this area, as contemplated by St. Helena General Plans going back almost 30 years, does not interfere with the conservation easement.

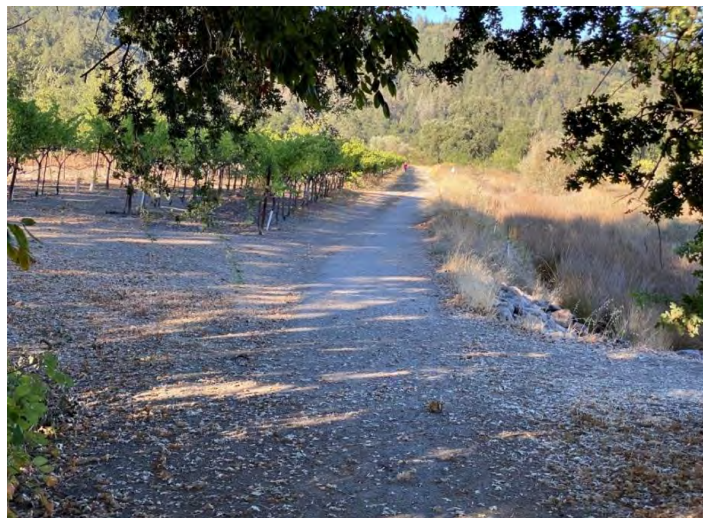
The proposed looped route will be along the top of the river bank, above the high-water mark, and to the east of the basin—it is many feet wide and currently contains a narrow single-track trail. Unfortunately, this existing walking trail is punctuated by broken plastic irrigation infrastructure that was originally built in conjunction with new plantings and restoration activity in the overflow basin. The basin is filled with more broken plastic piping and is strewn with metal fencing initially placed to protect the young plants approximately a decade ago.

To cross the overflow basin's opening to the Napa River, the current trail dips steeply down and then back up to reach the flood project's constructed levy, upon which a walker could return back towards the beginning of the trail. However, the down-and-up is too steep and narrow for a public trail. We recommend a series of natural stone steps and signage to the effect that the trail could be under water occasionally and therefore closed. Longer-term, we suggest a pedestrian (and possible bike) bridge, to provide a necessary link for a Napa River Trail along the entire north-south length of St. Helena as envisioned in the General Plan, as the clear solution.

Because of the narrowness of the route on the top of the river bank and because of the stone steps, it is anticipated that this section of the loop will be signed only for pedestrian use until a bridge across the opening is created and a potential wider multi-modal trail along the Napa River is created.



Napa River Trail with levee return



Total length:

- Loop including levee return: 2.2 miles, expanded from out-and-back only of 2 miles

Time to complete:

- Loop including levee return: 1 hours total

Recommendations:

- Create signage at the end of Adams St. and at key points along the trail so visitors know where to walk
- At the end of the initial outbound straight trail, place benches or a picnic table above the Napa River, create an overlook by clearing brush, and then block the eroded bank down to the river itself, which is a hazard, by either building a short wood fence or planting low bushes and marking off the area
- Confirmation by the city regarding the boundaries of the expected easement
- Where the loop turns south along the high bank between the river itself and the catchment basin, clear up the broken irrigation and metal fencing haphazardly littered there (and also the broken irrigation detritus within the restoration basin as shown in Appendix B)—it's dangerous, a blight and an eyesore, particularly given its purpose as a conservation area
- Build a series of engineered stone steps to go down and across the restoration basin's access to the Napa River—and create signage to indicate the trail is closed when water blocks the route.
- In the long-term, build a bridge to cross the opening between the basin and the levy to connect to walking points south along the Napa River

B. Adams – Pine Pathway

This city-owned path between Adams and Pine, parallel to and situated between Kearney and Stockton, rests atop the city's underground water infrastructure. It is one of several 'secret paths' around town which provide delight for children and adults alike and is included (though erroneously placed) in the General Plan and Pedestrian Plan. Directly across from Carpy Field, it gives access from the elementary school onto a quiet residential street.

This is the only public path blocked by a fence gate. The gate was installed by Public Works in 2000 to eliminate a nuisance caused by neighborhood children. While these children are now all grown and gone, neighbors continue to have security concerns. While the potential future opening of this path is of interest from a trails and open space perspective, it is not a priority item. Additionally, the police department would be closely consulted prior to any reopening.



Adams - Pine Pathway



Recommendations:

- Once priority items within the plan have been executed, consult with neighbors and police department to consider removal of the gate currently blocking public access
- If the paths is re-opened, engage in a one-time clean-up so no debris blocks the path

Please see Appendix A for further thoughts on these and other neighborhood connected pathways.

2. City-owned Walking Opportunities

Our rural town has several significant opportunities to open walking trails on property that the city owns—these are ‘low-hanging fruit’ which the city can use to give residents and visitors opportunities to enjoy our natural environment and be significant and tangible elements of St. Helena Trails and Open Space.

A. Lower Reservoir Trail

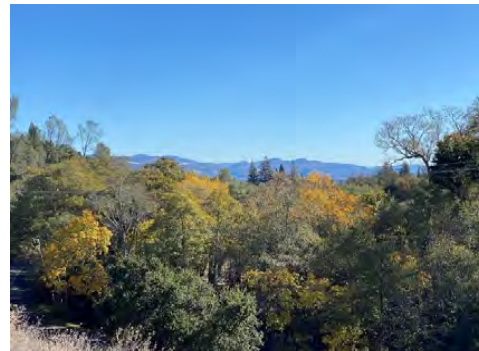
This reservoir, within city limits and just off Spring Mountain Road, is not used for potable water but instead feeds both Spring Mountain Vineyard and an accessible irrigation valve on Elmhurst Avenue on the grounds of RLS Middle School (the valve is currently closed due to the water emergency). The location is in a mixed forest typical of the northern inland reaches of the Bay Area, some of it untouched during the recent fires, is adjacent to neighboring vineyards, and has valley views to the south. The site already contains an existing flat dual track surface which is in very good shape and is perfect for a short, easy stroll.

The pathway goes about $\frac{3}{4}$ around the reservoir. The reservoir is protected from the path by a chain-linked fence with a barbed-wire top, which unfortunately is in degraded condition and has fallen down in certain sections. This fence will need to be repaired before the path is opened to the public or removed entirely and replaced with a smaller fence for safety to protect only specific dam mechanical assets. The area also has an improved parking area that can accommodate 4 or 5 vehicles, which was built to handle work trucks for the removal of the York Creek Dam as well as a pull-off area across the street on Spring Mountain Road.

The walk is about 1 mile there and back and will take about 30 minutes to walk.



Lower Reservoir Trail



Recommendations:

- Replace the fence around the reservoir (currently a capital expense item in the water system budget) or simply put the fence around key dam assets
- Engage in a one-time cleanup so no debris blocks the dual track path
- Add signage on the trail and parking lot
- Add a picnic table at the path turn-around and benches along the trail
- Add a gate between the parking area and the dual track road with an opening for pedestrian access

B. Wappo Loop

This pleasant $\frac{3}{4}$ mile stroll follows existing trails and sidewalks. It starts and finishes in the Napa Valley College parking lot, providing an easy walk along the Napa River and through the College Avenue neighborhood.

Beginning in Wappo Park, the trail runs through the park above the Napa River. It curves behind the Dog Park, follows a double track through the city's Stonebridge Wells property, and ends up following a gravel road up a city-granted easement which extends to College Avenue between the Montessori school and Stonebridge Apartments. The path will then return on College back to Pope Street before turning down to the beginning of the trail. A spur could also lead to the Pope Street Bridge overlook as described in Item C below.



Wappo Loop

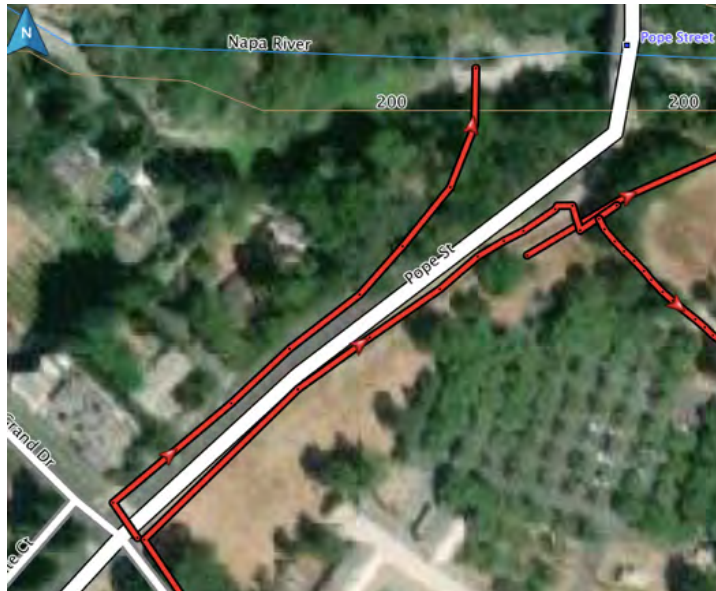


Recommendations:

- Add signage on the trail and parking lot
- Engage in a one-time clean-up so no debris blocks the dual track path around the Stonebridge Wells site
- Add a bench or two at the edge of the Stonebridge Wells site

C. Bridge View Spur

This pocket park, owned by the city, is unimproved except for a well-maintained fence keeping the meadow separate from the Napa River banks. However, it has spectacular views of the century-old Pope Street bridge—with some judicious trimming of the undergrowth, it clearly could become a defining view of St. Helena. In addition, this will be an add-on or spur to the Wappo Loop adding an extra ¼ mile walk.



Bridge View Spur



Recommendations:

- Build a small, hundred-foot trail from the end of the existing sidewalk to the fence
- Add signage along the trail
- Cut back brush to open up the view corridor
- Install a bench to allow people to rest as they watch the view

D. York Creek Trail

This captivating location, formerly the site of a dam serving St. Helena's water needs, has recently been remediated at great expense to the city. There is a short 0.1 mile access road down to the river which could be used by walkers, and a further trail along the river banks on city-owned property will be feasible. There is paved parking for 3 or possibly 4 cars parallel to Spring Mountain Road.



York Creek Trail



Recommendations:

- Open the access road formally to walkers
- Add signage
- Build a short trail along York Creek to the northern and southern edge of the city's York Creek property
- Install a bench at each end point and at the end of the access road

E. Valley Floor Walk

Taking inspiration from the routing of the bike path in Calistoga alongside its sewage treatment plant, our treatment ponds and spray fields offer tremendous views from the valley floor of our remarkable setting and all are adjacent to the Napa River, helping to further the fulfillment of our General Plan and Pedestrian Plan's intention to allow access to our creek and river corridors.

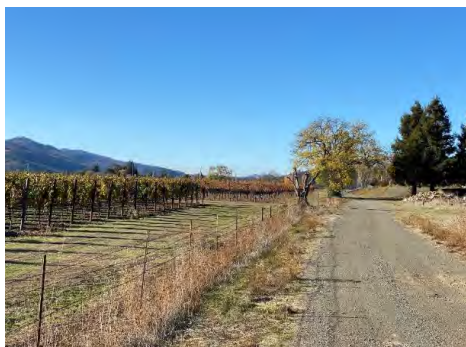
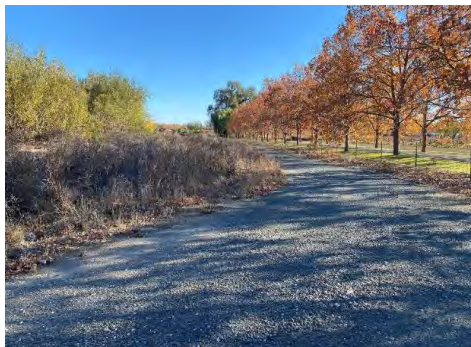
Located between Chaix Lane and Zinfandel Lanes, there are already dualtrack roads through and around the entire property, although better fencing will be required to shield the treatment ponds from the spray fields. These paths also touch on the city's new redwood forest at the south end of the city's property. (In fact, the St. Helena Redwood Grove project approved by council also anticipates walking paths eventually to be connected into the citywide system of trails as intended by the General Plan and Pedestrian Plan.) A circular route through and around the entire property will be 2.1 miles in length and take just over an hour to walk.

