



Escondido Creek Trail



Master Plan Report

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Section I

Executive Summary

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Executive Summary

Extending through the center of the City of Escondido is the channelized Escondido Creek that was once seen as merely functional but now, through the vision of the community, it is being re-imagined as a recreational and environmental asset for the City. Along the banks of this creek channel lies the Escondido Creek Trail.

In 2010 a study titled “Revealing Escondido Creek Vision Plan” (Vision Plan) was prepared by students of Studio 606 at the landscape architecture department at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. The Vision Plan explores opportunities for all portions of the creek that fall within the city limits. The following Escondido Creek Trail Master Plan (Trail Master Plan) is the next step towards implementing many of the ideas set forth in the Vision Plan. The study area for the Trail Master Plan is from the transit center on the west to Daley Ranch on the east; however, the concepts outlined within this document are organized so that all portions of the creek trail can be implemented with the recommendation herein.

Funding for this study was provided by the City of Escondido and a Healthy Communities Planning grant from San Diego Association of Governments and County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency. As part of this grant, a central focus of the master plan is to foster healthy and active communities by improving, safety, accessibility, and aesthetics for pedestrians and bicyclists on Escondido Creek Trail. The

Trail Master Plan incorporates strategies to help encourage safe and healthy lifestyles, such as: improved sense of security; proposed trail connections and safe street crossings; opportunities for walking and jogging; fitness stations; a skate plaza; and improved signage to guide visitors to key areas along the trail and within the surrounding community. The plan also incorporates a variety of improvements, such as themed rest points, community gardens, enhanced fencing, landscape improvements, seating, video surveillance, and lighting.

The theme of revitalizing Escondido Creek has been refined to include “Escondido Creek Trail, Community, Discovery, Heritage. Additionally proposed trail improvements include:

- Modify the existing 12 foot asphalt trail to include 2 foot wide strips of decomposed granite paving on each side with eight feet of asphalt paving.
- Add rest points along the trail with interpretive paving design artwork in the form of “area rugs.” The themes are Community, Discovery, Heritage.
- Landscape improvements throughout the trail emphasizing native and naturalized planting.
- Recommendations to improve street crossing safety through signalized pedestrian crossings.

Throughout the report reference will be made to the “Vision Plan” and “Trail Master Plan”. The “Vision Plan” refers to information in the “Revealing Escondido Creek Vision Plan”, 2010. References to “Trail Master Plan” refer to this report.

This report includes analysis of the trail’s existing conditions, a summary of the community outreach process, recommended site features for the trail areas, as well as for adjacent properties, and suggestions for the next steps to implementation.



Section 2

Project Overview

2 PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project Purpose

The Trail Master Plan is intended to be a resource and guideline for future development of the creek trail. The creek channel extends approximately seven miles through the City of Escondido and it is anticipated that trail improvements will be phased. While the study area is focused on a five mile segment through the heart of the city, the vision, goals, themes, and amenities included in this report can be applied to any segment of the trail, including any portions of the trail to the east and west outside of this specific study area.

Existing Conditions

Study Area

The Escondido Creek originates at Lake Wholford to the east, follows a 28 mile journey to the San Elijo Lagoon, and ultimately discharges into the Pacific Ocean. The study area for the Trail Master Plan includes the right-of-way on both sides of the channel for a segment that is approximately five miles long and stretches from the transit center (at Quince Street) to the Daley Ranch entrance (at Beven Drive) (see Figure 1: Study Area).

Data Sources

Existing conditions data was gathered by obtaining aerial photos from Google Maps, City Engineering department, previously prepared Vision Plan, site visits and observation, and photo documentation.

Note: Limited utilities information was available from GIS maps from the City Engineering department that showed approximate locations of gas, potable water, recycled water, sewer, and storm water adjacent to the creek. Typically the utilities are located on the maintenance side of the channel; however, exact utility locations should be verified prior to installation of any new improvements.



Figure 1: Study Area

Trail Design

The creek trail was installed in the right-of-way along the creek in the late 1990s. Existing improvements include a paved asphalt trail which is located, for the most part, on the south side of the channel, a maintenance access road which is typically located on the opposite side of the channel, fencing at the top of the channel and in some areas along the outer perimeter of the trail, gates at the entrance to the trail at each intersection, and an open area adjacent to the trail that varies in width from approximately two feet to 12 feet. The trail is closed after dark and is not lit, with the exception of a small area at Juniper Street. See Figure 2: at right for a typical configuration.

LEGEND

- 1 EXISTING ASPHALT TRAIL
- 2 MAINTENANCE ACCESS
- 3 CREEK CHANNEL
- 4 FENCE AT TOP OF CHANNEL
- 5 FENCE/WALL AT PERIMETER
- 6 GATES WITH SIGNAGE; WIDE ENOUGH FOR SMALL VEHICLE
- 7 LANDSCAPE AREA (SOMETIMES CONTAINS DRAINAGE CHANNELS, TREES, SHRUBS, ETC.)
- 8 LIGHTING (AT JUNIPER STREET ONLY)
- 9 PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE (AT TRANSIT CENTER, GRAPE DAY PARK, DATE STREET, AND RESIDENTIAL ARE NEAR BEVEN STREET)
- 10 GUARD RAIL

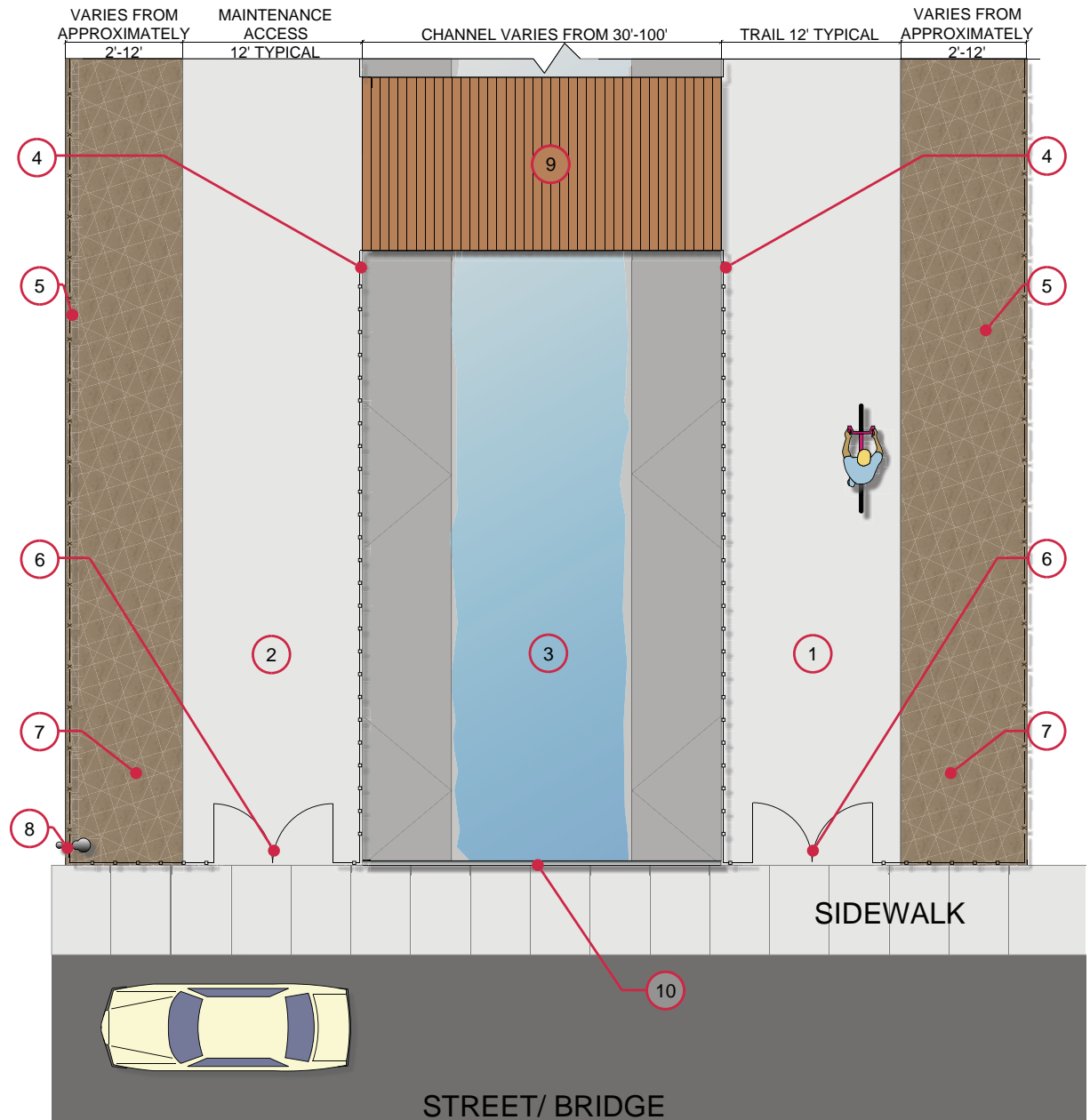


Figure 2: Existing Trail - Typical Layout

Trail Character Areas

The vision plan identified three character areas for the portion of the creek trail from the Transit Center to Daley Ranch (see Figure 3: Trail Character Areas):

- Grand Downtown
- Mission Park Urban Central
- Mountain Gateway East

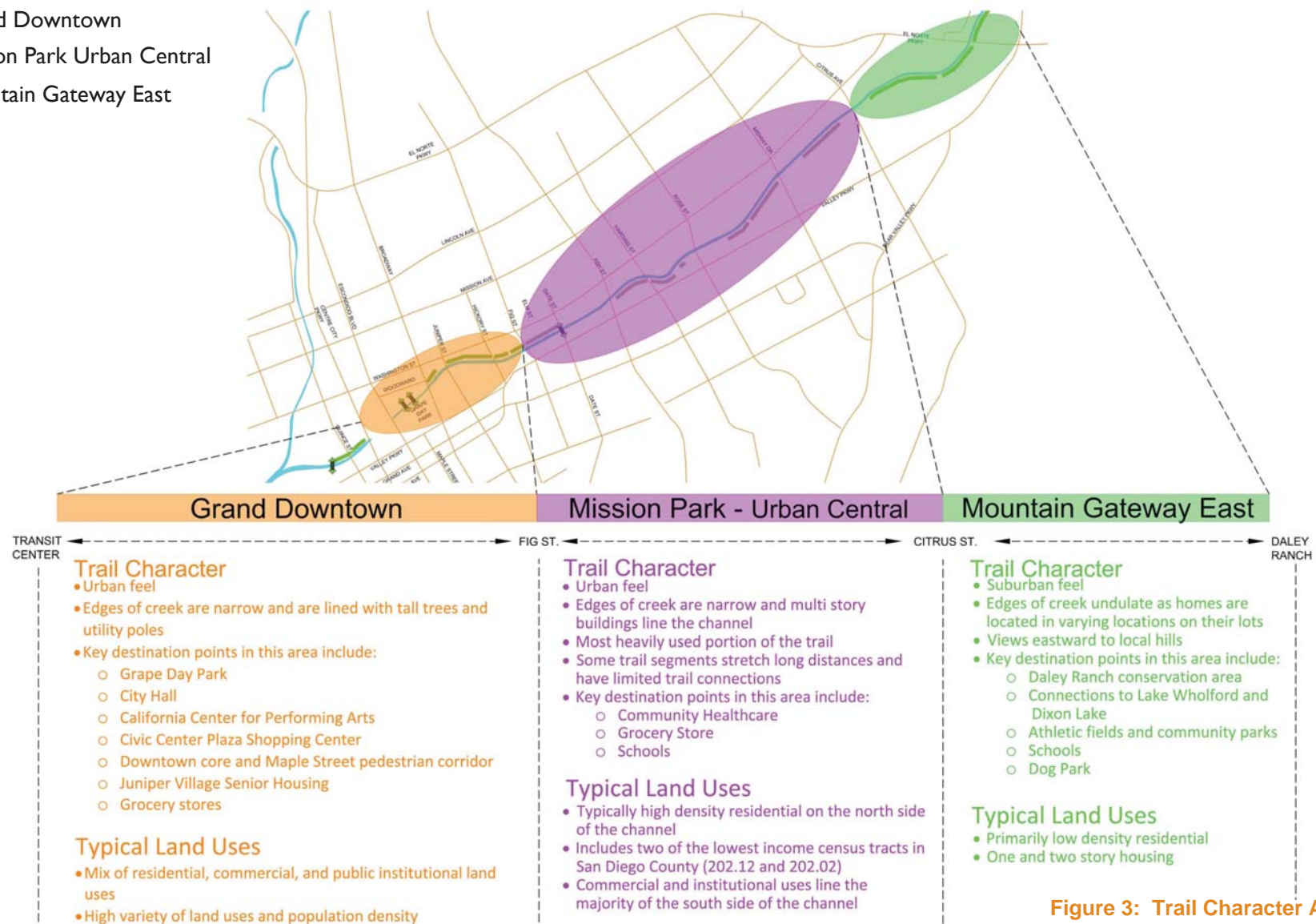


Figure 3: Trail Character Areas
(Excerpt from Vision Plan)



Specific populations served by this project include residents of the traditionally under served Mission Park area and much of Escondido’s senior population. Health issues such as obesity, cardiovascular disease and diabetes tend to be more prevalent among low-income and senior populations and are linked to the sedentary lifestyle and poor diet. The updated trail design will accommodate numerous new healthy opportunities such as physical activities, commuting alternatives, and enhancing accessibility to healthy and fresh food, and medical facilities.

Existing Conditions





The following Existing Conditions Plan includes a compilation of key site elements that were collected as a result of the site analysis and research phase.

EXISTING CONDITIONS LEGEND

TRAILS

-  Existing Trail
-  Potential Trail Connection

STREET CROSSINGS

-  Existing Traffic Signal
-  Proposed Pedestrian Activated Signalized Crosswalk
-  Future Pedestrian Under-Crossing
-  Proposed Pedestrian Crosswalk with Signage, Striping, and Pedestrian Activated LED Lights

COMMUNITY AMENITIES


-  Healthy Community Resources

Figure 4: Existing Conditions Plan 1 of 7

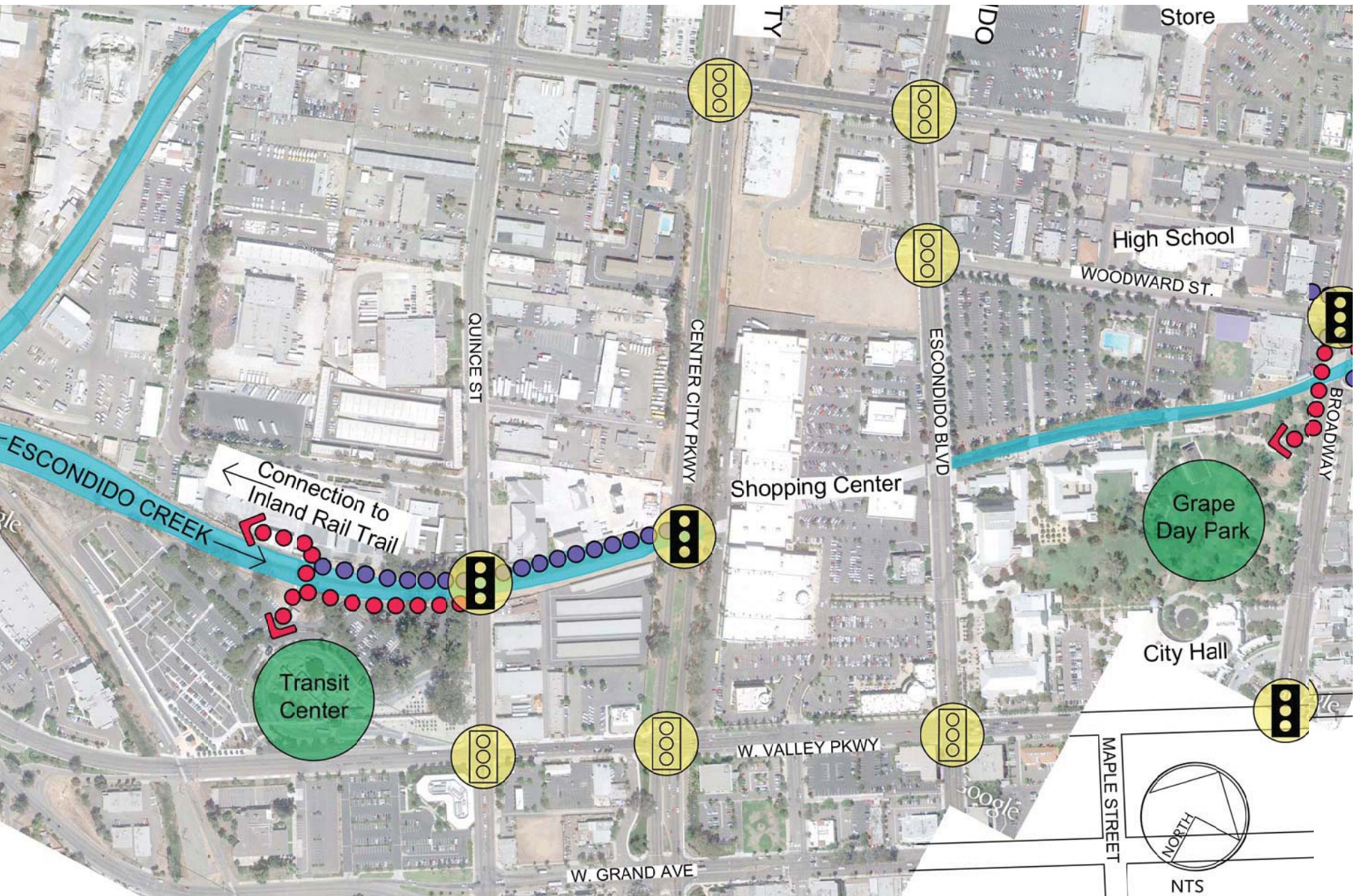


Figure 4: Existing Conditions Plan 2 of 7

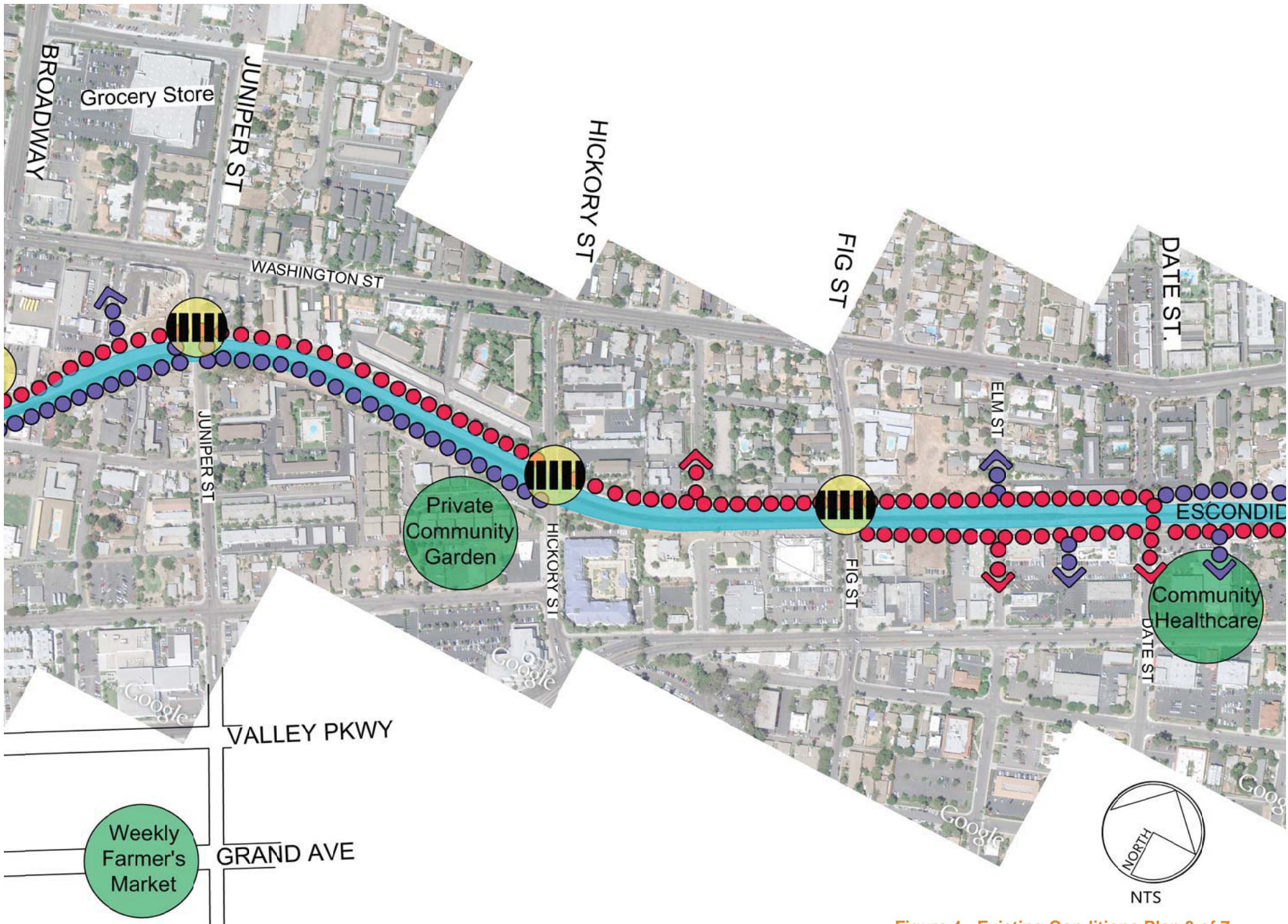


Figure 4: Existing Conditions Plan 3 of 7

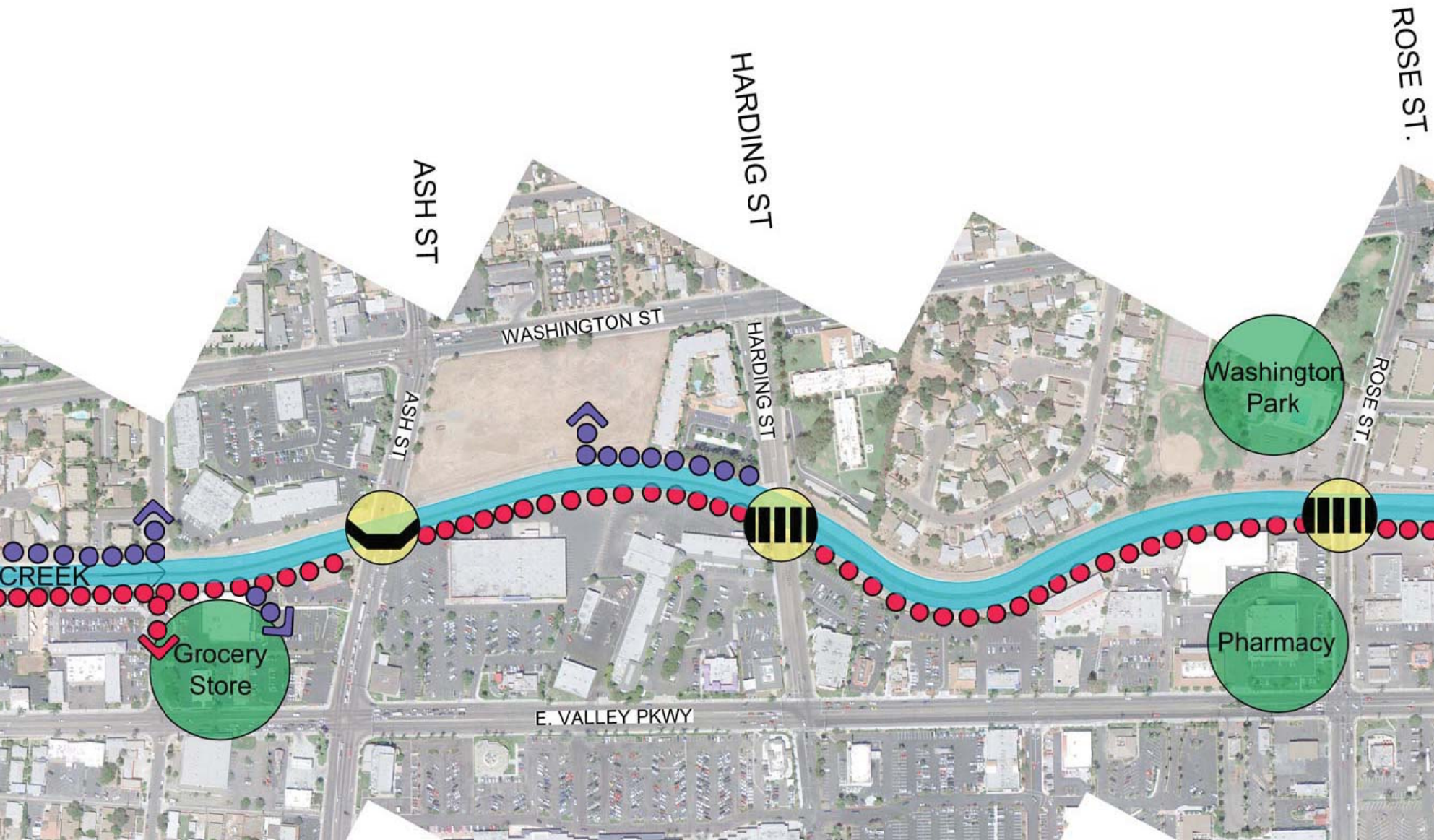


Figure 4: Existing Conditions Plan 4 of 7

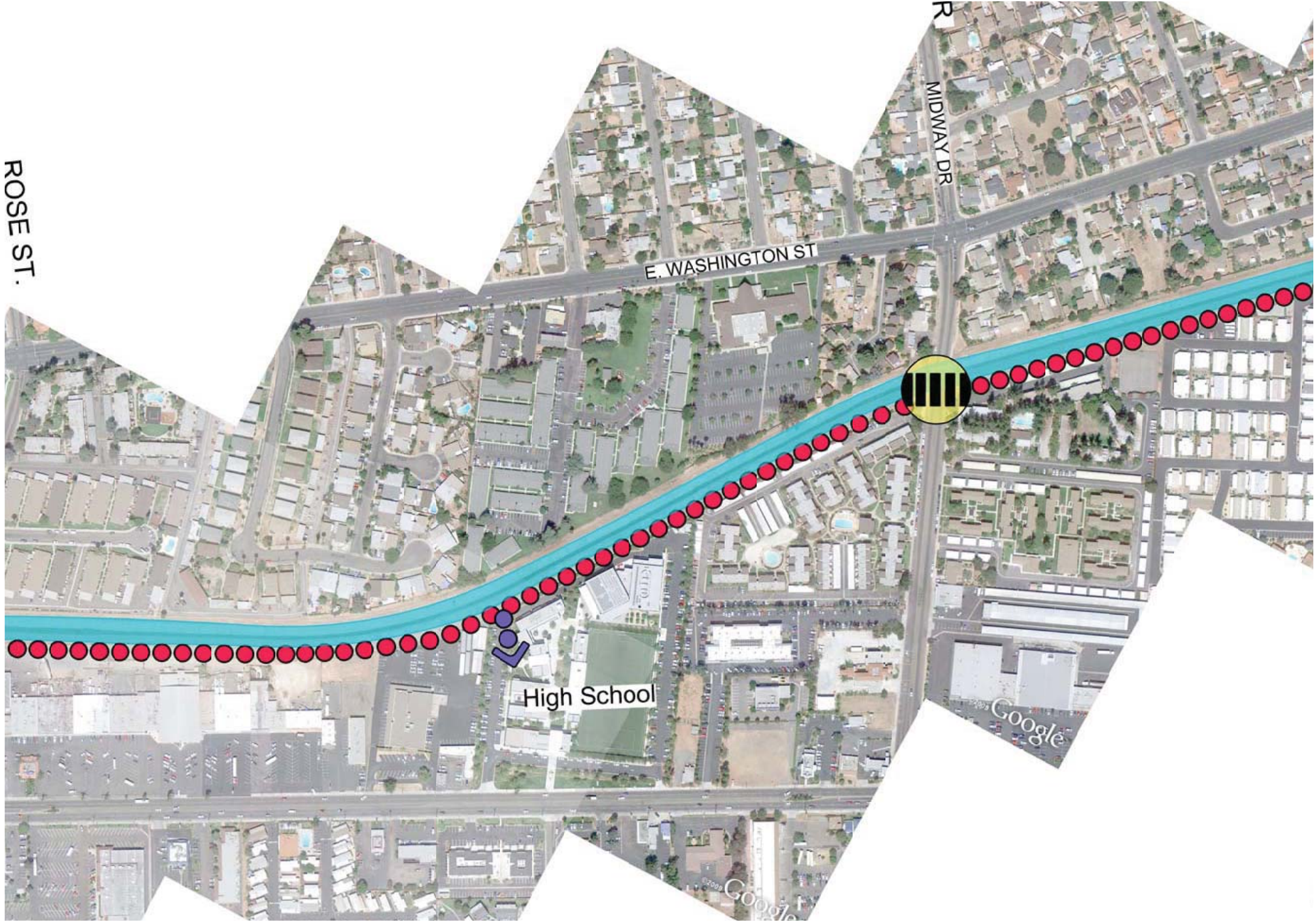


Figure 4: Existing Conditions Plan 5 of 7

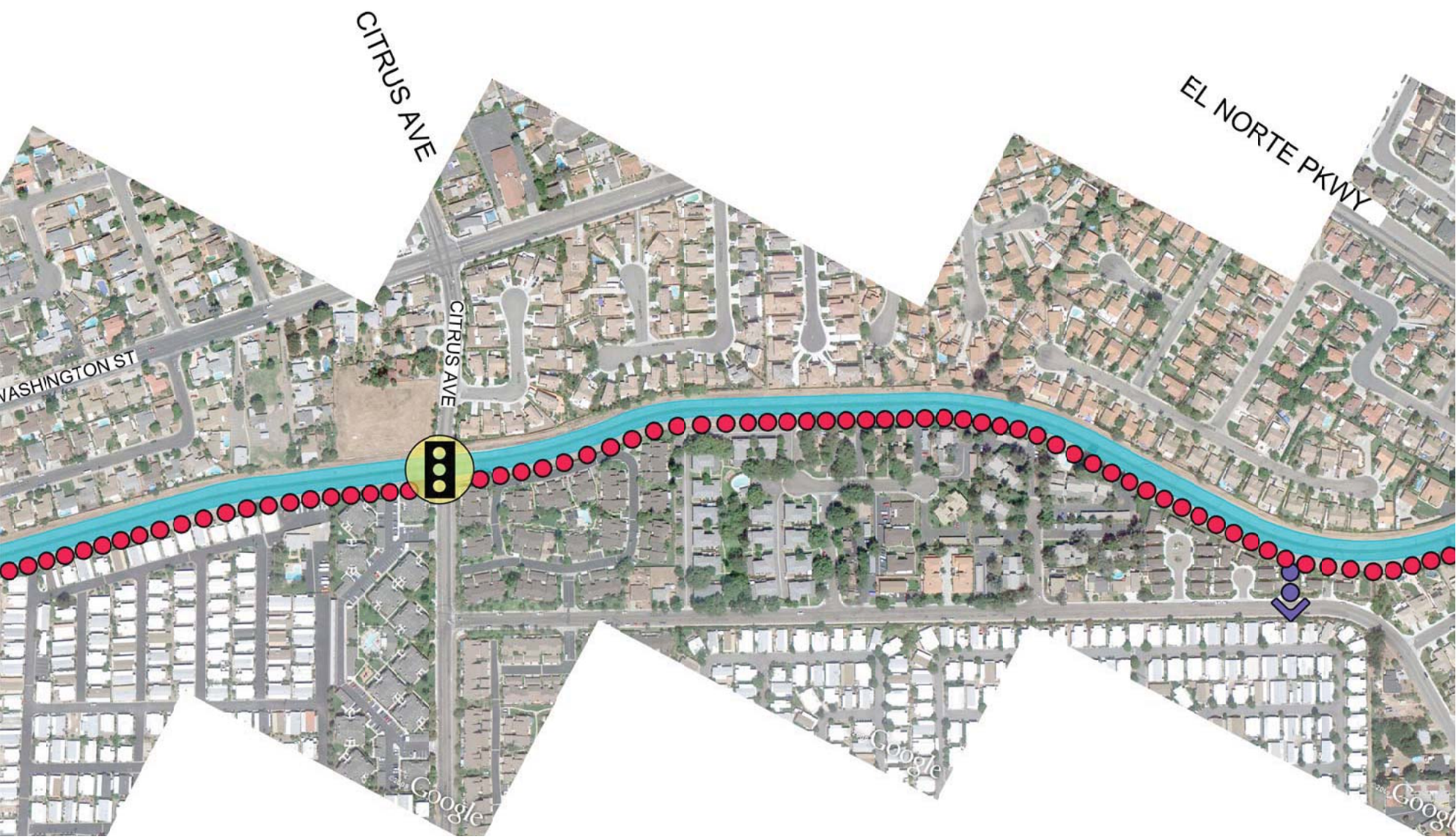


Figure 4: Existing Conditions Plan 6 of 7

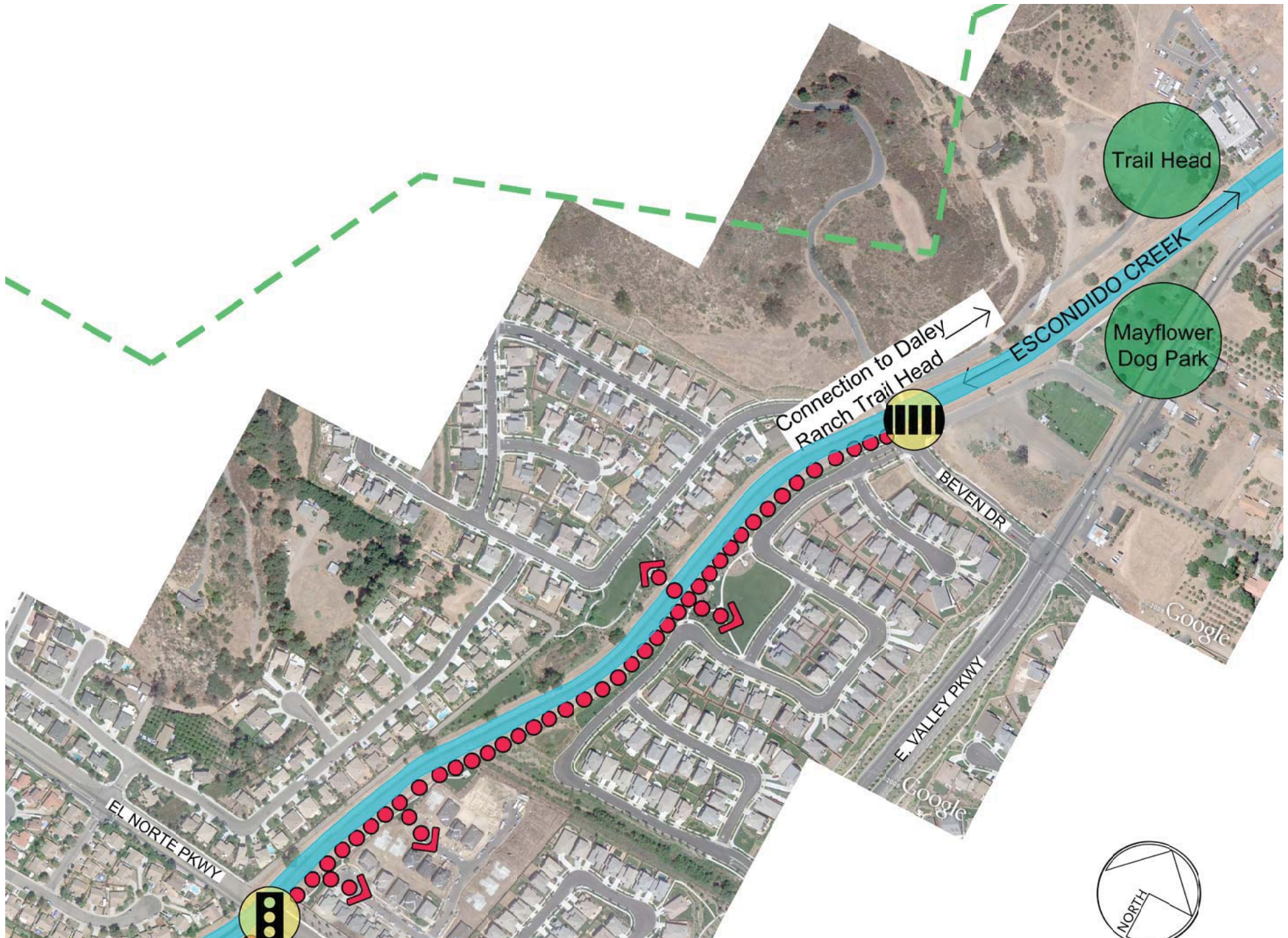


Figure 4: Existing Conditions Plan 7 of 7

Site Photos

The following two pages provide a photographic overview of the character of existing conditions along the creek trail.



Typical Channel Section



Typical Asphalt Trail



Typical Maintenance Access



Typical Unmarked Street Crossing



Wall With No Window Facing Creek



Graffiti



Mature Tree at Citrus Street



Narrow Landscape Area



Wide Landscape Area



Enhanced Landscape and Lighting at Juniper Street



Trail Users Find Shady Place to Sit



Typical Drainage Swale



Bike Racks at Transit Center



Transit Center



Connection to Daley Ranch Open Space Trails

Project Goals

The project goals build on the Vision Plan goals which include the following:



Healthy Economy

- Stimulate local commerce— increase access to businesses
- Create destinations to draw visitors from neighboring cities



Healthy Environment

- Reduce car dependency— increase transportation options
- Conserve water & energy resources
 - Improve water quality
 - Provide places for wildlife



Healthy Neighborhood

- Increase trail users
- Increase visibility & patrol access
- Integrate community input & foster ownership of site
- Improve connections between creek neighborhoods
 - Accentuate neighborhood character



Healthy Individuals

- Facilitate exercise— increase biking & walking options
- Increased access to fresh food
- Provide 'safe route' for children & seniors
 - Improve safety at trail intersections

The Vision Plan goals focus on effectively connecting residents to work, home, recreation, schools, and shopping without the need for an automobile. This promotes healthier citizens as well as providing economic benefits.