Depending on the treatment plant's schedule, walking could be limited to non-spray field times, or only on weekends. In addition, the new treatment plant should reduce the reliance upon the spray fields themselves, lessening the hours they are used.

Access could be through a dirt road up from Zinfandel Lane, with parking adjacent to the redwood forest. Longer term, access will be part of a longer Napa River trail in town and could have access from the north, whether Mills Lane, or all the way to Pope Street.



Valley Floor Walk



Recommendations:

- Open the dualtrack roads formally to walkers
- Create signage
- Designate and develop a parking area by the redwood forest up from Zinfandel Lane
- Install benches at the redwood forest and throughout the walking trails

F. Bell Canyon Upper and Lower Trails

The city owned Bell Canyon Reservoir, which sits within St. Helena city limits, contains wooded watershed lands which allow runoff and groundwater to run down to the reservoir, enabling the reservoir to properly collect water and serve its function for our rural town and surrounding areas. Just like the open space trails at Lake Hennessey have shown, trails within the watershed and separated from the lakeshore can provide beautiful passive recreation opportunities with no danger to the drinking water supply itself.

The site contains both an upper trail and a lower trail, north and west of the reservoir itself. Those trails could be specifically designated as part of St. Helena Trails and Open Space, and opened with little need for improvements. There is already frequent trespassing on both trails, so the town has an opportunity here to create a safer, more accessible site by doing minor repairs and officially opening it to visitors.

The upper trail has beautiful views over Napa Valley to the west and over the Vaca Range and then south all the way to Mt. Diablo in the far distance—a truly stunning vista. It has a sustained rise of approximately 750 feet over its 1 mile length. The lower trail meanders about two thirds of a mile through forested lands with beautiful reservoir vistas and is a fairly flat trail, primarily 20 feet above the reservoir's full-capacity height and at a distance of approximately 50 feet similar to the lakeside trail at Lake Hennessey.

These trails are also entirely separate from the water facilities on the south side of the reservoir and the gun range the police maintain on the east side with no easy cross access available. Public access itself will be along Crystal Springs Road where there is existing informal parking along the roadway, or further parking could include just inside the gates to the dual track trails.

In addition, a trail could be built in the future, joining the two trails at their endpoints to create a 2.5 mile loop or in the future an additional loop around the entire reservoir.



Bell Canyon Upper and Lower Trails



Bell Canyon Upper and Lower Trails with Loop Connection



Recommendations:

- Open these two dual track trails formally to walkers
- Designate a parking area just inside the gate which accesses these trails or direct people to informal existing parking along Crystal Springs Road
- Add signage along the trails and for parking, just as Lake Hennessey does
- Install benches at intermediate points along both trails
- Eventually, build a Loop Connection joining the two trails at their endpoints

3. City-owned Easement Walking Opportunities

St. Helena also has several easements which today are unused and cross two sections of Sulphur Creek. Both the General Plan and Pedestrian Plan envision pathways along the creek. Before that vision can be realized, further interaction with Sulphur Creek is possible today in these two long-held legal easements.

A. Sulphur Creek Dry Crossing

This route goes between the Sulphur Springs Avenue dead end by the White Barn and Spring Street at the mouth of the White Sulphur Springs canyon. It was open for decades as a dry creek crossing during the summer and fall months for all vehicles. Today there are still remnants of asphalt and other paving materials down to the edge of the high-water creek height.

Unlike the other trails listed, this trail will require some work to bring it up to minimum standards before it could be opened to general pedestrian use—the asphalt is broken-up and the trail that exists today is overgrown and winds up and down along the embankment.

The trail will be about $\frac{1}{3}$ of a mile long and will take about 10 minutes to cross.



Sulphur Creek Dry Crossing



Recommendations:

- Re-establish the dry creek trail across Sulphur Creek
- Designate a parking area that already exists along Spring Street and at the end of Sulphur Springs Avenue
- Add signage along the trails and for parking
- Install benches at the start and finish of the trail

B. North Crane Sulphur Creek Path

Note: This walk opportunity is a study opportunity and needs further analysis with the city before proceeding.

An existing easement appears to connect North Crane Avenue to South Crane Avenue through the Harold Smith property and was originally planned to be the Sulphur Creek north-south crossing west of Main Street. However, with the creation of the Valley View subdivision in the 1960s, Valley View was instead chosen as the location for the bridge crossing of the creek connecting to South Crane.

There is some lack of clarity around the easement itself, although it is on city property maps, and does provide a potential opportunity finally to start the work on the Sulphur Creek trail corridor as envisioned by earlier General Plans and both the current General Plan and Pedestrian Plan even though the segment is not long. The city should work with the property owners to modify the location of the easement, relocating it to allow for public access along the banks on the north side of Sulphur Creek only. This will allow a creek-side walking path, the first on the westside of town as compared to the ample walking paths along Sulphur Creek around Jacob Meily Park and beyond within subdivisions on the eastside. The path also will provide a safe cutoff for primary and high school students walking to and from school.

Currently the space is empty, but a specific trail should be developed and remediation work conducted to bring plantings appropriate to the land within the extended creek zone back to life. The trail itself will be approximately a tenth of a mile and takes less than 5 minutes to walk.



North Crane Sulphur Creek Path



Recommendations:

- Initiate, finally, the first trail along Sulphur Creek on the westside of town
- Direct parking to occur at Crane Park for walkers of the trail, a short walk away
- Add signage along the trail
- Install benches at the start and finish of the trail

Activities

The activities needed to open or expand these walking paths:

Planning

- Approval of overall timeline and trail priorities including low hanging fruit
- Study and analyze requirements for trails as a whole and each individual trail including the two walks that require further studying by the city
- Develop rules and regulations for the routes as a whole, just as the city has for its parks (e.g. sunrise to sunset, dogs on leash and waste pick-up, and respect for private property)—and should be the same as the routes in Section 1.
- For individual routes
 - Sign messaging, design and determination of number of signs and locations
 - Determination of any other physical improvements required to make the routes safe and easy to use, such as walkway repairs, bench installations, trash bins, dog-waste stations, or potentially motion detector web-cams in remote locations, monitored by public safety

Development

- Sign building and placement
- Other physical improvements

Open

- ‘Opening day’ activities, including celebratory events and press
- Propose Earth Day, April 22nd, 2023 for first and then each subsequent opening over the next 3 years with a final celebration on April 22nd, 2026

On-going

- Assessment and maintenance of walkways and physical infrastructure including engagement of volunteers to assist through the subcommittee or other groups of residents
- Pickup of trash bins and dog-waste stations, if included

Proposed sponsors (those who will help coordinate and drive the activities)

- Internal: Mark Rincón-Ibarra, Public Works Director and Maya DeRosa, Planning and Building
- External: 2 subcommittee members or other residents, rotating

It is expected that all of the activities to create these open space trails will be completed within 3 years, with some completed within year 1, and sequenced through the remaining time, and with opening of the next walks done each year

The overall timeline and budget are included in Section 6 and the specific activities timeline is included here:

	2022 – 23	2023 – 24	2024 – 25	2025 – 26
Planning				
Development				
Open/Launch				
Overall				
Organization	Q1 Q2 Q3			
Rules and regs	Q1 Q2 Q3			
Safety/maintenance	Q1 Q2 Q3			
Napa River Loop				
Study	Q4-Q4			
Extension route		Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4		
Trail cleanup		Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4		
Stone steps		Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4		
Signage		Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4		
Benches/picnic table		Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4		
Adams-Pine Pathway				

Improvements	Q1-Q1			
Lower Reservoir Trail				
Parking	Q3 Q4	Q1 Q4		
Fencing and gates	Q3 Q4	Q1 Q2 Q4		
Signage	Q3	Q1 Q2 Q4		
Benches/picnic table	Q3	Q2 Q3 Q4		
Wappo Loop				
Signage	Q2 Q3 Q4			
Benches	Q2 Q3 Q4			
Bridge View Spur				
Trail development			Q3 Q4 Q1 Q4	
Signage			Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q4	
Benches			Q3 Q1 Q2 Q4	
York Creek Trail				
Trail development			Q3 Q4 Q1 Q4	
Signage			Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q4	
Benches/picnic table			Q3 Q1 Q2 Q4	
Valley Floor Walk				
Parking		Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4		
Fencing and gates		Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q4		
Signage		Q3 Q1 Q2 Q4		
Benches/picnic table		Q3 Q2 Q3 Q4		
Bell Canyon Trails				
Parking	Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4			
Fencing and gates	Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4			
Signage	Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4			
Benches/picnic table	Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4			
Build loop connector			Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4	
Sulphur Creek Crossing				
Trail development			Q3 Q4 Q1 Q4	
Signage			Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q4	
Benches/picnic table			Q3 Q1 Q2 Q4	
North Crane Path				
Study		Q1-Q1		
Owner engagement		Q3 Q4 Q1 Q4		
Legal		Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q4		
Trail development		Q3 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4		

Vegetation		Q3	Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4	
Benches			Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4	

Section 3: Voluntary open space easements or access

Our lovely rural town is surrounded by agricultural and open space lands, many crisscrossed with existing dual track paths intended for vehicular access and set amidst vineyards and along the Napa River and the embankments of the creeks that feed it. In the past, many vineyards and owners of unimproved lands have allowed walkers to traverse their properties unimpeded and some still do. However, owners have become increasingly concerned with liability issues associated with this practice (for example if a walker were to fall and injure themselves) and sometimes new ownership may not be as amenable to this tradition as the original owners were. What does this mean? Many areas that were available to walking for our residents are now off-limits and more will likely be off-limits in the future.

The City of St. Helena, through its St. Helena Trails and Open Space initiative, can help allow these lands to remain open for those property owners who volunteer to allow access—creating a win-win for property owners and walkers as well. How? By extending the city's general liability policy which covers our parks, streets, and public spaces also to cover walking activities in exchange for allowing access. The city can remove an important impediment for those owners who would like to provide easements or pedestrian access to walkers.

In fact, the city did a similar easement almost 30 years ago, when it reached agreement with the developers of the office building at 899 Adams Street, allowing a pedestrian and bike access between Hunt Avenue and Adams Street. While not across open lands, it provided a critical piece of access for pedestrians and others and has been extremely well-utilized. The agreement is included in the appendix.

Sub-committee members have reached out to several owners who have appropriate properties and have discussed this exchange of pedestrian access for liability coverage together with certain no-nonsense rules. There has been a positive response and interest from at least one major landholder. This landholder understood the example of the Napa Valley Vine Trail which has undertaken similar agreements in certain locations along their multimodal trail and the public benefits that will accrue with minimal inconvenience and disruption to other uses on the property.

Some of the suggested rules include:

- sunrise-to-sunset access only
- any dogs are required to be on leash and waste picked up
- temporary closures during harvest or other key events
- walking-only, which has reduced impacts compared to bicycles as well as presumably limiting any liability insurance costs to the city
- access strictly limited to specific dual track trails
- no smoking
- emergency service provided by the city, if issues arise

The city also has examples of easement and access agreements from other towns that have embraced walking trails both as an economic development strategy and to allow residents and visitors a chance to enjoy lands that otherwise will remain closed to them. Easements are specific legal agreements which give rights to cross or use someone's land for a specified purpose, for example to use a particular trail. A

license for access is a less restrictive agreement which simply allows certain usage over the life of the agreement, which could be extended.

These agreements may help the city implement the vision contained with the General Plan and Pedestrian Plan, creating open space and walking paths along the Napa River and Sulphur Creek as well as allowing passive recreation beyond the use of our existing park and city facilities.

Our city attorney has provided a sample easement in Appendix C. In addition, the nearly 30 year old easement agreement between 899 Adams Street and the city is included in Appendix D. Easement and access agreements from other municipalities and local governments are included in Appendix E, which also shows maps, signs, and guides in planning, developing, managing, and overseeing open space and walking opportunities. The subcommittee proposes a demonstration program, to show the city can work well with a first property owner over a first year, and then extend that to 5- or 10-year time frames. In fact, that could be a model for the entire program—provide access agreements over a 1-year trial period which could then be extended over 5- or 10-year time frames with renewal features or in perpetuity.