In addition to the Vision Plan goals, the Trail Master Plan design also embraces the following goals:

- Establish more detailed design guidelines for future development of the creek trail
- Focus on opportunities to promote healthy lifestyles to align with the Healthy Communities Planning grant

Figure 5: Project Goals

Related Studies

The Escondido Creek Trail has become an integral part of the city and has been included in several recent design and planning documents:

- Vision Plan
www.escondido.org/neighborhood-services.aspx
- Revealing Escondido Creek Website
www.RevealtheCreek.org
- City of Escondido Bicycle Master Plan
- City of Escondido General Plan Update
www.escondido.org/general-plan-update.aspx
- City of Escondido Stormwater Program
www.ci.escondido.ca.us/depts/ut/stormwaterindex.html

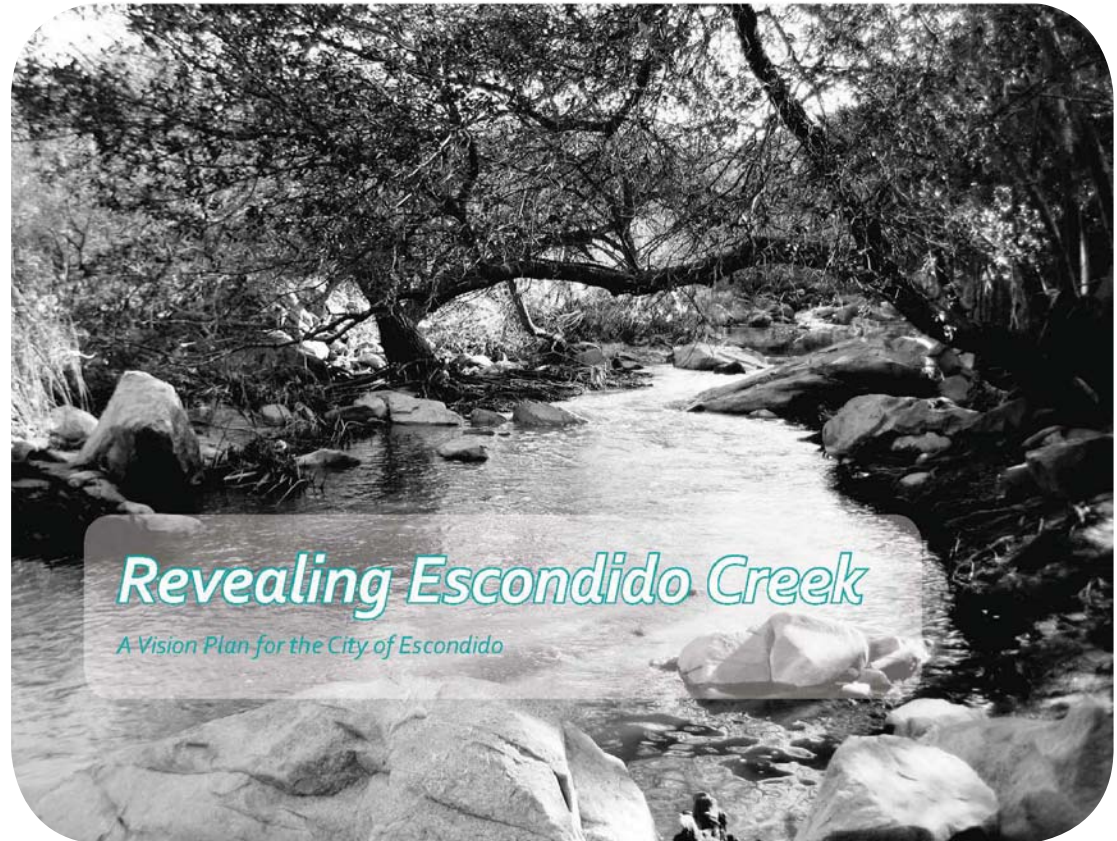


Figure 6: Vision Plan

Section 3

Community Outreach

3 COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Summary of Community Outreach

As previously noted, the City obtained a Healthy Communities Planning grant through San Diego Association of Governments and San Diego Health and Human Services Agency that supported its goal to promote the health and well being of its residents. To raise awareness about this master plan project and solicit input from local residents, the City of Escondido hosted community meetings and an online survey. Community outreach was a core component of the Trail Master Plan design process and had already begun as part of the Vision Plan.



Site Walk at Night

Key stakeholders included:

- Revealing the Creek Committee (community group)
- Escondido Creek Conservancy (non- profit community group)
- Escondido Citizen’s Ecology Committee (community group)
- Escondido Chamber of Citizens (community group)
- Downtown Business Association (community group)
- Escondido Neighborhood Services Department (City department)
- Escondido Police Department (City department)
- Escondido Traffic Engineering Department (City department)
- Escondido Planning Department (City department)
- Neighborhood Health Care (health care provider)
- San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy
- Escondido Creek Watershed Alliance



Presentation of Design Guidelines Options at Community Meeting #2

Key Community Meetings

The table below outlines a summary of the key community outreach events.

EVENT	DATE	EVENT DESCRIPTION
Community Meeting #1	July 20, 2011	Discussed opportunities and constraints and creek trail needs
Community Meeting #1	Sept. 22, 2011	Presented potential design guideline options based on community feedback
Community Meeting #3	July 20, 2011 - Oct. 1, 2011	Online survey with nine multiple choice questions and one open ended question to gather community feedback

Community Meeting #1

Below is a summary of the key community comments collected from community meeting #1 and from the responses to the open ended questions on the online survey.

Preserve the Environmental Characteristics of Escondido Creek

- Incorporate an environmental theme throughout, with historical and cultural references
- Use planting to soften trail (include native plants and habitat)
- Use lighting that uses solar energy and minimizes light spill

Safety

- Improve overall safety
- Improve maintenance
- Safe street crossings
- Video surveillance and additional bike patrols

Trail Alignment and Connectivity

- Eliminate barriers between commercial lands and public lands
- Meander the trail
- Consider future connections to the west end of trail even though it is not included in the current study area
- Reconsider trail routing around mall
- Create better connection to Grape Day Park

Site Amenities

- Fence only in areas where necessary; reduce height and select a more decorative fence or soften with landscape
- Durable site furnishings (including bike racks)

Community Meeting #2

Below is a summary of the key community comments collected from community meeting #2 and from the responses to the open ended questions on the online survey.

Channel Design

- Desire for master plan to include options for opening/softening/day lighting the creek where appropriate in the long term
- Plant willows in channel walls
- Living moss on channel walls
- Locate trees next to top of channel to provide shade
- Provide habitat next to trail
- Include de-channelizing as a long-term goal
- Encourage habitat friendly yards for residents adjacent to the creek

Theme

- Support layering of community and heritage themes through the city core
- Like themed nodes and area rug concept
- There was significant public support to focus on the natural Escondido Creek and its habitat

Amenities

- Fencing
 - Consider tube steel
 - Remove outer fencing where appropriate
- Activities for Kids
 - Create a space that kids feel welcome
 - Skate “node”

Beautification

- Like murals on channel walls
- Community gardens
- Trail to be a teaching instrument
- Consider mileage markers that indicate distances in both directions
- Consider a fitness loop that incorporates the transit center to use buses to take participants to a designated fitness stop so they can walk/run/ride the trail back to the transit station

Trail Layout

- Desire to incorporate meandering trail
- Possibility to create connection through a right-of-way through the shopping center
- Link to Grape Day Park

Safety

- Include lighting, security and video surveillance

Future Development

- Incorporate requirements for new developments to invest in creek trail as part of their open space requirements

Online Survey

An online survey was prepared to gather feedback from the community. It was presented in both English and Spanish. Ninety-two responses were received in English and none in Spanish. Below are responses from selected questions. In addition to multiple choice responses, there were opportunities for open-ended responses. A copy of the complete survey results are included in Appendix C and were incorporated into the final guidelines.

Please rank the importance of the following facilities and programs that may be considered in the master plan:

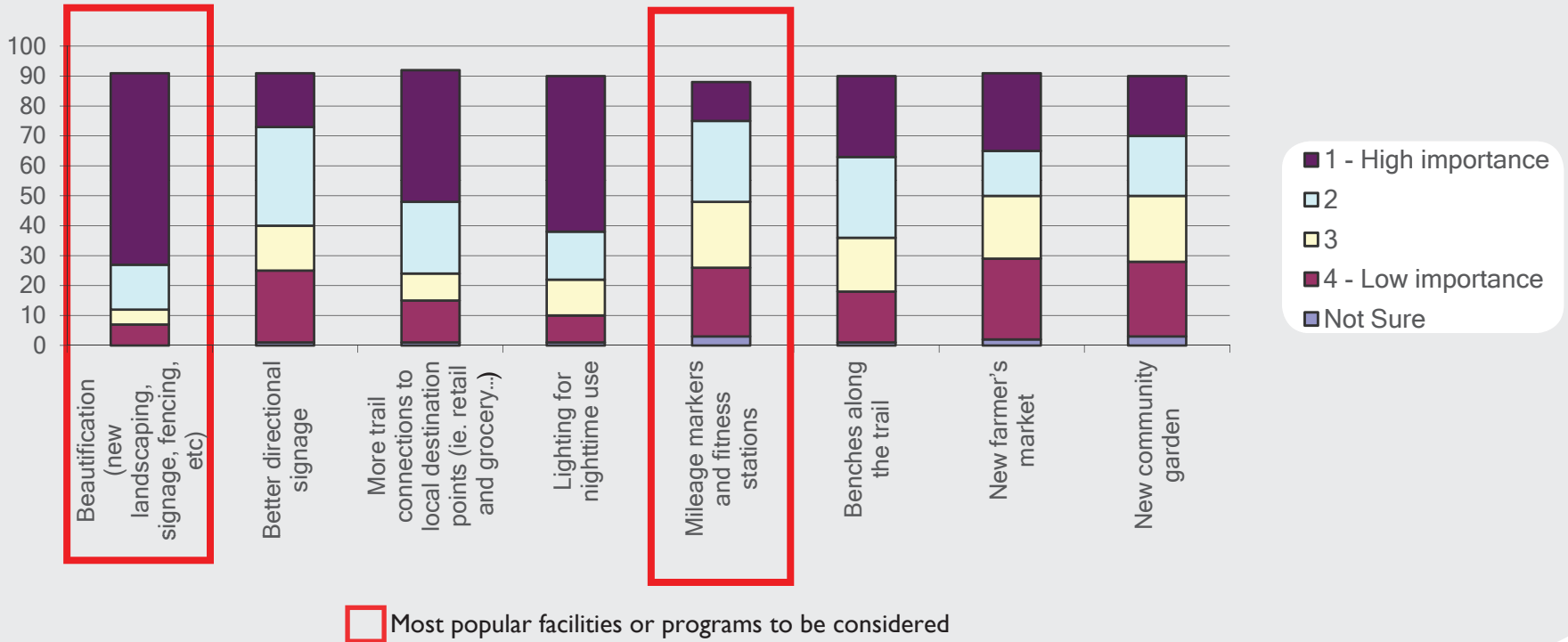


Figure 7: Question 3

Would you consider using the trail more often if it was upgraded and/or beautified?

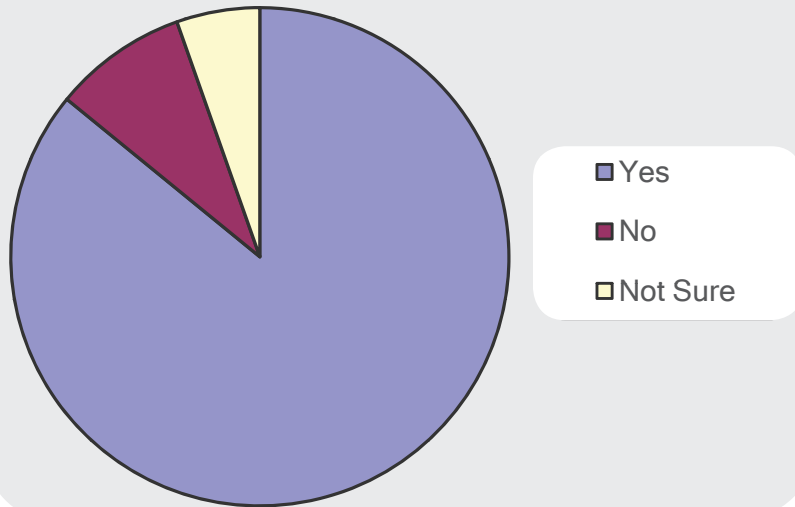


Figure 8: Question 1

Approximately how often do you use the trail?

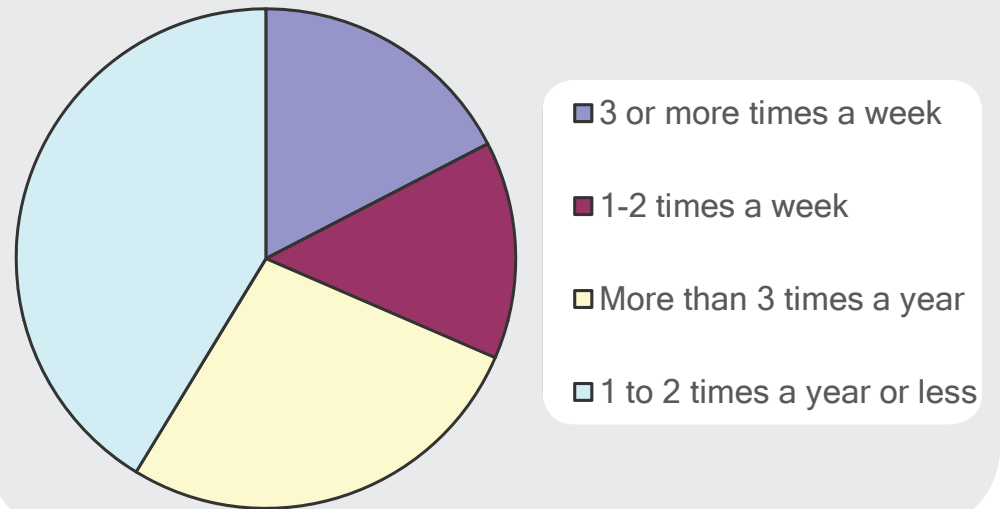


Figure 9: Question 5

What safety issues concern you?