To summarize key points:

- The model
 - Voluntary program
 - Pedestrian access on paths located on private lands in exchange for liability assumption by the city
- Type and locations could include
 - Agriculture and woodlands
 - River and creek corridors
 - Quasi-public spaces such as schools
- Program
 - Start with a demonstration property
 - Extend and expand to new properties as other volunteers come forward

Activities

The activities needed to bring voluntary pedestrian access or easements include

Planning

- Finalize access or easement agreement
- Determine rules and regulations
 - Sunrise to sunset access
 - Dogs on leash
 - Temporary closures (e.g. harvest)

- Work with property owner regarding any physical improvements required to make the route safe and easy to use
- Public safety and rules enforcement
- Maintenance assistance
- Determine signage and signs to make sure walkers stay on the path

Development

- Physical improvements
- Sign building and placement

Open

- ‘Opening day’ activities, including celebratory events and press
- Again, propose Earth Day, April 22nd, for opening

On-going

- Assessment and maintenance of walkways and physical infrastructure including engagement of volunteers to assist through the subcommittee or other groups of residents
- Pickup of trash bins and dog-waste stations, if included

Proposed sponsors (those who will help coordinate and drive the activities)

- Internal: Ethan Walsh, City Attorney and John Wanger or Mark Rincón-Ibarra, Public Works Director, or Maya DeRosa, Planning and Building
- External: subcommittee members or other residents

It is expected that all of these activities could be done within year 1, July 2022 – June 2023 with opening of the demonstration property route in time for spring 2023.

The overall timeline and budget are included in Section 6 and the specific activities timeline for the demonstration property is included here. Other potential properties later will follow a similar pattern.

	2022 – 23	2023 – 24	2024 – 25	2025 – 26
Planning				
Agreement in principle	Q1			
Legal	Q1			
Improvements	Q1			
Rules and regs	Q1			
Development				
Improvements	Q2 Q3			
Signage	Q2 Q3			

Open				
Opening day	Q4			

Section 4: Development agreements

One of the goals of development agreements is to have applicants for new projects contribute to enriching St. Helena's community assets. A network of walking trails provides high value to the quality of life for residents and as development agreements are negotiated the City can advocate to have the network of pedestrian amenities expanded and constructed by developers. These agreements between the city and developer can prioritize and mandate walking access for pedestrians through dedicated pedestrian easements in conjunction with housing, commercial or industrial uses. It is expected that most times these will follow existing walking routes that have been used by residents for years when the land either lay fallow or was used for agricultural uses.

One of the benefits of development agreements is that there is not a requirement that the City demonstrate a specific "nexus" between the proposed development and the impact that development has on public services and amenities. That allows the City the flexibility to require developers to contribute to amenities like the trails network at a scale that goes beyond the impacts of their specific development, in exchange for greater certainty through "vested rights" to develop their project. The city should negotiate with developers for walking access and trail establishment across or through projects. A development agreement would allow the city some flexibility in this process. While it is easier to ask for pathways from a larger project and more challenging for a smaller infill project, there are still options for a smaller project. It could either provide a shorter trail segment, or it could instead allocate funds towards path creation or connectivity adjacent to or nearby the project, whether for sidewalks, a planned path, or improving existing trails.

These agreements to include walking trails have a long history in this town and should be codified as part of the city's toolkit in working with potential developers. For example, the subdivisions created on the east side of town, around Jacob Meily Park and Sulphur Creek between Hunt and Pope Streets include creek access and connect dead-end cul de sacs, allowing families the opportunity to enjoy their natural environment close to their homes even while they more efficiently travel throughout town.

Rather than flag any specific properties or existing informal walking routes throughout town, the subcommittee instead believes that the city should work with developers to ensure that pedestrian easements are included in all projects that have potential connectivity. In some instances this could be done through dedications to ensure consistency with the General Plan (based on the City's pedestrian networks), and in others the City could negotiate for easements as part of a development agreement. Many of the connectivity sections are included in the General and Pedestrian Plans, including access along the Napa River, Sulphur Creek, York Creek, and other seasonal waterways.

The pathways are often along the edge of a particular property, so providing for them need not create a burden to the developer. Other times a development will need to upgrade water, wastewater, purple pipe, or storm drain access across the site. When this is done, those too could be natural public walkways on top of the city's infrastructure (with confirmation by the Director of Public Works). These

can provide a legacy to the town and the future residents of our rural town. It is also consistent with the General Plan which already supports quality-of-life initiatives within the development process, just as it prioritizes pedestrian activities.

The city should ask for trail building segments (or support of those segments) even if the entire trail is not yet built (the Napa Valley Vine Trail is a good example of this). This prevents a "putting off until later" mentality; and also, completion of small segments helps the community envision a completed pedestrian trail network.

The city should further develop a trails and pathways master plan that would provide additional detail to and expand upon the General Plan and Pedestrian Plan already in existence. A master plan that has a more detailed map with current and proposed trails needs in addition to the existing Pedestrian Plan, and also adopted as part of a General Plan update, will be a useful reference for the zoning code, and will show the community and prospective development applicants where trails or proposed trails are located.

To review, there are several types of pathway contributions from new development that the city could formalize this requirement, including:

- Public path easements or dedication within new developments as part of any development agreement. Public path opportunities on top of water, wastewater, stormwater, or purple pipe that may travel across private property
- Walkways deeded to the city from or through residential developments, such as those around Jacob Meily Park
- Additional walkway opportunities funded by park impact mitigation fees on smaller or infill projects with no appropriate on-property pathway opportunities

Activities

The activities needed to bring this development agreement to fruition are:

- Include public walkway availability and connectivity in the city's development review of discretionary applications and other city planning processes
- Add these steps into the development check-list and the permitting process
- Ensure the city follows the General Plan prioritizing completion of the circulation and pedestrian networks as part of the Capital Improvement Plan
- Reference the Quimby Act as it relates to residential subdivisions specifically
- Future goal: complete a trails master plan

Proposed sponsors (those who will help coordinate and drive the activities)

- Internal: Maya DeRosa, Planning and Building and Ethan Walsh, City Attorney
- External: 2 members of subcommittee or other residents

The overall timeline and budget are included in Section 6 and the specific activities timeline is included here:

	2022 – 23	2023 – 24	2024 – 25	2025-26
Planning				
Zoning code update		Q4		
Development process		Q4		
Trails master plan				Q1

Section 5: Implementation Framework

Implementation of the elements of this report will occur over 4 years, creating new walking opportunities, ensuring that walking access is assured in new developments, and providing an opportunity for private landowners who may wish to allow walking on their property to enter into agreements with the city to provide that access in exchange for liability protection. This initiative can provide benefits for residents and visitors alike and help make our lovely rural town into a center for walking and passive recreation in the upper Napa Valley.

Of necessity, several elements are open-ended--for example, beyond the one demonstration access walk, there could be other private landowners who will participate. Also, some capital costs associated with the walks could be donated to the city. For example, new benches or signs could be dedicated in memoriam or businesses or individuals could sponsor particular items. Part of the planning process for St. Helena Trails and Open Space will include those elements.

Most importantly from a cost-efficiency perspective, most of the physical trails identified in Section 2 already exist as dual track pathways. Aside from some initial clean-up or maintenance, most are ready to be used as is. This is one of the key benefits of this plan--compared to many communities, St. Helena can create an open space and walking initiative at a relatively modest expense.

Finally, there are many community members, starting with the sub-committee members themselves, who would like to join in to help staff in planning and overseeing the process, in maintenance of the trails with clean-up or pick-up days, or in building or widening trails as contemplated in the report.

Results and costs by year

The following are ballpark estimated costs by type of activity and a summation of the elements of this report. These costs are based on proposed capital improvements and other expense elements included below. Primary costs for published walks are design and marketing activities. Most trail improvements themselves are benches and signs. A few walks could require fencing and trail-building, necessarily more expensive items. Commercial, individual, or other public or private sponsorship would be sought, along with volunteer assistance, during the planning of these activities, to reduce these costs and generate a broader base of support.

	2022 – 23	2023 – 24	2024-25	2025 – 26
Published walks	4			
Lengths	.6 - 2.75 miles			
Marketing budget	\$20,000			
Capital budget	\$14,750			

Pathways opened	2	1	2	2
Total length	2.5 miles	1 mile	3 miles	½ mile
Capital budget	\$29,500	\$23,750	\$66,250	\$37,750
Study paths opened		1	1	
Total length		2.2 miles	.15 miles	
Capital budget		\$22,750	\$12,150	
Access walk	1			
Total length	¾ mi			
Capital budget	\$500			
Development work				
Trails master plan				Not estimated

Elements of capital improvements and expenses

The cost elements are made of the following capital and other outside expense activity and ties into the activity information included at the end of each section.

Section 1: Published walking loops and trails

	2022 – 23	2023 – 24	2024-25	2025 – 26
Waypoints and signs	15 signs			
Other improvements	6 benches			
Maps	Paper maps			
Web	Electronic maps			

Proposed sponsors (those who will help coordinate and drive the activities)

- *Internal: Current head, Parks and Rec Department*
- *External: Amy Carabba-Salazar, Chamber of Commerce*

Section 2: Existing opportunities for walking paths and trails

	2022 – 23	2023 – 24	2024 – 25	2025 – 26
Adams-Pine Pathway	No investment			
Lower Reservoir Trail				

Fencing and gates		New gate		
Signage		3 signs		
Benches/picnic table		1 bench and table		
Wappo Loop				
Signage	5 signs			
Benches	2 benches			
Bridge View Spur				
Trail development				.05 miles
Signage				1 sign
Benches				2 benches
York Creek Trail				
Trail development				.05 miles
Signage				3 signs
Benches/picnic table				1 bench + table
Valley Floor Walk				
Parking			2,500 sq. ft	
Fencing and gates			New gate	
Signage			5 signs	
Benches/picnic table			5 benches	
Bell Canyon Trails				
Parking	No investment			
Fencing and gates	New gate			
Signage	5 signs			
Benches/picnic table	5 benches			
Build loop connector			½ mile trail	
Sulphur Creek Crossing				
Trail refurbishment				½ mile
Signage				4 signs
Benches/picnic table				2 benches

Paths where additional study by the city is required

North Crane Path				
Trail development			.15 miles	
Vegetation			Plant	
Signage			2 signs	

Benches			1 bench	
Napa River Loop				
Trail widening		.4 miles		
Stone steps		1 up and 1 down		
Signage		3 signs		
Benches/picnic table		2 benches		

Proposed sponsors (those who will help coordinate and drive the activities)

- *Internal: Mark Rincón-Ibarra, Public Works Director and Maya DeRosa, Planning and Building*
- *External: 2 subcommittee members or other residents, rotating*

Section 3: Voluntary open space easements or access

	2022 – 23	2023 – 24	2024 – 25	2025 – 26
Access demo walk				
Signage	2 signs			

Proposed sponsors (those who will help coordinate and drive the activities)

- *Internal: Ethan Walsh, City Attorney and John Wanger or Mark Rincón-Ibarra, Public Works Director, or Maya DeRosa, Planning and Building*
- *External: 2 subcommittee members or other residents, rotating*

Section 4: Development agreements

	2022 – 23	2023 – 24	2024 – 25	2025 – 26
Zoning code update				
Development process				
Trails master plan				Possible

Proposed sponsors (those who will help coordinate and drive the activities)

- *Internal: Maya DeRosa, Planning and Building*
- *External: 2 members of subcommittee or other residents, rotating*

Budget assumptions

The following are rough assumptions regarding the costs of each capital improvement and other expense item on the above activity lists.

Marketing

Web-site and map design: \$10,000

Initial print maps: \$10,000

Capital costs:

Benches: \$1,000 per bench

Picnic tables: \$2,000 per table

Sign design (one-time): \$5,000

Signs: \$250 per sign

Fencing and new gates: \$20,000

Stone steps design/build: \$20,000

Walking trail building: \$70,000 per mile

Vegetation: \$1,000 per mile

Gravel parking: \$2 per square foot

Maintenance costs:

Reliance on volunteers and existing public works staff who maintain the city parks and existing walkways

Liability insurance additional cost

De minimis as part of the city's general liability coverage

Public safety costs

Expect 2 extra calls per month with full build-out (no cost estimate created)

Appendix A: Updates needed to the General Plan's Pedestrian Map

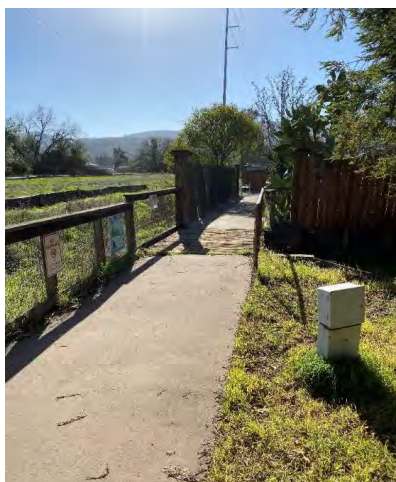
In the course of its work, members of the subcommittee found inconsistencies in the map used in the General Plan and Pedestrian Plan, and has several additional observations and suggestions. The next time the General Plan is amended, the subcommittee suggests that these corrections to the record are made. (The red circular numbers on the map refer to numbers referenced in comments below.)



1. The map's Legend --- is missing descriptions. The subcommittee suggests Public Pathways and Alleys (or Walking Paths & Alleys). In addition, the difference between dashed streets and solid line streets is unexplained—dashed streets lack sidewalks, solid streets have sidewalks. Finally, red dots indicate marked crosswalks.
2. The northern path shown from Mitchell to the creek is private property, so should be removed from the map.



3. The southern path from Mitchell to the creek exists as shown and runs through Mary Fryer Park. It connects to a wood plank bridge which connects to the Marietta Townhomes Project development on Voorhees Circle. The map should show the path's turn to the right at its end.



4. A pathway runs through Starr Baldwin Park connecting Spring St to Voorhees Circle. Although part of a public park, the path should be marked on the map as a pedestrian path for two reasons—it connects two public streets and for consistency as other parks with paths are shown on the Pedestrian Facilities Map.



5. There is a pathway between the north end (which is a dead end cul de sac) of Pinot Way and lower Sylvan Ave which is missing from the map. There are metal gates at each end that have been closed in the past. They are currently open.



6. The map shows a path from the end of Hollis Ln to the open space at Hunt Ave, however there is no trail or path at this location so this path should be eliminated.



7. There is a walkable path that runs along the north side of Sulphur Creek behind the houses on Chiles Avenue, running between two bridges that connect to Meily Park. This is public property and the public uses it as a path, so should be on the map—it could be part of an eventual trail along the creek.

Also, this area has an agreed upon 28' setback from the Creek, intended to be a natural area, agreed to by the city and developer. A couple of homeowners are running irrigation lines from their homes to private plantings in this natural setback/path zone—agreed upon setbacks are not being adhered to and/or enforced. This should be reviewed and corrected.



8. There are paved paths that connect both Paulson Ct and Chiles Ave to the backside of Meily Park. (On parcel maps this natural area located between City of Saint Helena land and Woodbridge Apartments is shown as owned by “St Helena Westminster Estates LLC”). These are public pathways and extensions of their respective streets and should be mapped. They also link to other paths.



(First picture is the paved path off Paulson Ct looking from the cul de sac, the second is looking from Chiles Ave, the second is the path off Chiles Ave looking towards the Chiles cul de sac)



(First picture is at the end of Chiles Ave paved path looking towards Woodbridge Apts, the second is looking the other direction towards Meily Park.)

9. The path along Sulphur Creek at Meadowcreek Circle is on public property and is not mapped. There are benches along the path and it is well used. It is one block long and should be on the map. In addition, the public property extends all the way to Hollis Lane—perhaps this path was intended to connect these streets. If possible, it should be extended.



For purposes of numbers 10, 11, and 12. Pine Street has three distinct, separated sections, all labeled Pine Street. From east to west, this report labels them as:

- *Pine #1- between Main Street and Kearney*
- *Pine #2 -starting at Stockton, one block long, it dead ends at a cul de sac*
- *Pine #3 -beginning at Hudson, two block longs, it dead ends at a cul de sac*

10. The pathway between Adams and the beginning of Pine #3 is shown stopping at Pine. It continues another block (paved as an alley) to Madrona.



11. The pathway between Adams and the end of Pine #3 does not exist and therefore should be removed. (It was probably mistakenly put on this section instead of #12, below.)
12. An existing pathway between Adams and Pine #2 is missing from the Map. It is currently gated at Adams St. while the Pine St. end is open. There is a parcel edge marker on Pine St showing where the fence existed before current construction of a home began. As stated in Section 2 above, the subcommittee members believe this pathway should be maintained/cleared to not lose the history, and reopened.



(Picture shows the pathway from Adams St to Pine #2, from Adams with a locked gate in the distance.)

13. The DG pathway shown between Hunt Ave and Adams St does exist and is well used. It will be better shown connecting to the very end of Adams, because it does, but this is minor.
14. Designates the Pine St side of item 12 above which also shows the poor shape the pathway is currently in.



(Picture shows from Pine #2 to Adams St, second also from Pine, showing the property corner marker with yellow tag on lower left.)

Appendix B: Plastic and metal detritus within the catchment basin

The catchment basin, part of the flood control project by the Napa River, had an irrigation system and metal fencing to allow new plantings to thrive about a decade ago. While the irrigation system did its job and the basin will soon be protected by a conservation easement, the irrigation system and fencing was never cleaned up by the city and it remains an eyesore. This is a representative picture. The subcommittee hopes to see the city partner with volunteer support for cleanup efforts.



Appendix C: Sample Trail Easement and Access Legal Agreements

There are numerous sample agreements that could be used by St. Helena to craft an agreement with the landowner. Some of the items to determine include allowed time of access

1. Sample Easement

RECORDING REQUESTED BY AND WHEN RECORDED MAIL TO:

City of St. Helena
Attention: City Clerk

No Recording Fee--Exempt

GRANT OF PUBLIC ACCESS EASEMENT AGREEMENT

THIS GRANT OF PUBLIC ACCESS EASEMENT AGREEMENT ("Easement Agreement") is executed as of this ____ day of _____, 20__, by _____, a [***[INSERT TYPE OF ENTITY] (together with its successors and assigns, "**Grantor**"), and the City of St. Helena, a California municipal corporation (together with its successors and assigns, "**Grantee**") and is made with reference to the following facts:

RECITALS

A. Grantor is the owner in fee of that certain real property in the City of St. Helena, County of Napa, State of California within Assessor Parcel Numbers _____ as more particularly described in Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made a part hereof ("**Property**");

B. The Property is improved with an improved private road that is currently used by Grantor for [**describe current use**] as more particularly described in Exhibit "B" attached hereto and made a part hereof ("**Easement Area**"), and [**reason, such as to provide for public walking access**];

C. Pursuant to this Easement Agreement, Grantor shall grant to the Grantee a perpetual non-exclusive easement for any member of the public to access, use and have the right of ingress and egress under, over, and across the Easement Area pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Easement Agreement.

NOW THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, Grantor hereby creates the Easement Agreement rights described below:

1. Effect of Recitals. The Recitals are incorporated and made a part of this Easement Agreement as if fully stated herein.
2. Grant of Easement for Public Access. The Grantor further grants and conveys to Grantee a perpetual non-exclusive easement for any member of the public to access, use and have the right of ingress and egress under, over, and across the Easement Area as a right of way for walking, hiking, jogging, bird watching, nature study, and emergency vehicles in the case of emergency within the Easement Area (the "Public Access Easement").
3. Grantor Responsible for Maintenance. Grantor shall be solely and exclusively responsible for the maintenance, repair and replacement of the Easement Area and any improvements thereon, as well as all costs and expenses related thereto. Grantor will not impair or interfere with the right of the public to access and use the Easement Area in accordance with this Easement Agreement.
4. Prohibited Uses. Any activity on or use of the Trail Easement inconsistent with the purposes of the Trail Easement is prohibited.
5. Trail Signage. If Grantor wishes to mark the Property with signs indicating "Private Property", then signs shall also be posted by the City of St. Helena identifying and showing the direction of the Trail. Grantor shall notify the City in writing of its desire to install such signage indicating "Private Property" prior to installing such signage.
6. Successors and Assigns. The Public Access Easement granted hereby shall run with the land and all of the rights and obligations of Grantor and Grantee under this Easement Agreement shall inure to the benefit of their respective successors, transferees and assigns.
5. Grantee's Remedies. If Grantee determines that Grantor is in violation of the terms of this Easement Agreement or that a violation is threatened, Grantee shall give written notice to Grantor of such violation and demand corrective action sufficient to cure the violation and, where the violation involves restriction of access to the Easement Area resulting from any use or activity inconsistent with the purpose of this Easement Agreement, to restore the portion of the Easement Area so injured. If Grantor fails to cure the violation within 30 days after receipt of notice thereof from Grantee, or under circumstances where the violation cannot reasonably be cured within a 30-day period, fails to begin curing such violation within the 30-day period, or fails to continue diligently to cure such violation until finally cured, Grantee may bring an action at law or in equity in a court of competent jurisdiction to enforce the terms of this Easement Agreement, to enjoin the violation by temporary or permanent injunction, to recover any damages to which it may be entitled for violation of the terms of this Easement Agreement or injury to any protected values, including damages for any loss thereof, and to require the restoration of the Easement Area to the condition that existed

prior to any such injury. Grantee's rights under this paragraph apply equally in the event of either actual or threatened violations of the terms of this Easement Agreement, and Grantor agrees that Grantee's remedies at law for any violation of the terms of this Easement Agreement are inadequate and that Grantee shall be entitled to the injunctive relief described in this paragraph, both prohibitive and mandatory, in addition to such other relief to which Grantee may be entitled, including specific performance of the terms of this Easement Agreement, without the necessity of proving either actual damages or the inadequacy of otherwise available legal remedies. Grantee's remedies described in this paragraph shall be cumulative and shall be in addition to all remedies now or hereafter existing at law or in equity.

8. Costs of Enforcement. Any costs incurred by Grantee in enforcing the terms of this Easement Agreement against Grantor, including, without limitation, costs of suit and attorneys' fees, and any costs or restoration necessitated by Grantor's violation of the terms of this Easement Agreement shall be borne by Grantor. If Grantor prevails in any action to enforce the terms of this Easement Agreement, Grantor's costs of suit, including, without limitation, attorneys' fees, shall be borne by Grantee.

9. Grantee's Discretion. Enforcement of the terms of this Easement Agreement shall be at the discretion of Grantee, and any forbearance by Grantee to exercise its rights under this Easement Agreement in the event of any breach of any term of this Easement Agreement by Grantor shall not be deemed or construed to be a waiver by Grantee of such term or of any subsequent breach of the same or any other term of this Easement Agreement or of any of Grantee's rights under this Easement Agreement. No delay or omission by Grantee in the exercise of any right or remedy on any breach by Grantor shall impair such right or remedy or be construed as a waiver.

10. Hold Harmless. The Grantor shall hold harmless, indemnify, and defend the Grantee and its officers, officials, employees, agents, and contractors and the heirs, successors, and assigns of each of them (collectively "Indemnified Parties") from and against all liabilities, penalties, costs, losses, damages, expenses, causes of action, claims, demands, or judgments, including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees arising from or in any way connected with (a) use of the Trail Easement before acceptance by Grantee and/or before use as a public Trail; and (b) any injury to or the death of any person, or physical damage to any property, resulting from any act, omission, condition, or other matter related to or occurring on or about the Easement Area caused by the Grantor at any time.

11. Force Majeure Events. Notwithstanding the attached description of the Easement Area, both Grantor and Grantee acknowledge that the Easement Area consists of dirt trails and vegetation that are subject to movement, degradation, erosion and destruction from various influences including, without limitation, earthquakes, floods, wind, rain or other acts of God or events beyond the control of Grantor or Grantee (collectively, and as applicable, "Force Majeure Events"). Accordingly, Grantor and Grantee agree that the Easement Area described herein is subject to movement and relocation

as a result of any such Force Majeure Events. Upon the occurrence of any Force Majeure Event that results in the movement of the Easement Area or otherwise results in the total or partial destruction of the Trail Easement granted hereby, Grantor and Grantee agree to reasonably cooperate with each other in good faith in relocating the Easement Area or otherwise establishing a new Easement Area for the Trail Easement. In furtherance of the foregoing, Grantor and Grantee agree to execute and record an amendment to this Easement Agreement identifying and establishing the revised Easement Area.

12. General Provisions.

A. Controlling Law. The interpretation and performance of this Easement Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of California.

B. Severability. If any provision of this Easement Agreement, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, is found to be invalid, the remainder of the provisions of this Easement Agreement, or the application of such provision to persons or circumstances other than those as to which it is found to be invalid, as the case may be, shall not be affected thereby.