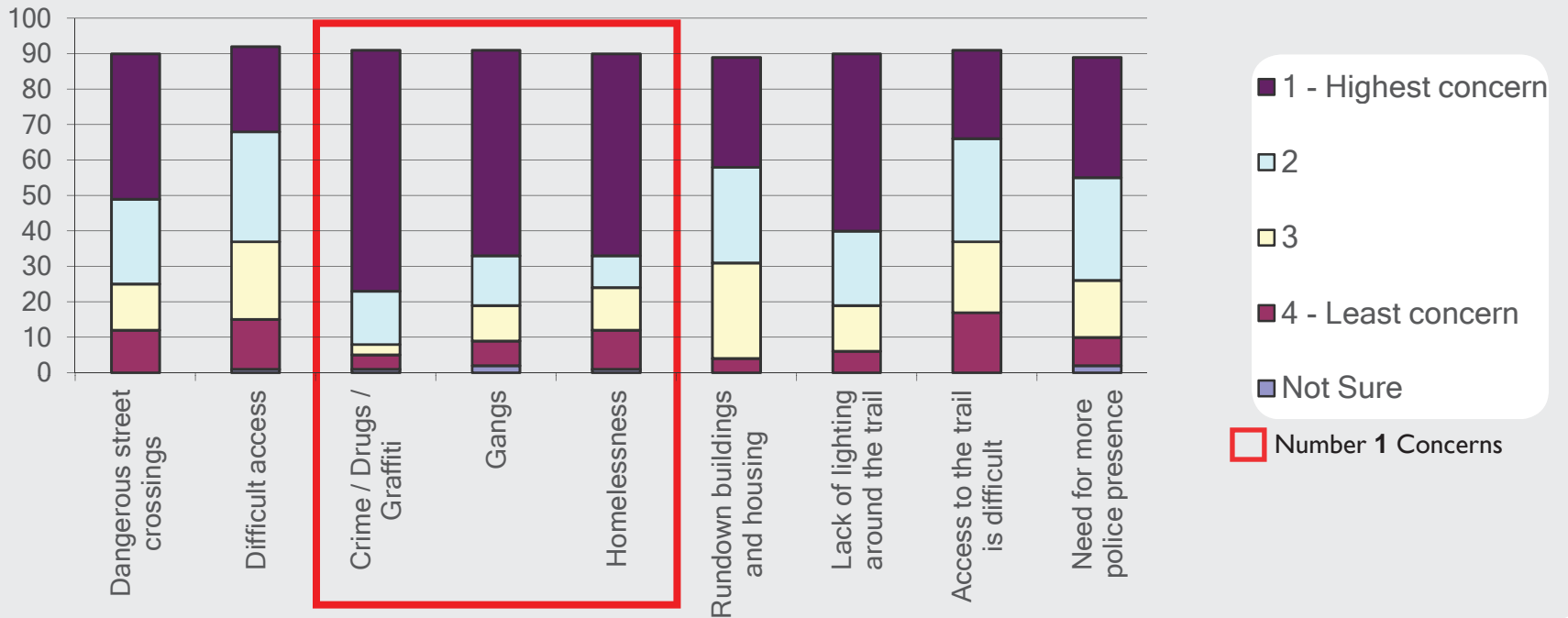


Figure 10: Question 4

Assessment of Needs and Program

Based on feedback from the public at community meetings, responses from the online survey, community concerns from the Vision Plan, comments from meetings with various City departments, and a review of existing trail features, the following needs and program elements were identified as desirable for inclusion along the trail:

To allow for the greatest flexibility of future uses, other proposed improvements that go beyond the limits of the creek trail and include adjacent parklands or the channel itself, such as day lighting the creek, opening the trail pathway through the mall at Escondido Boulevard, or developing a park on the vacant site near Ash Street should also be considered. See the Vision Plan for more detailed explanation of these possibilities.

Improved Trail Design

- Provide access to healthy resources and community resources
- Explore solutions for missing link at Grape Day Park
- Explore opportunities for trail expansion on both sides of the channel
- Explore opportunities for additional pedestrian bridges

Improved Trail Identity

- Interpretive environmental education
- Make network continuous
- Unified trail design
- Inspire stewardship of the creek

Figure 11: Assessment of Needs and Program

Improved Amenities and Beautification

- Landscaping with native plants
- Decorative dry creek beds
- Fitness stations
- Mileage markers
- Skate plaza
- Community garden
- Farmer's market location
- Site furnishings

Improved User Safety

- Safe street crossings
- Lighting
- Surveillance cameras
- Fencing

Figure 11: Assessment of Needs and Program

Section 4

Trail Design Guidelines

4 TRAIL DESIGN GUIDELINES

Design Guidelines Overview

The Trail Master Plan design guidelines provide a framework to guide future development of the creek trail. Both community feedback and the findings of the original Vision Plan reinforced the importance of encouraging use of the trail and stewardship of the creek. Enhancing the environment along the creek will improve habitat for wildlife as well as improve aesthetics, security, and recreation opportunities for the community.

The following design guidelines outline the design elements that should be considered for all future improvements to the creek trail. The guidelines are divided into four categories:

Identity:

- Overall theme
- Trail Gateway Signage
- Themed Rest Points
- Public Art

Safety:

- Street Crossings
- Lighting
- Surveillance Cameras
- Fencing

Trail Design:

- Materials
- Layout
- Alignment
- Potential Future Connections

Amenities & Beautification:

- Planting
- Dry Creek Beds
- Fitness Loop
- Mileage Markers
- Skate Plaza
- Community Garden
- Farmer's Market
- Site Furnishings



Existing Asphalt Trail

Trail Design

Materials

To soften the look and feel of the existing asphalt trail, removal of a two foot strip of asphalt on either side of the trail and replacement with stabilized decomposed granite is proposed (see Figure 12: Proposed Trail Materials and Layout). This area should be studied closely and installed in such a way to ensure that the surface does not drain directly into the creek or cause any siltation. The decomposed granite will visually reduce the width of the trail, but will continue to provide usable space. The softer surface of the decomposed granite is often preferred by joggers. Mile marker will be placed at one mile increments along the trail. The trail will be landscaped with native plants and feature decorative dry creek beds as well.

LEGEND

- 1 ENHANCED STREET CROSSING (PER "STREET CROSSINGS" SECTION)
- 2 GATEWAY SIGN
- 3 LIGHT POLE
- 4 EXISTING DRAINAGE DITCHES TO BE CONVERTED INTO ENHANCED DRY CREEK BEDS
- 5 CANOPY TREE (TO BE LOCATED TO AVOID CONFLICT WITH UTILITIES)
- 6 FENCE AT TOP OF CHANNEL (4' HEIGHT)
- 7 LOW GROWING SHRUBS AND GROUNDCOVER
- 8 FENCING AT PERIMETER OF TRAIL RIGHT-OF-WAY 4' OR 6' HEIGHT PER "FENCING" SECTION,
- 9 CREEK TRAIL MILE MARKER
- 10 SCREENING VINES TO GROW ON FENCE IN SELECTED LOCATIONS
- 11 2' DECOMPOSED GRANITE STRIP ON EITHER SIDE OF EXISTING ASPHALT TRAIL
- 12 NEW TRAIL CONNECTION TO ADJACENT PROPERTY WHERE APPROPRIATE
- 13 PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

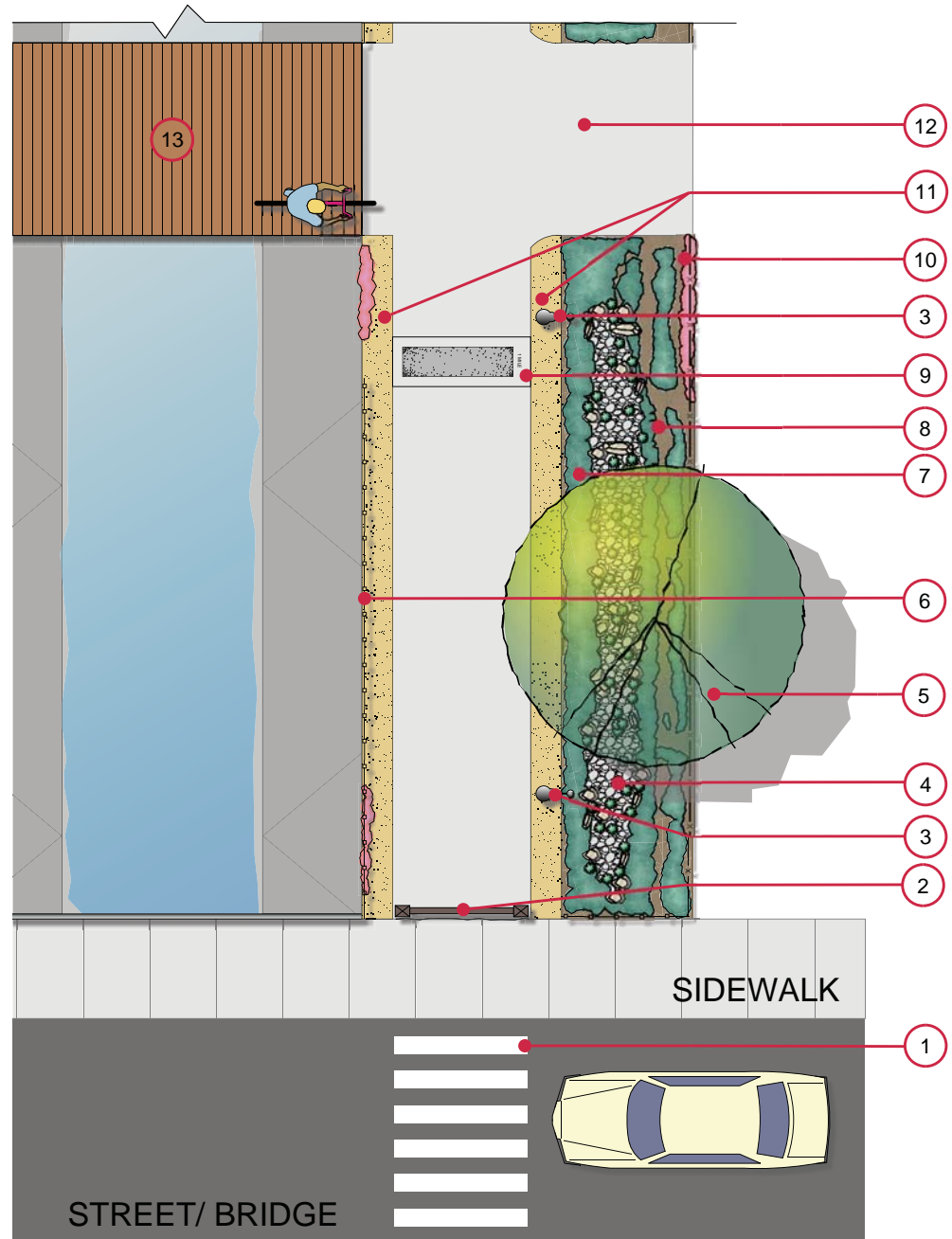


Figure 12: Proposed Trail Materials and Layout

Layout

Wherever space allows, the trail width and graded shoulders should meet the design guidelines for Class I bike lanes as defined by the Caltrans Highway Design Manual. The trail is intended to provide a recreational opportunity, but not act as a direct high-speed commute route due to potential conflicts with pedestrians and frequent street crossings. The minimum paved width for a two-way Class 1 bike path is eight feet, with a two foot recovery area on either side. A minimum two foot wide graded decomposed granite area with clearance to obstructions is also provided adjacent to the pavement. See Figure 12: Proposed Trail Materials and Layout.

When appropriate, layout for any new portions of the trail could include a meander which was desirable from the community's perspective. Where grades and right of way width allow, variation in elevation or a secondary meandering path should also be considered.