C. Entire Agreement. This instrument sets forth the entire agreement of the parties with respect to the Easement Agreement and supersedes all prior discussions, negotiations, understandings, or agreements relating to the Easement Agreement, all of which are merged herein.

END OF EASEMENT

SIGNATURE PROVISIONS FOLLOW

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Grantor and Grantee have executed this Trail Easement on _____.

“GRANTOR”

[Name, Entity]

Name, Title

Name, Title

*Signature must be notarized.

“GRANTEE”

City of St. Helena, a municipal corporation

Mayor or Vice Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney

ATTACHMENTS:

EXHIBIT “A” – Legal Description of Property
TRACT ____ SUBDIVISION MAP

EXHIBIT “B” – Legal Description of Trail Easement
TRAIL EASEMENT LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Acknowledgements

Appendix D: Easement agreement between the City of St. Helena and 899 Adams Street

RECORDING REQUESTED BY AND
WHEN RECORDED MAIL TO:

City Clerk
City of St. Helena
1480 Main Street
St. Helena, CA 94574



1993 030531

OFFICIAL RECORDS OF
NAPA COUNTY
H. KATHLEEN BONDS

AT REQUEST OF CITY OF ST HELENA
09/27/1993 11:11 am
Fee: \$.00 Pgs: 8
TT : \$.00

EXEMPT FROM RECORDING FEES -
SECTION 6103 GOVERNMENT CODE

AGREEMENT GRANTING TEMPORARY BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN EASEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into this 29th day of July,
1993, by and between ST. HELENA OFFICE PARK PARTNERS, a
California General Partnership ("SHOP"), and THE CITY OF ST.
HELENA, a municipal corporation operating under the laws of the
State of California ("CITY").

R E C I T A L S

A. SHOP is the owner of certain real property located on
Adams Street, City of St. Helena, described as APN 09-061-038
(the Property).

B. CITY desires to establish and maintain a temporary
bicycle and pedestrian pathway across a portion of the Property
which would be used by the general public.

C. SHOP hereby grants an easement to CITY to establish,
construct, maintain and use a public bicycle and pedestrian
pathway across a portion of the Property, pursuant to the terms
and conditions provided for in this agreement.

NOW THEREFORE, the parties hereto agree as follows:

-1-

A G R E E M E N T

1. Grant of Easement. SHOP hereby grants to CITY an easement in gross to construct, maintain and make available for public use, a bicycle and pedestrian pathway across a portion of the Property.

2. Location. The easement granted herein is located as described in Exhibit "A," attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference (the Easement Property).

3. Nonexclusiveness of Easement. The easement granted herein is not exclusive, and SHOP shall retain the right to use the Easement Property in a manner that will not restrict or interfere with the public's use of the Easement Property. CITY may not assign its rights hereunder without the prior written consent of SHOP, which may be withheld in SHOP's sole discretion.

4. Construction. CITY may construct, at its sole expense, a bicycle and pedestrian pathway within the Easement Property as indicated on Exhibit "B"; provided, however, that CITY shall cooperate with SHOP in scheduling and conducting such activities and shall use all reasonable efforts to minimize any interference with SHOP's use and enjoyment of its property, including but not limited to, the construction by SHOP of an office building on its property.

5. Maintenance. The granting of this easement is made on a condition subsequent that the easement improvements be fully and adequately maintained by the City at no expense or liability to SHOP.

-2-

6. Indemnity and Hold Harmless. The parties agree that this Agreement imposes no obligation on SHOP to perform any act or perform any duty with respect to the Easement Property. CITY shall indemnify and hold SHOP harmless from all damages or claims of any type arising from the conveyance of this easement, construction of improvements thereon, or the use of those improvements or easement by any persons, except that CITY shall not be obligated to indemnify and hold SHOP harmless from damages or claims to the extent such damages or claims arise from the negligent acts of SHOP. CITY's indemnification obligations as provided under this Section 6 shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

7. Term. This easement shall continue in effect until the Easement Property (a) ceases to be used as a bicycle and pedestrian pathway for a period of more than five (5) years as determined by mutual agreement or court judgment or order, or (b) is determined by a court in a judgment or order to be utilized on a continuing basis in a manner which poses the threat of liability to SHOP or poses the risk of damage to person or property, or (c) mutual agreement of the parties, or (d) such date as the Adams Street extension is completed and the "Pedestrian and Bicycle Path Easement," identified on the Parcel Map of the Lands of St. Helena Office Park Partners, recorded the 19th day of March, 1993, in Book 19, pages 79 and 80 of Parcel Maps in the Records of the County Recorder of Napa County,

-3-

joins with Adams Street as extended. Upon the termination of this Agreement, SHOP, at its sole expense, may remove any bicycle and pedestrian pathway constructed by the CITY within the Easement Property and restore and landscape the Easement Property.

8. Attorneys' Fees. In the event of any controversy, claim, or dispute relating to this instrument or the breach thereof, the prevailing party shall be entitled to recover from the losing party reasonable expenses, attorneys' fees, and costs.

9. Binding Effect. This instrument shall be binding on and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns of SHOP and CITY.

10. Counterparts. This instrument may be executed in counterparts, each of which when executed and delivered shall be an original.

EXECUTED the day and year first above written.

ST. HELENA OFFICE PARK PARTNERS,
a California general partnership

By Victor Motto
Victor Motto, General Partner

By Michael Fisher
Michael Fisher, General Partner

This easement is hereby accepted.

CITY OF ST. HELENA, a municipal
corporation

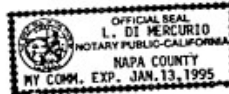
By Gene Armstead
Gene Armstead
Its City Administrator



-4-

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Diane M. Price
Diane M. Price
City Attorney



STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF NAPA)

On 9/17, 1993, before me, L. Di Mercurio, a Notary Public for the State of California, personally appeared Victor Motto, personally known to me (or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence) to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same in his authorized capacity as general partner, and that by his signature on the instrument the person, or the entity upon behalf of which the person acted, executed the instrument.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

L. Di Mercurio
Notary Public

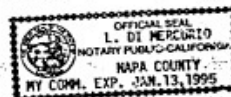
STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF NAPA)

On 9/17, 1993, before me, L. Di Mercurio, a Notary Public for the State of California, personally appeared Michael Fisher, personally known to me (or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence) to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same in his authorized capacity as general partner, and that by his signature on the instrument the person, or the entity upon behalf of which the person acted, executed the instrument.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

L. Di Mercurio
Notary Public

-5-



STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF NAPA) ss.
)

On September 22, 1993, before me, the undersigned, Deputy City Clerk of the City of St. Helena, personally appeared Gene Armstead, personally known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same in his authorized capacity, and that by his signature on the instrument the person or the entity upon behalf of which the person acted, executed the instrument.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

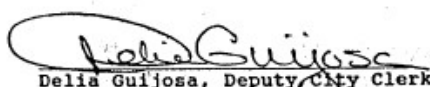

Delia Guijosa, Deputy City Clerk



EXHIBIT "A"**LAND DESCRIPTION
PEDESTRIAN/BICYCLE EASEMENT**

For a pedestrian and bicycle path easement over a portion of the Lands of Gregory A. Galleron as shown on that certain Record of Survey recorded in Book 27 Record of Surveys at Page 75, in the office of the Napa County Recorder, located in the City of St. Helena, County of Napa, State of California, more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at the northern corner of said Lands of Galleron; thence along the northwestern line of said parcel S 28 degrees 56' 30" W 20.00 feet to the True Point of Beginning; thence continuing along said western line S 28 degrees 56' 30" W 43.19 feet to the beginning of a non-tangent curve concave to the east having a radius of 220.00 feet and to which beginning a radial line bears N 78 degrees 23' 59" W; thence southerly 22.01 feet along said curve through a central angle of 05 degrees 43' 57" to the beginning of a reverse curve concave to the west having a radius of 280.00 feet; thence southerly 10.66 feet along said curve through a central angle of 02 degrees 10' 50"; thence S 88 degrees 53' 58" E 10.07 feet to the beginning of a non-tangent curve concave to the west having a radius of 290.00 feet and to which beginning a radial line bears S 82 degrees 11' 32" E; thence northerly 9.82 feet along said curve through a central angle of 01 degrees 56' 24" to the beginning of a reverse curve concave to the east having a radius of 210.00 feet; thence northerly 19.50 feet along said curve through a central angle of 05 degrees 19' 16"; thence N 28 degrees 56' 30" E 41.76 feet; thence N 61 degrees 42' 35" W 10.00 feet to the True Point of Beginning.

END OF DESCRIPTION



Appendix E: Resources

San Francisco's Crosstown Trail:

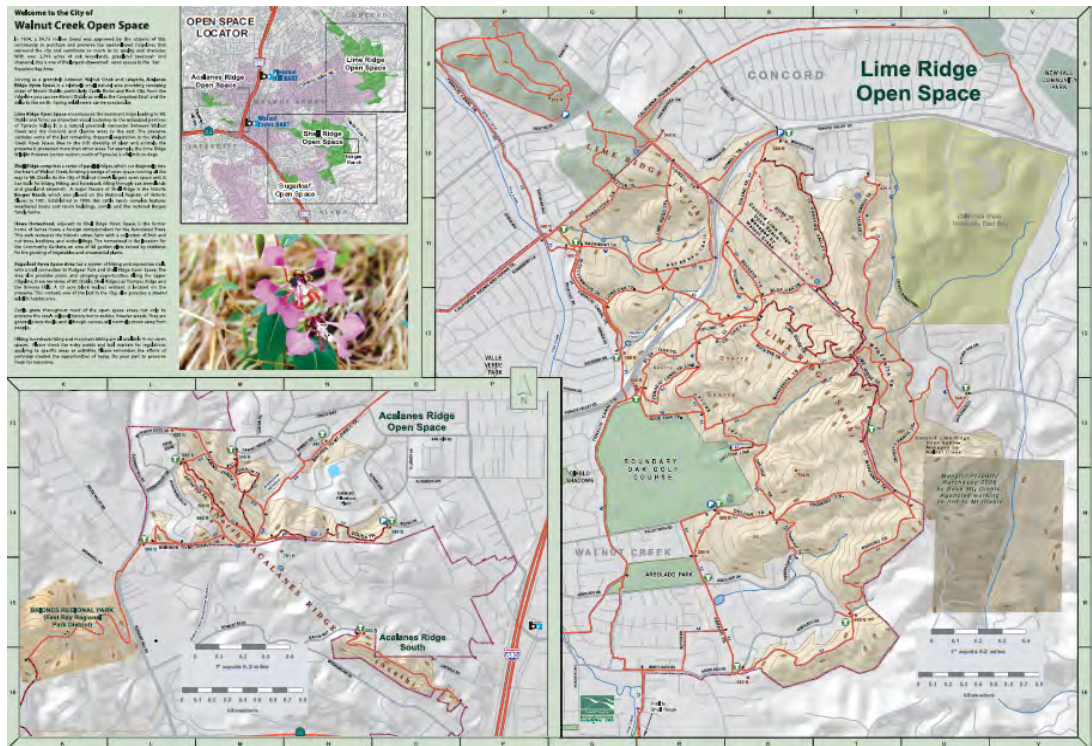
"In 2012, we imagined a trail that will cut across San Francisco, connecting the city's neighborhoods, open spaces, and local trails."

<https://crosstowntrail.org/about-the-trail/>

Walnut Creek signs and maps:

The City of Walnut Creek has very well developed walks within town and along its creek and former railroad right-of-way.





Lake Hennessey regulation signs, other signs, and maps:

The Hennessey Unit of the Moore Creek Park includes pathways along Lake Hennessey, the water supply for the City of Napa. Clear signs are provided regarding prohibited activities, which seem to be adhered to, and there are motion detector cameras deployed as well.







Stanford Dish regulation sign and map:

The Stanford Dish is a popular 1500 acre open space area in rolling hills above Stanford University with just over 5 miles of trails in a broad loop for hiking and jogging (but no biking) and is open to the public from approximately sunrise to sunset throughout the year. Regulations are strictly enforced by the university.





Legal issues associated with trails:

“Although risks and responsibilities vary widely depending on the location and type of use, this topic has been addressed in all 50 states and is well-studied. Knowledge of basic legal principles can guide project planning and highlight areas that merit particular attention.”

<https://headwaterseconomics.org/wp-content/uploads/trails-library-legal-overview.pdf>

“The Courts and the Legislature have expressed a clear policy to permit the use of available recreational property, both public and private, in its natural condition, without placing the burden and expense of altering the property and defending claims for injuries on the landowner.”

<https://www.americantrails.org/resources/protection-from-liability-promoting-the-use-and-development-of-recreational-trails>

San Jose, California trails:

The City of San Jose has extensive resources on trail development, including their Trail Strategic Plan, which includes hiking-only trails, their design toolkit, and signage guidelines. There is no need to reinvent the wheel on any of these.

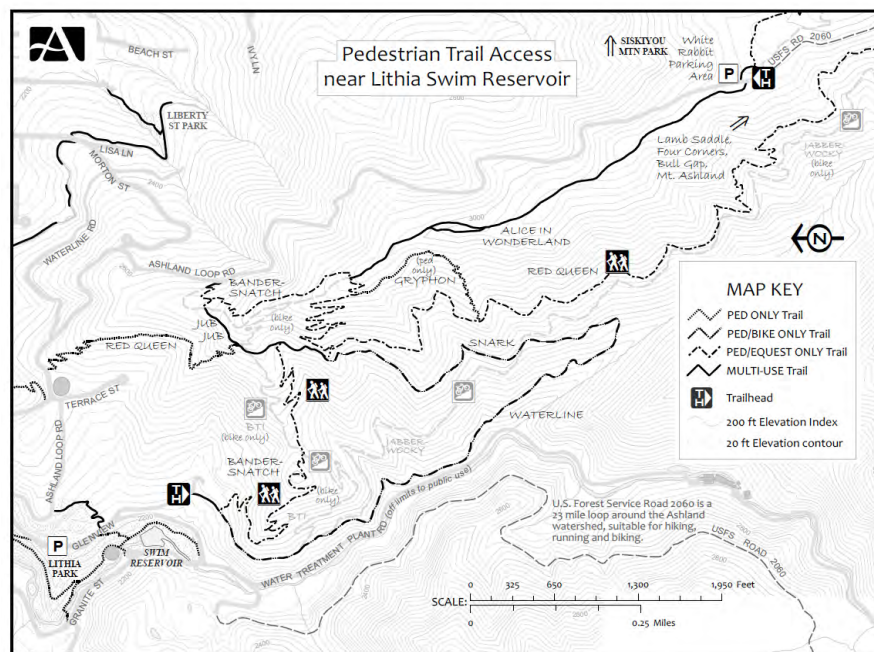
<https://www.sanjoseca.gov/home/showdocument?id=9827>

<https://www.americantrails.org/images/documents/San-Jose-trail-network-planning-and-design-toolkit.pdf>

<https://www.sanjoseca.gov/home/showdocument?id=9855>

Ashland, Oregon pedestrian trail map:

The City of Ashland abuts U.S. Forest Service lands and has pedestrian-only, bike-only and multi-use trails.



Working with landowners:

A guide for how to reach out to landowners regarding potential access or easements and a discussion about issues regarding access and liability issues.

https://www.americantrails.org/images/documents/Handout_Landowner-Outreach-and-Trail-Planning.pdf

https://www.river-management.org/assets/WaterTrails/landowner%20guidance_final_final_revised_1-21-2016.pdf

Bear Yuba Land Trust:

FAQ regarding trail easements from an innovative land trust.

<https://www.bylt.org/build-trails/whats-a-trail-easement/>

California Recreational Use Trail Immunity Laws:

“California’s recreational use and governmental immunity laws help keep our recreational lands open to the public.”

<https://www.portersimon.com/californias-recreational-use-trail-immunity-laws/>

Placer Land Trust Trails:

Many public, private and nonprofit entities are focused on creating walking paths and other trails through open space.

“Imagine a public wilderness trail amid a protected landscape of ranch lands, open woodlands, forests, creeks and ponds.”

<https://placerlandtrust.org/harvego-bear-river-preserve/>

Summit County, Colorado Trail Example Easement and Access Agreement:

<https://summitcounty.org/DocumentCenter/View/2933/Mooney-Trail-Easement-Access-Agmt>

Lexington, Kentucky Town Branch Trail Master Plan:

“The trail will connect into a recently completed 1.8 mile section of the Town Branch Trail near Alexandria Road and lead to Masterson Station Park.”

https://www.townbranch.org/doc/TBT_CentralSection_MasterPlan.pdf

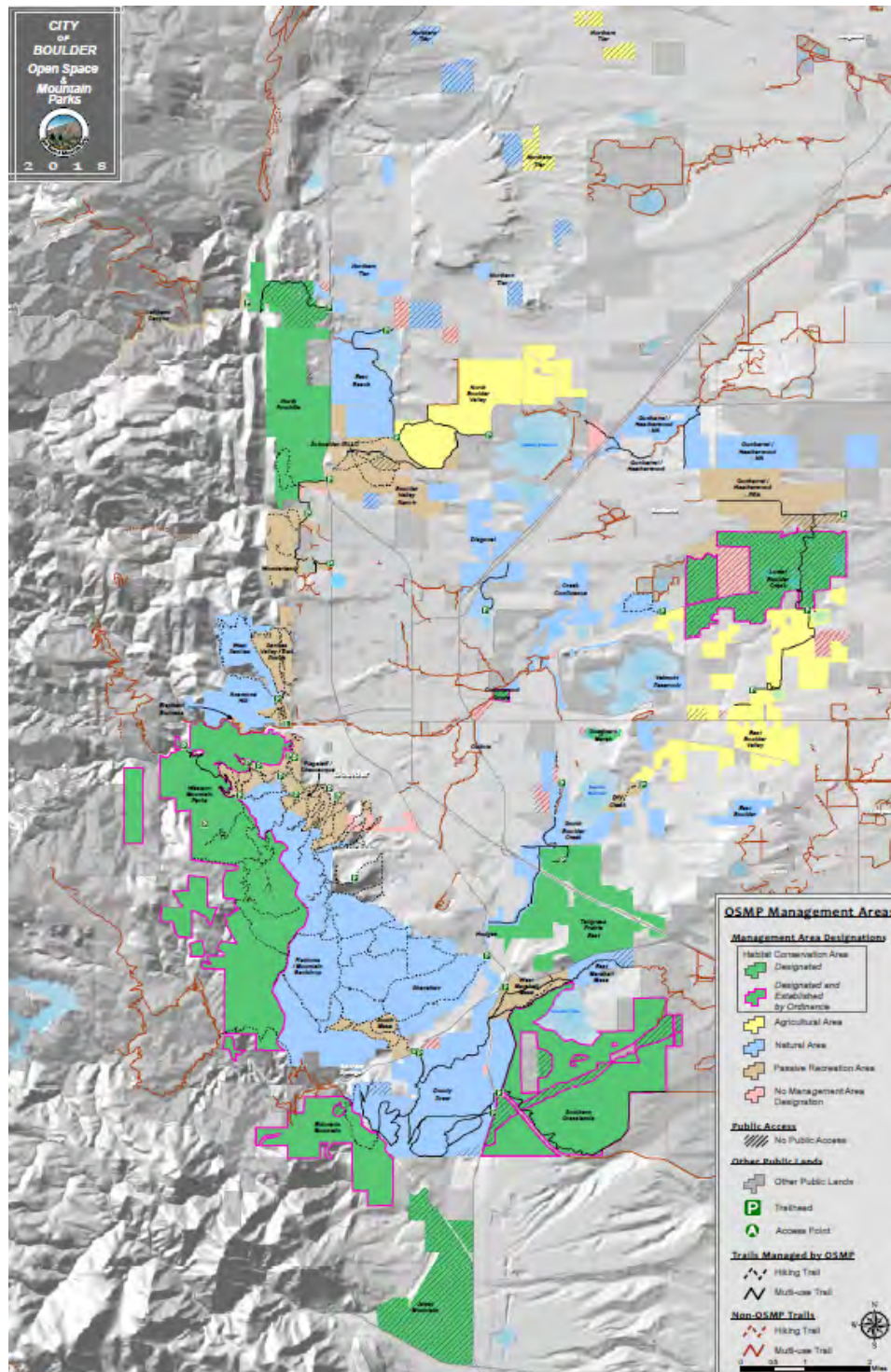
Pitkin County Open Space Management Plan:

“The mission of the Pitkin County Open Space and Trails Board of Trustees is to acquire, preserve, maintain and manage open space properties for multiple purposes including, but not limited to, recreational, wildlife, agricultural, scenic and access purposes; and to acquire, preserve, develop, maintain and manage trails for similar purposes.”

https://pitkincounty.com/DocumentCenter/View/20751/Moore-OS-Management-Plan_Draft

Boulder, Colorado trails:

The City of Boulder has separate hiking (walking)-only and multi-modal trails within its mountain and valley open space areas.



St. Helena Trails and Open Space

Hudson River Greenway trails and open space:

A guide for landowners.

<https://hudsongreenway.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2018/06/landownersguide.pdf>

“[Insurance] coverage will only be extended as part of trail access agreements.”

https://hudsonrivergreenwaywatertrail.org/images/ckeditor/files/private_insurance.pdf

Galiano Trails:

A Canadian non-profit dedicated to developing trails on a BC island, including a sample access agreement.

<https://www.galianotrails.com/>

<https://www.acrd.bc.ca/cms/wpattachments/wpID364atID1694.pdf>

City of Morgan Hill Bikeways, Trails, Parks and Recreation Master Plan:

“An expanded bicycle and pedestrian network and diversified recreational and cultural experiences throughout the City will strengthen Morgan Hill’s community fabric and strong sense of place as the City grows and evolves.”

https://www.morgan-hill.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/21711/CityMorganHill_Plan-COMBINED-CHAPTERS_07062017

Solano Land Trust Trail Crew Day:

Recruiting volunteers to help build trails.

<https://www.meetup.com/Solano-Land-Trust-Outdoor-Adventures-Meetup/events/279132221/>

Saturday, July 24, 2021

Trail Crew Day at Patwino Worrtla Kodoi Dihi Open Space Park



Hosted by
Solano Land T.



Solano Land Trust Outdoor
Adventures Meetup
Public group



Saturday, July 24, 2021
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM PDT



Needs a location

Details

We are in need of volunteers who will be able to have fun and do earth work in preparation for the new trails that will be laid out on this property.

Registration is Required

<https://events.r2o.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ei6p48v45e6b7fd&oseq=&c=&ch=>

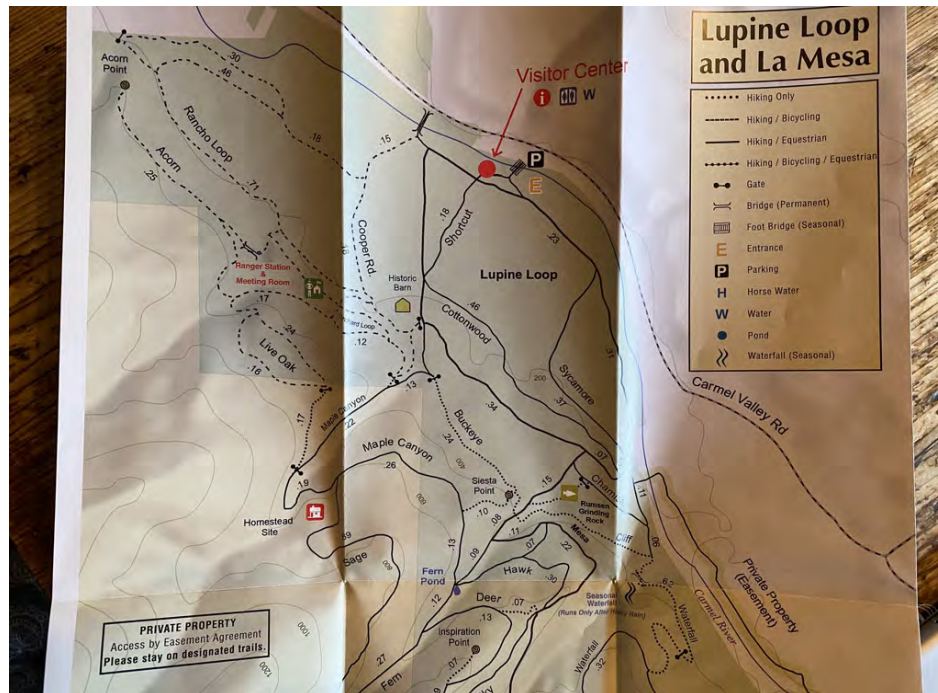
*** MEEETING LOCATION IS AT THE BIG RED ICE HOUSE ON THE CORNER OF
SUISUN VALLEY RD AND ROCKVILLE RD., POINT OF CONTACT IS JORDAN
KNIPPENBERG ***