Example of Decomposed Granite Next to Trail at Solana Beach Rail Trail

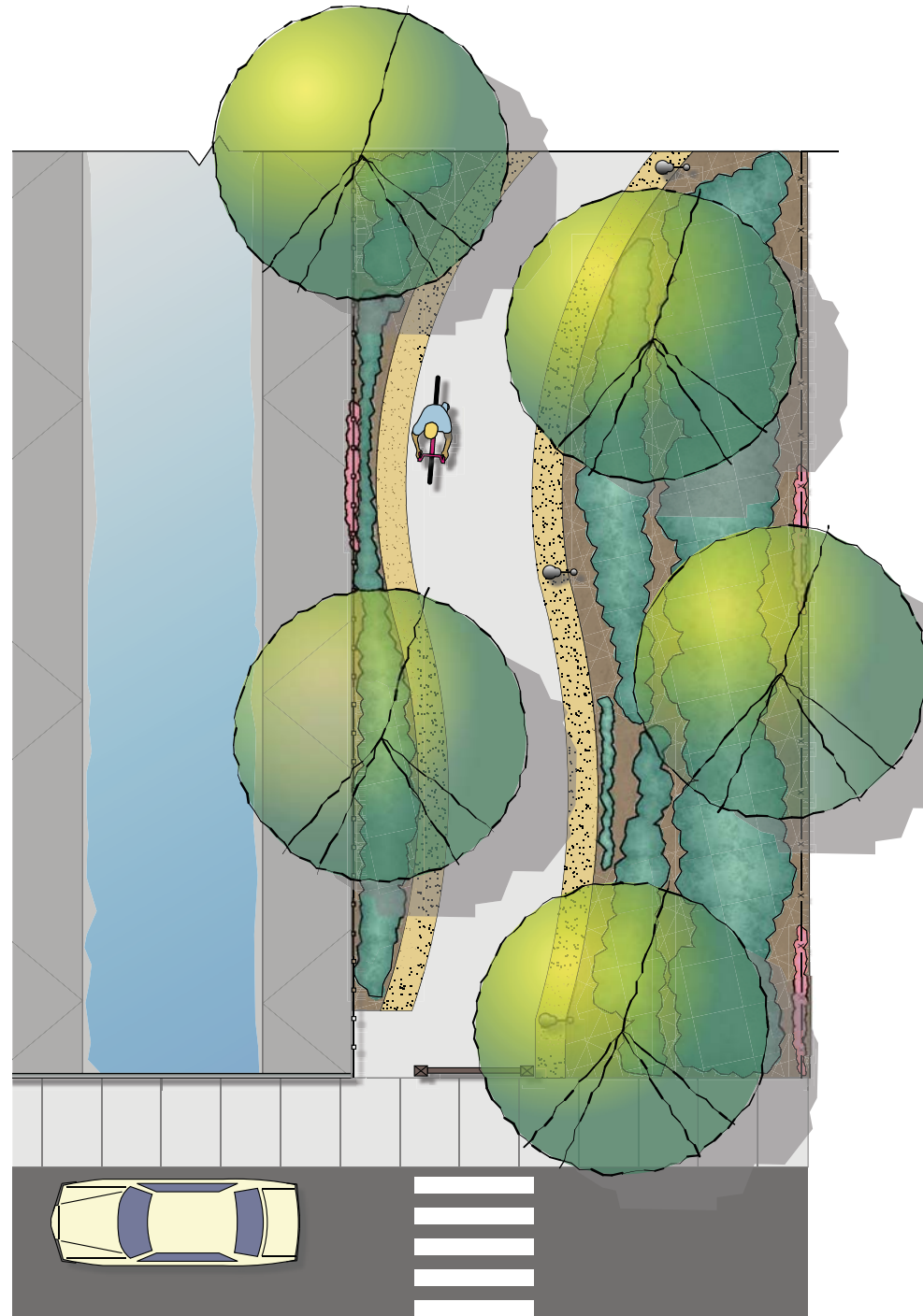







Figure 13: Meandering Trail Example

Alignment

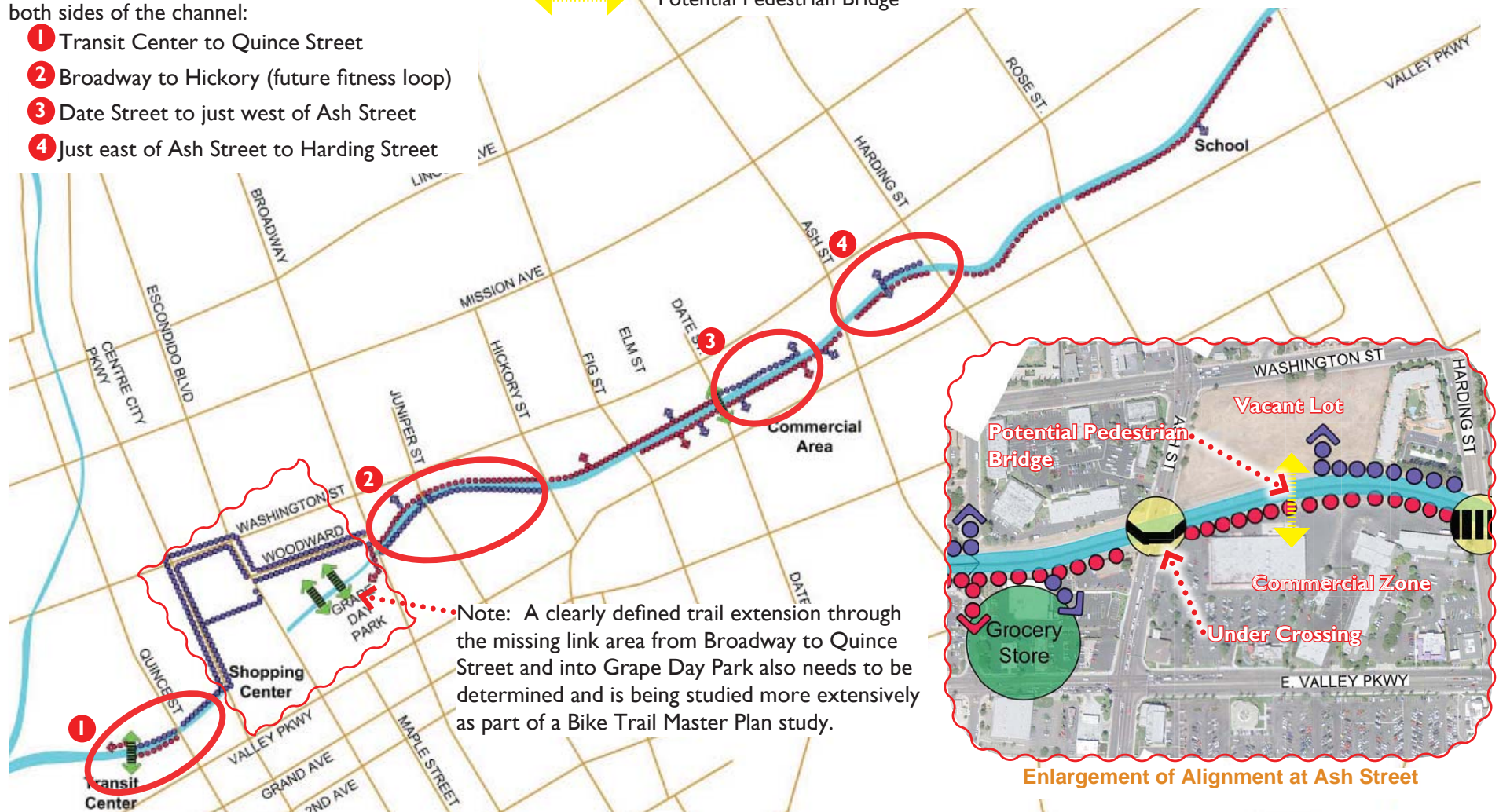
The existing trail is aligned on only one side of the channel, with the exception of the area from Fig Street to Date Street where it is located on both sides of the channel, and from Quince Street to Broadway where there is a missing link. The trail could potentially be extended to both sides of the channel for any or all segments of the channel; however, the following areas have been identified as particularly suitable for alignment on both sides of the channel:

- 1 Transit Center to Quince Street
- 2 Broadway to Hickory (future fitness loop)
- 3 Date Street to just west of Ash Street
- 4 Just east of Ash Street to Harding Street

LEGEND

-  Existing Trail
-  Potential Trail Extension
-  Existing Trail Connection
-  Potential Trail Connection
-  Potential Pedestrian Bridge

Note: Trail extensions and improvements associated with future development of the vacant lot at Ash Street are encouraged and should reinforce the trail under crossing on the south side of Ash Street. The future development of the vacant lots also presents an opportunity to create connections from the vacant lot on the north to the commercial lots on the south by way of a new pedestrian bridge. Additionally pedestrian bridges may be considered where the trail is located on both sides of the creek.



Note: A clearly defined trail extension through the missing link area from Broadway to Quince Street and into Grape Day Park also needs to be determined and is being studied more extensively as part of a Bike Trail Master Plan study.

Figure 14: Trail Alignment - Opportunities for Trail Expansion Along Both Sides of the Creek

Potential Future Connections

The previously described trail extensions would also contribute to the creation of additional trail connections to adjacent neighborhood resources. Revitalization of the trail will allow residents to safely access supermarkets in the commercial area and medical services on the south side of the channel by bike or on foot. Due to dense development directly up to the right-of-way limit on both sides of the creek, there are limited opportunities for new trail connections at this time. Some potential connection points that are available immediately are shown on Figure 14: Trail alignment opportunities, and include:

- 1 Cul-de-sac at Waverly Place
- 2 Elm Street on the north side of the creek
- 3 Selected commercial properties such as Fresh and Easy, Community Health care, and the commercial center parking lot between Fig Street and Date Street (on the south side of channel)

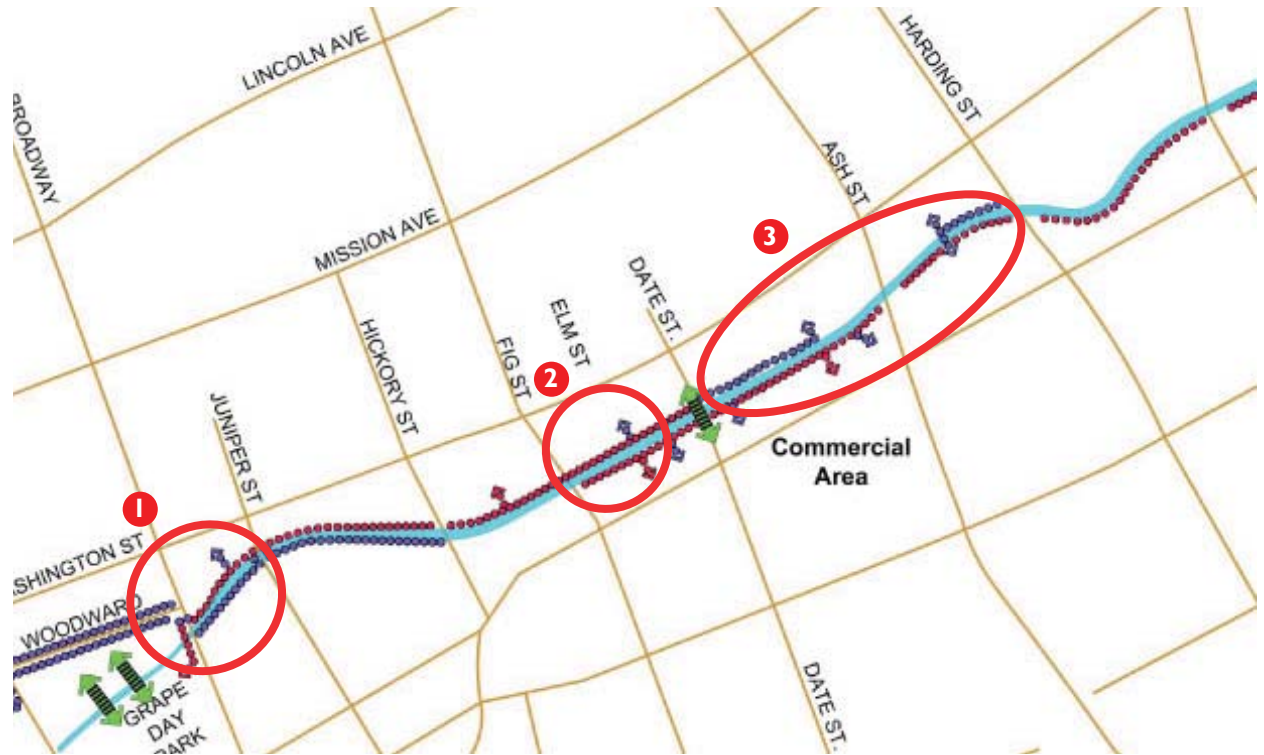
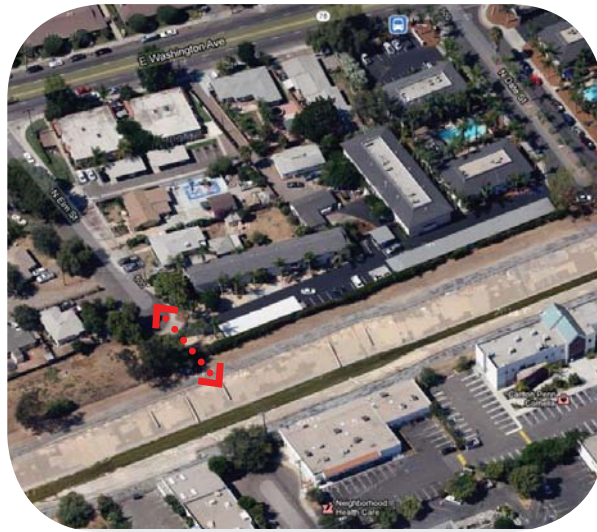


Figure 15: Trail Alignment - Opportunities for Trail Expansion Along Both Sides of the Creek



Potential Trail Connection at Waverly Place



Potential Trail Connect at Elm Street



Potential Trail Connections at Fresh & Easy

There are limited opportunities for connections along the trail as it currently exists, but new developments are encouraged to connect to the creek trail where appropriate. In particular, new fence openings and gates should make connections between the trail and healthy resources in the community as easy as possible. Some key destination points that could be linked by way of the creek trail are parks, schools, health care, grocery stores, and other healthy resources. Some examples of current community resources that could be connected to the trail are shown in Figure 16: Healthy Resources Map.

Wayfinding

Directions for people in motion along or near the creek trail. Providing creek users with informational signs and directions. The signs will display both verbal and visual cues throughout the length of the trail.



Figure 16: Healthy Resources Map

Identity

Focusing on a central identity for the trail will unify all portions of the creek trail and help establish it as a valuable community resource that is inviting and accessible to all. The proposed trail identity includes a new image that focuses on community, discovery, and heritage.

Overall Theme

The central theme for the trail builds on the Vision Plan ideas and on discussion from community meetings to include an environmental theme throughout with layering of community and heritage themes. The overall theme is captured by the slogan:



The themes are layered throughout with a strong focus on environmental discovery at the east and west ends of the City where the creek trail passes through more natural areas and a focus on community and heritage through the city core where the surroundings are more urban.



Enhanced Landscape at Juniper Street



Sample Interpretive Panel

West End ← City Center → East End



Figure 17: Theme Layout Along the Creek

Trail Gateway Signage

The identity of the creek trail is reinforced through consistent signage at each trail entrance. As proposed in the Vision Plan, an archway at each trail entrance will help brand the trail and make it easily identifiable.

The vision for the trail gateway signage includes an overhead arch that was inspired by grape vine arbors and post bases created from gabions filled with local river rocks. The sign incorporates durable materials such as corten steel and river cobble and provides limited solid surfaces which will deter tagging and vandalism. Overhead arch should maintain eight foot minimum vertical clearance and eight foot horizontal clearance from post to post.

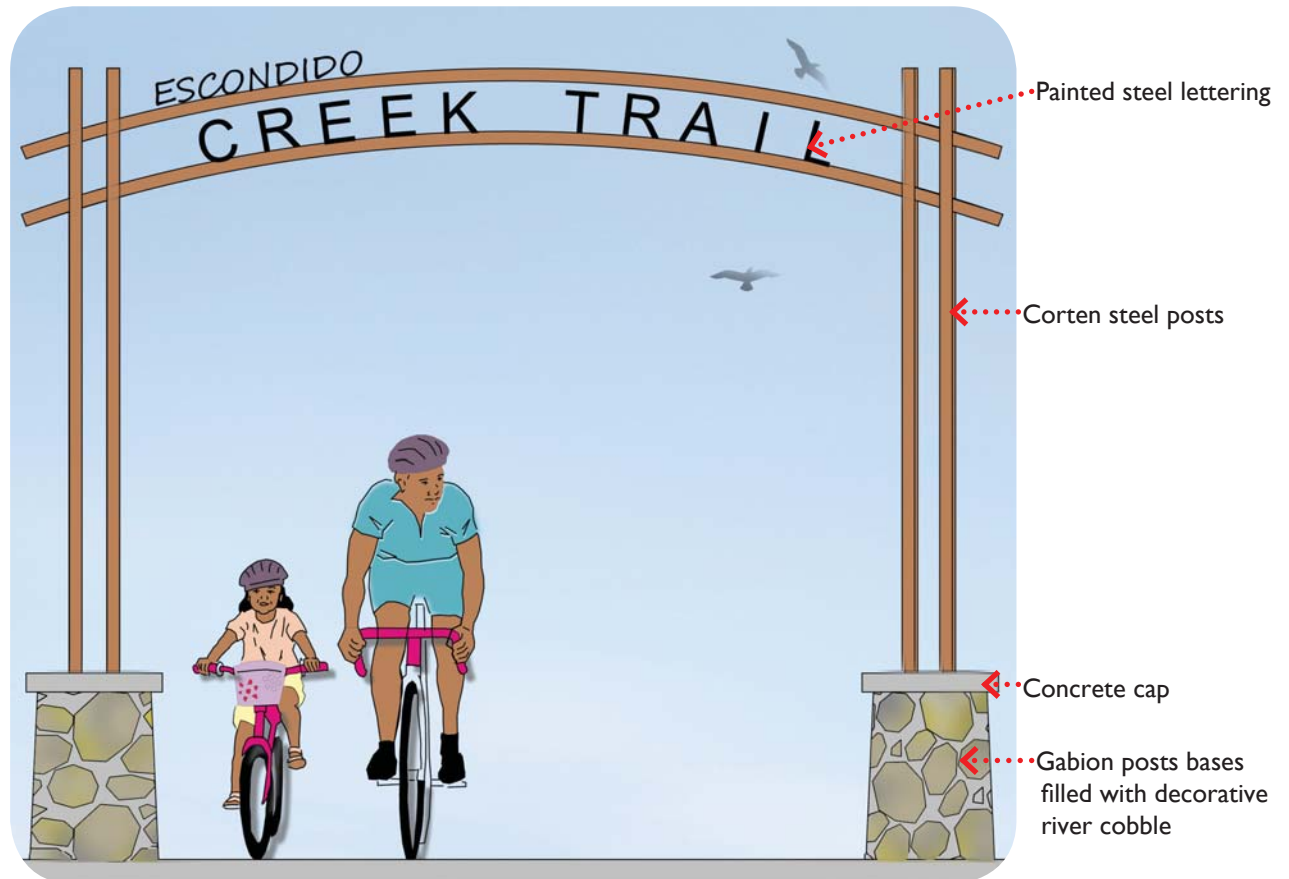


Figure 18: Gateway Signage

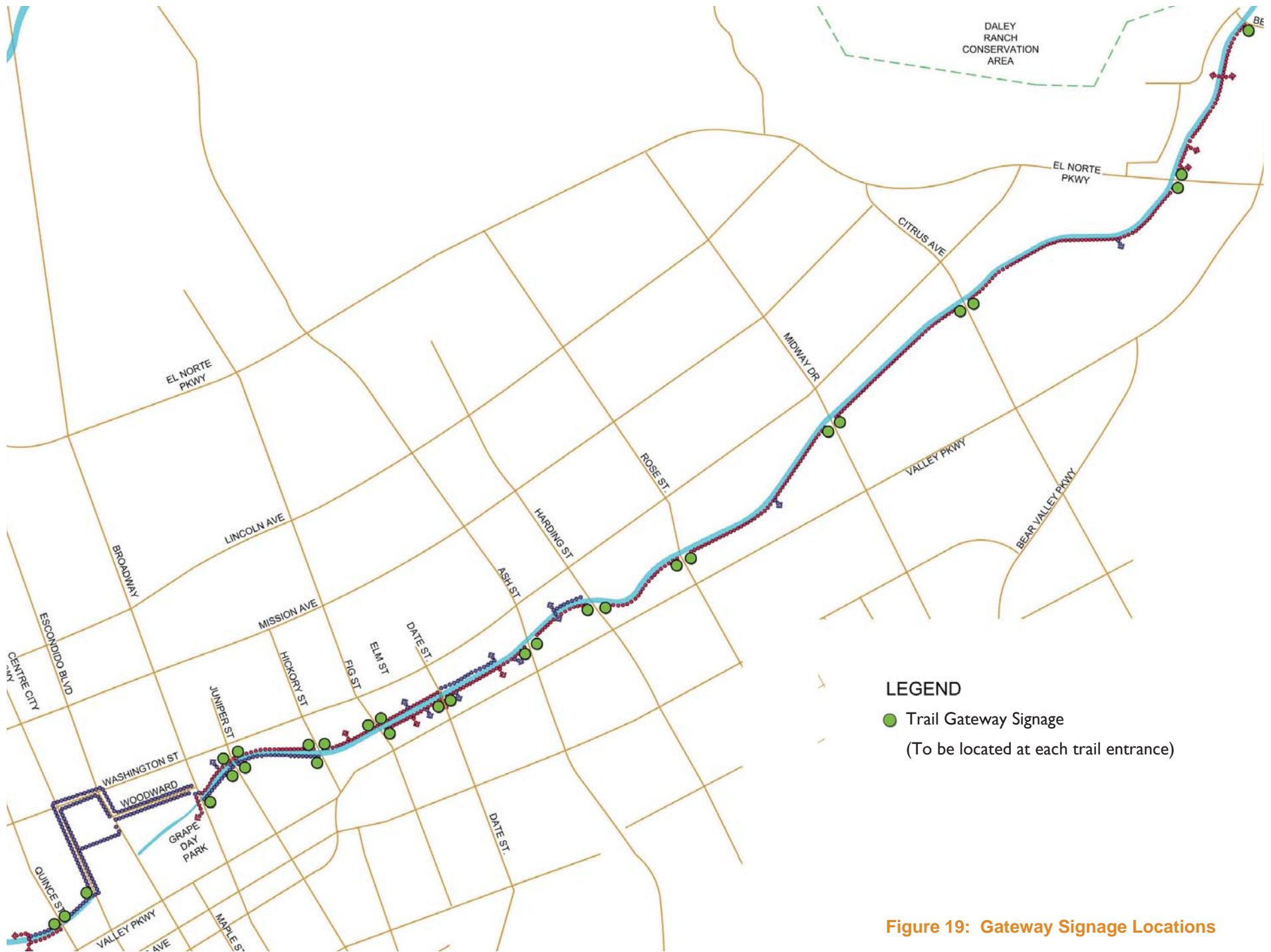


Figure 19: Gateway Signage Locations

Themed Rest Points with “Area Rugs”

The overall theme of community, discovery, and heritage is reinforced through a series of themed rest points that incorporate art on the ground plane. Inspired by “area rugs”, the themed rest points include decorative concrete patterns that vary in texture, color, and style. This ground plane art could be created by public artists and each node would focus on one of the three elements of the overall theme. Rest points on the east and west sides of the City would incorporate the environmental discovery theme, other rest points through the urban core would focus on the community and heritage themes. Figure 21: Themed Rest Point Locations indicates potential themed rest point locations and themes.

Included at the themed nodes could be educational trail signage which reinforces the theme. This signage would be phased in over time. Built-in, artful, landscape features that provide educational information with little to no official signage could also be incorporated. Some examples include grass pattern imprints in the concrete, rocks or structures demonstrating an aspect of the historic agricultural use, or colors on the ground plane delineating the historic winding river alignment. These areas offer an opportunity to incorporate public art to make each area unique.



Figure 20: Sample Rest Point Design with Artful “Area Rug” Concrete Paving Design