Garland Ranch Regional Park:

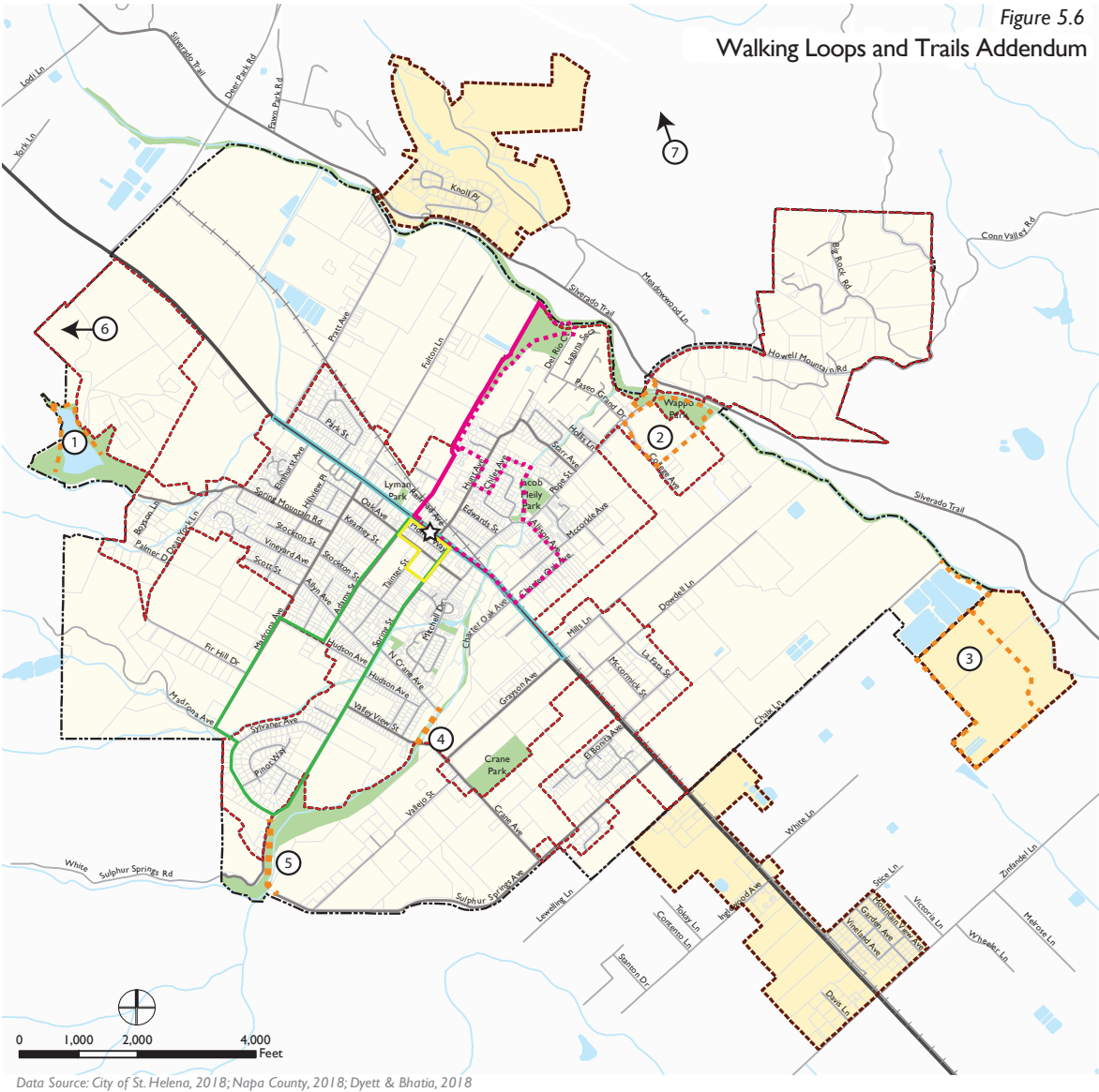
Many trails are hiking only and some trails are by easement agreement on private property.



St. Helena Trails and Open Space



5 circulation



- Parks and Open Space
- Urban Limit Line
- Study Areas
- City of St. Helena
- Chamber of Commerce
- Oak Avenue/Church Walk
- Westside Neighborhood Walk
- Main Street Stroll
- Napa River Walk (existing)
- Napa River Walk (proposed)
- Walking Loop and Trail Opportunities

- ① Lower Reservoir Trail
- ② Wappo Loop Path & Bridge View Spur
- ③ Valley Floor Walk
- ④ North Crane Sulphur Creek Path
- ⑤ Sulphur Creek Dry Crossing
- ⑥ York Creek Trail
- ⑦ Bell Canyon Trails

GENERAL PLAN UPDATE
City of St. Helena

Jerry & Michele Hyde
1518 Adams Street – St. Helena, CA 94574

November 10, 2022

ATTENTION: Parks and Rec Commission

SUBJECT: Comments on **“Walking Routes, Trails, and Publicly Accessible Open Space”** Report to City Council, January 2022

Commissioners and Staff,

These comments are regarding Report Section 2, Part 1, Par. B, pg. 24-25 titled *“Adams – Pine Pathway”*

The pathway is contiguous to two parcels on each side. It is 400 ft. long and 6 ft. wide. 250 ft. of alley are along our property at 1518 Adams. We and another homeowner who have lived alongside this path for 40 years or more.

There are several committee members and staff who know us personally and yet it appears they chose not to consult us regarding the history and issue regarding its use. This should have already happened.

Comments on the Pathway Report

1. The *“nuisance due to neighborhood children”* statement isn’t correct. In the past, children and adults alike “hung out” in the alley, and at varying times of the day and night. In the early morning hours adults, not children, came to the alley. The alley is very long and attractive for “hanging out.”
2. Absence of families living on Pine Street now does not change the impact of people in the alley in the nighttime and early morning hours.
3. Who would want the smell of marijuana drifting into their bedroom at 3 AM?
4. The 400 ft. long city parcel was created for a sewer line, not “water infrastructure,” and was not created to be a walkway.
5. The gate was not installed or closed in 2000 as claimed. Early on, the gate was locked open, and then was closed during certain holidays and on Halloween. It was Mayor Britton who had it permanently closed around 2006 after two sexual assaults nearby.
6. The alley was rarely used as it led to a dead-end street and was not a “short-cut.”

Comments on “Recommendations” pg. 25

1. Consultation with the long-term neighbors bordering the pathway should already have happened.
2. A “one-time clean-up” of the alley shows a lack of understanding of the maintenance required to create a permanent and clear passage.

*Alley between Adams and Pine Streets
Comments on Walking Routes and Trails, etc.
November 10, 2022*

Neighbor Observations and Recommendations

1. We have maintained the alley, from Adams to Pine since the 1990s as the result of an agreement with the Public Works department. This was agreed to in order to stop workers in HAZMAT suits from using Herbicides which affected our property. We have gladly maintained the alley since then, particularly at both ends where there is public access.
2. The alley requires year-round attention, particularly in the early spring and throughout the summer into fall. It must be mowed several times to keep weeds down, and a weed-eater is used as well.
3. The alley would likely be required to conform to ADA standards with a significant cost to the city for construction and maintenance. The neighbors would be adamantly opposed to nighttime lighting in any form. At night, we enjoy darkness and quiet, and a “glow” of lights onto our properties and into our bedrooms would be unacceptable.
4. The alley would require a weekly visit, or more, from Public Works for general maintenance.
5. A 400 ft. long, 6 ft. wide passage cannot be patrolled with a drive-by. With people hanging out during early morning hours, there will be a need for police intervention. These are significant public safety issues. The alley is long and narrow, not wide and short.

We philosophically support the desire to open-up city paths and walkways. This particular path must deal with the reality of a long and narrow alley, almost entirely covered by deciduous trees requiring continual maintenance. Year-round maintenance and police patrol requirements would need to be part of the plan to reopen it. Finally, if lighting would be required by ADA standards, having it open during nighttime hours after sundown must be rejected.

In general, while the goal may be admirable, this alley’s length, width and location make it a bad idea short of the city improving it, maintaining it, patrolling it and opening it in the morning and closing at night all year. We would support that solution . . . closed by sundown. Closed at night solves security and lighting issues.

Sincerely,

Jerry & Michele Hyde

Jerry & Michele Hyde

City of St Helena City Hall
Received

NOV 10 REC'D

1480 Main St
St Helena, CA 94574

City of St Helena
City Council
1572 Railroad

Walter Nirenberg
1444 Adams Street
St Helena CA 94574

T: 707.968.5641
M: 415.298.3013
E: nirenbergw@gmail.com

Thursday, November 10, 2022

Re: Comments on "Walking Routes, Trails, and Publicly Accessible Open Space"
Report to City Council, January 2022, Section 2, Part 1, Par. B, pg. 24-25 titled
"Adams – Pine Pathway"

Dear Park and Recreation Department, Commissioners and City Staff,

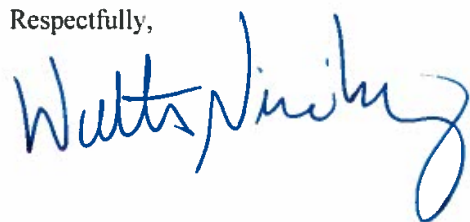
I am writing to object to the planned opening of the "Adams Street, Pine Pathway" which runs between Pine Street and Adams Street. The pathway is about 400' feet long, of which about 300' is contiguous with our property line. It is only 6 feet wide and has never been accessible during the >12 years that I have been a homeowner and resident at 1444 Adams Street.

While I am in favor of opening up as much of our city to as many residents as possible, opening this alley represents more problems than solutions. Its 400' length and 6' width make it impossible to be patrolled from the street and would require regular police walk-throughs in order to maintain a secure zone, without which, it becomes an opportunity for bad actors and an additional burden on our already overtaxed Police Force. It will become the gathering spot of choice, not a thoroughfare of any sort. As I recall, it was closed in the early 2000's as a result of some sort of sexual assault in the neighborhood. As we are all too aware, street crime is on the rise everywhere in the country and St Helena is no exception. Our efforts as a community should be focused on identifying and reducing areas of risk, not opening them up with a wait-and-see approach.

Furthermore, in order to maintain safe and secure conditions, the alley will require maintenance and lighting both of which will constitute an undue light pollution and noise nuisance to our property. The city has a great many critical-path projects on the plan and in the budget with dire consequences for delays and great benefit to all citizens. Opening this alley will benefit very few citizens and certainly cost more to make ready and maintain than the city has allocated in its park and rec budget; this would constitute an un-budgeted line item at the expense of other more beneficial projects.

I renew my strong objection and wish to have same entered into record along with the City's acceptance of the liability and risks involved should the alley be opened.

Respectfully,



Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting, 11.14.22, Public Comment
Re: Item 5.1 Walking Routes, Trails, and Publicly Accessible Open Space
November 10, 2022

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners, and City Staff,

I am grateful for the efforts and work going into creating a trails and open space plan for our community to enjoy various walking routes and trails through St. Helena. Walking and riding around St. Helena is a favorite activity of my family, enjoyed daily. Almost always, I reflect how fortunate we are to live in such a beautiful place. Appreciating nature, historical markers, and the unique blend of old and new home design side by side. It was our inspiration behind our own home remodel! In addition, the health benefits associated with walking (and walking outside) are wildly important for a community with such a high percentage of aging individuals. I walk for my health, to enjoy the beauty of our town, and for the social connection it brings to me and my community. These proposed paths will help celebrate the things I, and my neighbors, love about St. Helena.

The repurposing of underutilized city property to create walking paths, promoting connectivity between neighborhoods is an excellent use of land. I commend the volunteer committee and city staff for their excellent report with maps, estimated walking times, and consideration of developing and citing routes on both sides of town, including unincorporated parts of St. Helena. As our town evolves, these types of projects are important to protect St. Helena's character for years to come.

I encourage City Staff to continue the momentum created from the open space committee, highlighting existing routes and creating new opportunities as outlined in the report.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steph', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stephanie Iacobacci
1130 Crane Avenue

Cindy Tzafopoulos

From: Pat Kenealy <pkenealy1@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 10:30 AM
To: cityclerk
Subject: [External] Public comment on item 5.1 of November 14 City Parks and Recreation Committee meeting

Dear Parks and Recreation Committee members:

I applaud the Committee's efforts to increase the number and length of walking trails in Saint Helena.

I write to urge special caution and reconsideration with regard to item 3A as described in pages 37 and 38 of the Walking Routes, Trails, and Publicly Accessible Open Space Report to City Council Amended October 22.

Sulphur Creek has been identified by California Trout, the Napa County Resource Conservation District, and others as an especially important stream in their efforts to restore salmon populations in the Napa River Watershed.

The Creek is impassable due to high water flows and levels for much of the year, and foot traffic across the Creek bed in times of low water levels is especially bad for the fish populations and for other wild life.

A bridge would be one way to provide safe crossing, but would seem very expensive.

Perhaps a mid-summer seasonal crossing would be OK with input from the various wildlife agencies. I hope the Committee will consult with them before investing in this particular project.

There is already plenty of trespassing, vandalism, and fire danger in the area contemplated by the project. Increasing foot traffic will likely increase negative environmental impact in an especially sensitive ecosystem. I urge careful consideration on this one.

Sincerely,

Patrick Kenealy
2995 Spring Street
Saint Helena

Cindy Tzaopoulos

From: Ric Henry <richenry3@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 9:16 AM
To: Cindy Tzaopoulos
Subject: [External] Comments on Public Paths

NOVEMBER 14, 2022

To St. Helena Personnel Considering the Public Paths:

I appreciate the City of St. Helena's efforts to keep the public paths open for our use. I served as an inaugural member of the Active Transportation Committee. I wish to highlight a few issues with a few of the paths.

Of particular interest to me is the path connecting Hunt to Adams. I cycle on this path often to take wine samples to ETS, bank at two banks, meet with my two insurance companies, and to shop downtown.

The Hunt to Adams path allows me to cycle more safely and relieves congestion on trafficked streets. It'd be nice if this path could be widened, paved, and stiped for bikes and pedestrians. A few pedestrians consider it to be a sidewalk and are not pleased when I cycle past them.

I also hope and support keeping the McCorkle to the back of Merryvale path open for our use. I see that new barricades have been installed there. I cycle this path to the three restaurants there, and to Gott's, Azteca, and Cliff Family. I prefer to cycle on this path as the gate at the end of Brown St. requires that I get off my bike and walk it through the gate. The McCorkle path also helps to keep me off more trafficked roads and to ride more safely on back roads.

The privatization of the path between Pine and Adams is especially disconcerting. This is a public path that should be available for public use. Besides recreational use, the path provides an alternative for school aged children to go to and from school and to the Native Sons' Hall for after school activities. Please weigh the opportunities this path provides to the entire community versus allowing a couple of citizens to keep it for their own private purposes.

Thank you for considering my concerns. I trust that you will keep in mind what is best for all St. Helenans.

All the best,
 Ric Henry
 1021 Allison Ave.
 St. Helena, CA 94574
 707/738-8239

St. Helena Parks and Recreation Commission
Via email: recreation@cityofstheleena.org

Re: 2022 Draft Trails and Open Space Plan

Dear Parks and Recreation Commission:

I have reviewed the “Trails and Open Space Plan” draft document (Plan) and wish to thank the motivated citizens who made the effort to put this visionary document together. I expect that this Plan will generate positive discussion that will build community behind our shared common interest.

We are a walking town. Everyday. This plan is a proposal to formalize popular routes and increase use of some of the less travelled routes. Increased use promotes citizen monitoring of maintenance concerns and also increases safety; safety in numbers, from cars, dogs and any other threat, imagined or otherwise.

The Plan presents some creative ideas that will prompt exciting conversation:

- Full pedestrian access to the Napa River floodplain was an important part of our Flood Control Project. Let’s finish that.
- The Sulphur Creek crossing has been lost for lack of use. Why?
- It’s time for the City to open the lower reservoir, which currently seems to be reserved for our well intentioned high school students.
- The City owns the York Creek corridor above the Spring Mountain Winery crossing. This was discovered during the dam removal project, but remains our best kept secret.
- Access through the police range at Bell Canyon reservoir would make a beautiful loop, similar to what the City of Napa offers us at Lake Hennessey.

What can St. Helena do? Let’s support, develop, formalize and preserve these opportunities.

Of immediate concern is the loss of the alleys in St. Helena. In any other part of the world, alleys are viable corridors that serve a purpose. What makes St. Helena so different? Two things have happened:

1. The police department has made the easy choice to close alleys in the past, rather than respond with a proactive solution to promote use. We should be opening, not closing, these important connections.

2. In at least on instance, with legal assistance, private citizens have occupied an alley without proper notice to the City. This only happens because the alleys are not valued by the City as a community resource.

Those who have walked in other parts of the western world will be familiar with the “right to roam.” They will be happy to tell you about their great adventures. This Plan does not propose anything so grand. After all, we have rights! To be clear, this Plan does not infringe on the sacred ground that is American property rights. What this Plan proposes is formalizing routes on public lands. As a healthy community, we should be united behind this.

I hope that this Plan is embraced by both City Staff and the community at large for the benefits that it will bring to the City of St. Helena. Please support it!

Thank you,

-Christopher Cole
ckcole@comcast.net



BLUE ZONES PROJECT

November 14, 2022

City of St. Helena Parks and Recreation Commission
1360 Oak Avenue
St. Helena, CA 94574

Dear Parks and Recreation Commissioners,

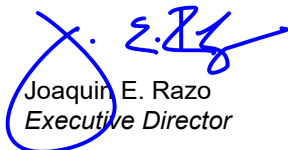
Blue Zones Project Upper Napa Valley would like to express support for the City of St. Helena's Walking Routes, Trails, and Publicly Accessible Open Space Plan. Blue Zones Project promotes moving naturally and this plan would expand opportunities for the St. Helena community to incorporate more movement throughout the day.

We support the development of a plan that meets the needs of the community and includes specific implementation recommendations, timelines, and potential funding mechanisms. We encourage the city to identify potential funding mechanisms for improvements, consider how other planned projects (such as the Vine Trail) would connect to trails in the plan, and develop citywide branded wayfinding signage for trails.

Lastly, we encourage the city to include the Napa County OuterSpatial app as an additional promotion opportunity for trails, along with the listed AllTrails app.

We support the city's initiative to increase walking opportunities for St. Helena residents and look forward to partnering in this effort.

In health,


Joaquin E. Razo
Executive Director


Kelly Bond
Public Policy Advocate

1422 Main Street St.
Helena, CA 94574

POWERED BY:



**City of St. Helena
Parks and Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting
October 17, 2022**

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order 5:37 pm

2. Roll Call

The following were present:

- Chair: Michelle Deasy
- Vice Chair: Matthew Demchuk
- Members: Doug Boesch
- Staff: Parks & Recreation Director Dave Jahns
- Absent: Tye Taylor, Rebekah Weeman, Eric Hall (City Council Liaison)

3. Public Forum – None

4. Reports by Staff and Commission

4.1 – City Staff Update

- No Parks Maintenance Update provided
 - Commissioners requested an update on the status of the Parks & Trees Superintendent position recruitment as well as an introduction to Public Works Director Leach at a future meeting.
- Director Jahns provided an update on current fall leagues and classes and upcoming dates for winter programs.
 - Commissioner Demchuk recommended staff explore the opportunities to expand music and performing arts programming

4.2 – Commissioners Update

- Commissioner Boesch toured Crane (West). Found several small improvements needed (potholes, small graffiti), but no major issues. Will utilize the online reporting platform to document issues. Concerned with condition of main walking path from West entrance. Asked if there was a identified use of the vacant turf area between the bocce courts and skate park. Staff provided that there is not a specified use at this time.
- Commissioner Demchuk interested in having a future discussion about a dog park on the west side of town. Shared there is an Eagle Scout candidate interested in making improvements to Baldwin Park for his Eagle Project.
- Commissioner Deasy visited Meily Park. Interested in the concept of developing a drop-in soccer program there.

6. Consent Calendar

5.1– Special Meeting Minutes of September 26, 2022.

- Motion Demchuk; Boesch 2nd
 - Approved – unanimous

7. Scheduled Matters

6.1 – 2022-23 Commission Goal and Committee assignments

- Staff provided an overview of the goal setting process, previous years' goals, and City Council's current three-year goals.
- Staff shared Commissioners discussion from last meeting and compiled existing goals and new ideas into comprehensive list to be considered for 22-23
- Commission motioned to approve with the following goals for the 22-23 term:
 - Revisit current Baldwin Park improvement project(s) and work in partnership with Public Works to complete or revise existing CIP
 - Recommend a path forward to develop pickleball space in St. Helena
 - Support the Trails and Open Space Committee in bringing the plan forward to City Council and implementation process
 - Launch the Parks & Recreation Master Plan process, beginning with a community-wide needs assessment and review of existing programs
 - Complete Crane Park court lighting project
 - Increase participation, access, and inclusion for our Latino community
 - Enhance programming, events, and gathering opportunities for teens and young adults
 - Motion: Boeschen; Demchuk 2nd
 - Approved - unanimous
- Commission motioned to establish the following subcommittees
 - Baldwin Park Improvements (Taylor and Weeman)
 - Pickleball (Demchuk and Taylor)
 - Trails and Open Space Plan (Deasy and Weeman)
 - Parks & Recreation Master Plan (Demchuk and Deasy)
 - Crane Park Lighting (Taylor and Boeschen)
 - Latino Community Participation (Boeschen and Deasy)
 - Teen Programming (Demchuk)
 - Motion to add Latino Participation and Teen Program ad-hoc subcommittees
 - Motion Demchuk; Deasy 2nd
 - Approved - unanimous
 - Motion for Commissioner Demchuk to replace former commissioner Warner on Master Plan subcommittee and Commissioner Boeschen to replace former commissioner Warner on Crane Park Lighting subcommittee
 - Motion Demchuk; Deasy 2nd
 - Approved - unanimous
 - Motion to appoint commissioner Boeschen and Deasy to the Latino Participation subcommittee
 - Motion Demchuk; Boeschen 2nd
 - Approved - unanimous
 - Motion to appoint Commissioner Demchuk to the Teen Programming subcommittee
 - Motion Demchuk; 2nd Boeschen
 - Approved - unanimous

6.2 – Hometown Harvest Festival Recap

- Commissioners provided their appreciation for the delivery and outcome of the event
- Staff thanked Commission for their role in supporting staff leading up to and on the day-of event
- Staff provided an overview of the event including schedule of activities, observations, and lessons learned for future planning efforts.
 - Commission provided recommendations to communicate vendor parking options, potentially bringing back the bicycle rodeo to encourage bike transportation, and update vendor numbering system.

Commission discussed moving the November meeting November 14 as a special meeting date to avoid the Thanksgiving holiday week. Staff will follow-up with commissioner to confirm the date.

8. Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned: 7:12 pm

APPROVED:

Michelle Deasy, Chair

ATTEST:

Dave Jahns, Parks & Recreation Director



ST. HELENA PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION 2022-23 Goals and Ad-Hoc Subcommittee Assignments

1. Revisit current Baldwin Park improvement project and work in partnership with Public Works to complete or revise existing CIP (*Taylor and Weeman*)
2. Recommend a path forward to develop pickleball space in St. Helena (*Demchuk and Taylor*)
3. Support the Trails and Open Space Committee in bringing the plan forward to City Council and begin implementation process (*Deasy and Weeman*)
4. Launch the Parks & Recreation Master Plan process, beginning with a community-wide needs assessment and review of existing programs (*Deasy and Demchuk*)
5. Complete Crane Park court lighting project (*Boeschen and Taylor*)
6. Increase participation, access, and inclusion for our Latino community (*Boeschen and Deasy*)
7. Enhance programming, events, and gathering opportunities for teens and young adults (*Demchuk*)

Updated October 17, 2022