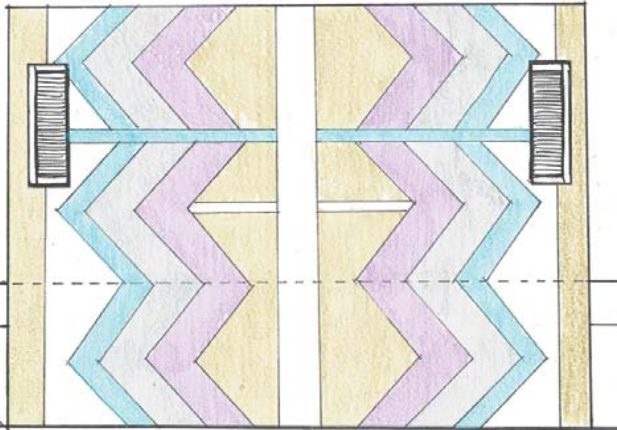
Sample Color Concrete Design



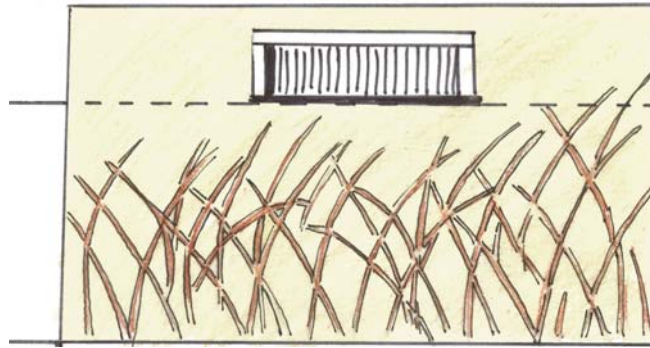
Sample Interpretive Panel



Sample Grass Pattern Imprint on Concrete



Sample Community Themed "Area Rug" Design Inspired by Mexican Fabric Pattern



Sample Environmental Discovery Themed "Area Rug" Inspired by Natural Grasses



Sample Heritage Themed "Area Rug" Design Inspired by Kumeyaay Basket Pattern

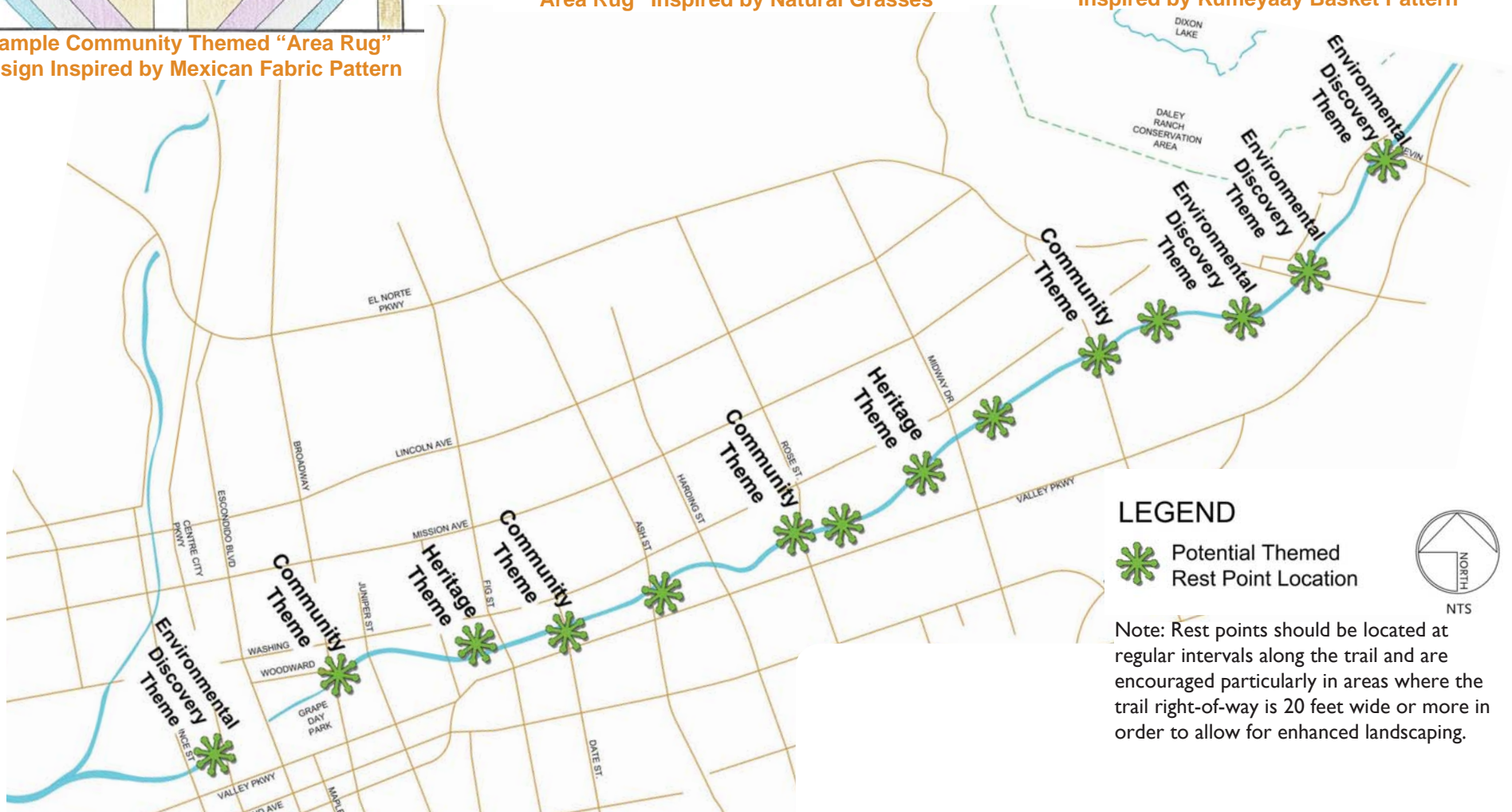


Figure 21: Themed Rest Point Locations

Public Art

In addition to public art opportunities associated with the previously described area rug rest points, there are opportunities for murals on the side of the concrete channel. It is recommended that these murals be designed with a repeating pattern that could easily be patched or replaced in the event that the artwork is tagged. The theme for the mural is recommended to be environmental in nature.



The Great Wall of Los Angeles



The Great Wall of Los Angeles



The Great Wall of Los Angeles

Site Furnishings

There are opportunities for the site furnishings along the trail to be upgraded over time. This includes furnishings such as: trash and recycling receptacles; waste bag dispensers, bike racks, and benches. Ideally these would be located near trail access points or clustered at themed rest point locations. Site furnishings should all be durable, treated with anti-graffiti coating, and selected in browns and earth tone colors unless unique colors or styles are desired to enhance the theme of selected rest points. Below are recommended styles for each of the site furnishings:

- **Trash and recycling receptacles**

Manufacturer: DuMor Site Furnishings.
Model: 157, 22 Gallon. *Color:* Brown.

- **Waste bag dispenser**

Manufacturer: Zero Waste USA.
Model: JJB010. *Color:* Brown.

- **Bike racks**

Manufacturer: DuMor Site Furnishings.
Model: 83-000 Powder-Coated Loop. *Color:* Brown.

- **Custom gabion benches with river rocks and recycled lumber cap**

*Manufacturer:*xxxx. *Model:* xxxx. *Color:*xxxxx.

- **Benches with recycled lumber**

Manufacturer: Landscape Forms.
Model: 'Gretchen' with three arm rests
Material: Polysite (composite wood). *Color:* Bark.



Bike Racks.

To be placed at major rest points and trail access points.



Metal Trash and Recycling Receptacles.

To be placed at major rest points and trail access points.



Waste Bag Dispenser.

To be placed with trash and recycling receptacles.



Benches.

To be placed at regular intervals along the trail.

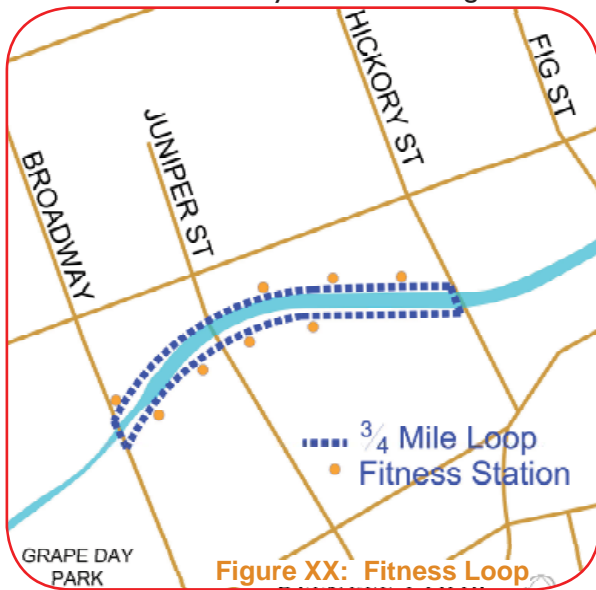


Custom Gabion Bench.

To be placed at every themed rest point.

Fitness Loop

The fitness loop is a $\frac{3}{4}$ mile loop that connects from Broadway to Hickory Street. Along the fitness loop several pieces of outdoor fitness equipment are proposed. The trail is currently only on the north side of the channel. To create a loop trail, an extension along the south side of the channel is also proposed. Its location next to Grape Day Park and close to downtown also offers a great opportunity for a large number of people to access the fitness loop and will also allow for easier security and monitoring.



Mileage Markers

Along the entire length of the trail mileage markers are proposed every half mile starting at Grape Day Park, see Figure 22: Mileage Marker Locations. The mileage markers are defined by a panel of decorative $\frac{3}{4}$ inch exposed aggregate concrete with the distance etched in four inch high lettering in a band of smooth concrete.

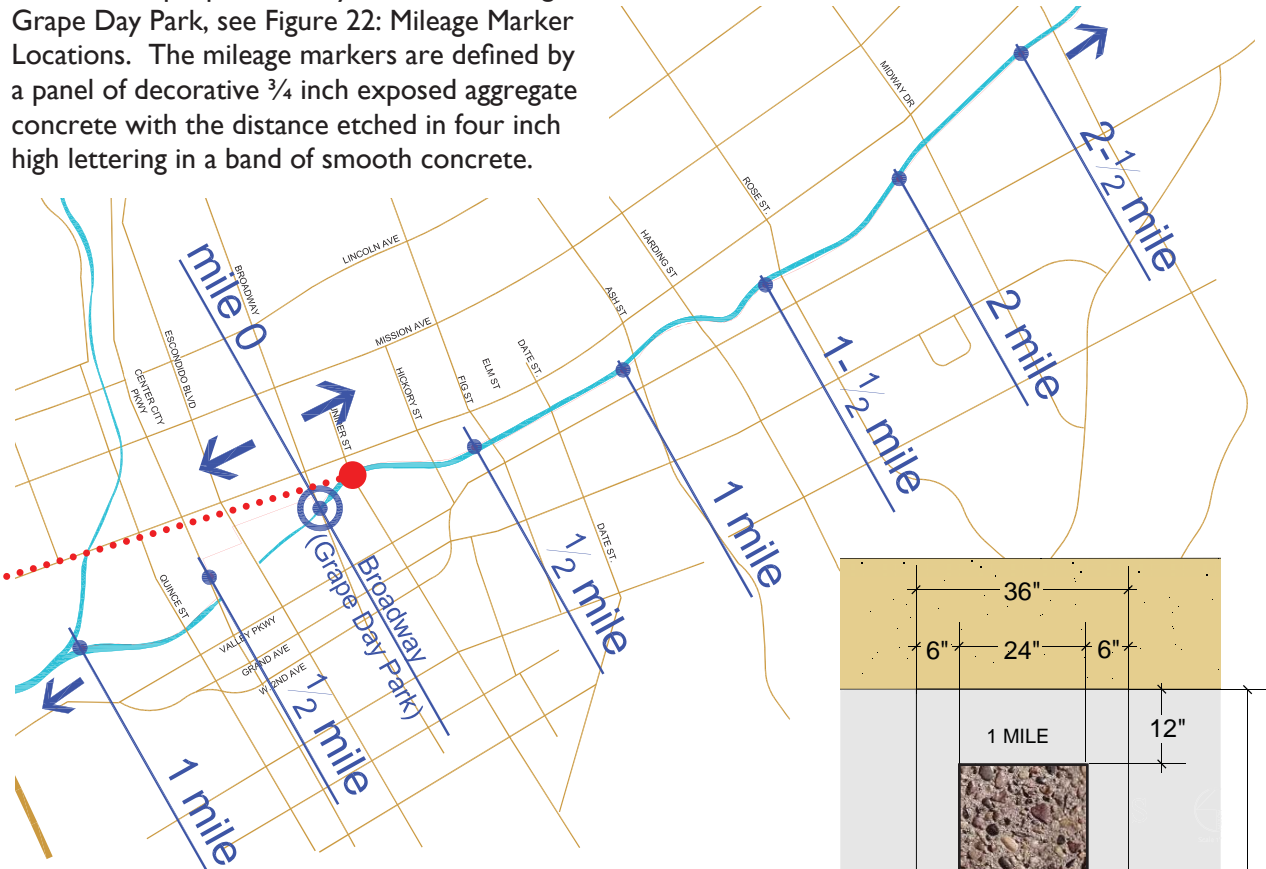


Figure 22: Mileage Marker Locations



Fitness equipment should incorporate the most current design and materials, be very durable, and be earth-tone colors.

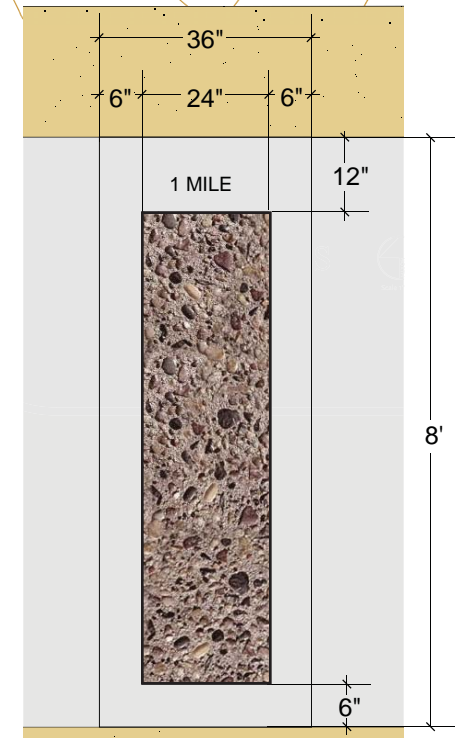


Figure 23: Mileage Marker Design

Skate Plaza

The community expressed a strong desire for a skate plaza that would provide a space where teens would feel welcome. The proposed location is on the north side of the creek, away from the main flow of pedestrian and bicycle traffic on the trail, and adjacent to the existing Washington Park which will ensure that there will be eyes on the plaza.



Skate Plaza Materials to be Simple and Durable

- Potential concrete skate plaza location adjacent to existing parking lot at Washington Park

Community Garden

Although no specific locations along the creek trail were identified for community gardens, any future opportunities for gardens on or adjacent to the creek trail are strongly encouraged. Any community gardens that are established within close proximity to the trail should be included on all way finding signage to encourage trail users to visit the garden.



Community Garden at Lancing Circle

Farmer's Market

In accordance with the Vision Plan, a farmer's market is proposed on the south side of the channel at Date Street. This location, next to Neighborhood Healthcare, is perfectly suited for a small farmer's market and this use is encouraged.



Rendering of Potential Farmer's Market from Vision Plan

Amenities

Park over Channel

The possibility of creating a park space over top of the channel was proposed. A similar example is Teralta Neighborhood Park in City Heights, San Diego, which was built over Highway 15. This option was not favored by the community.

Planting

Adjacent to the creek trail and maintenance access road is a landscape area which in many areas are void of planting and in others is characterized by bougainvillea vines and overhanging trees from properties adjacent to the creek. This area varies in width from approximately two feet to 15 feet, but typically is at least five feet wide. Improvements to the trail should include enlargements to this area with the planting of native and low water-use shrubs. As shown in Figure 25: Planting Section, trees should be incorporated to provide shade, and where practical all shrub planting should be low growing to maximize visibility. Dry creek bed channels and planting should be incorporated wherever possible. Vines can be used to provide visual screening where needed on the outer perimeter fence as well as at the top of the channel on the fence and to cascade down the concrete channel. The following guidelines should also direct planting design:

- Protect existing trees
- Provide adequate setback from existing utilities
- Where an opportunity exists to meander the trail, shade trees should be placed adjacent to the channel to provide shade
- Use vines to grow down the channel wall
- Planting of invasive species is prohibited

The plant palette for the creek trail can be divided into three categories, the West and East ends of the trail will be lined with native planting for a naturalized feel while the urban areas will display a cohesive mixture plants that are native and Mediterranean.



Figure 24: Plant Palettes



Figure 25: Planting Section

Dry Creek Beds

There are several existing drainage ditches along the trail that provide the opportunity for enhanced dry creek beds. In addition to the enhanced visual aesthetics and habitat, the vegetated dry creek beds will improve long-term water quality.

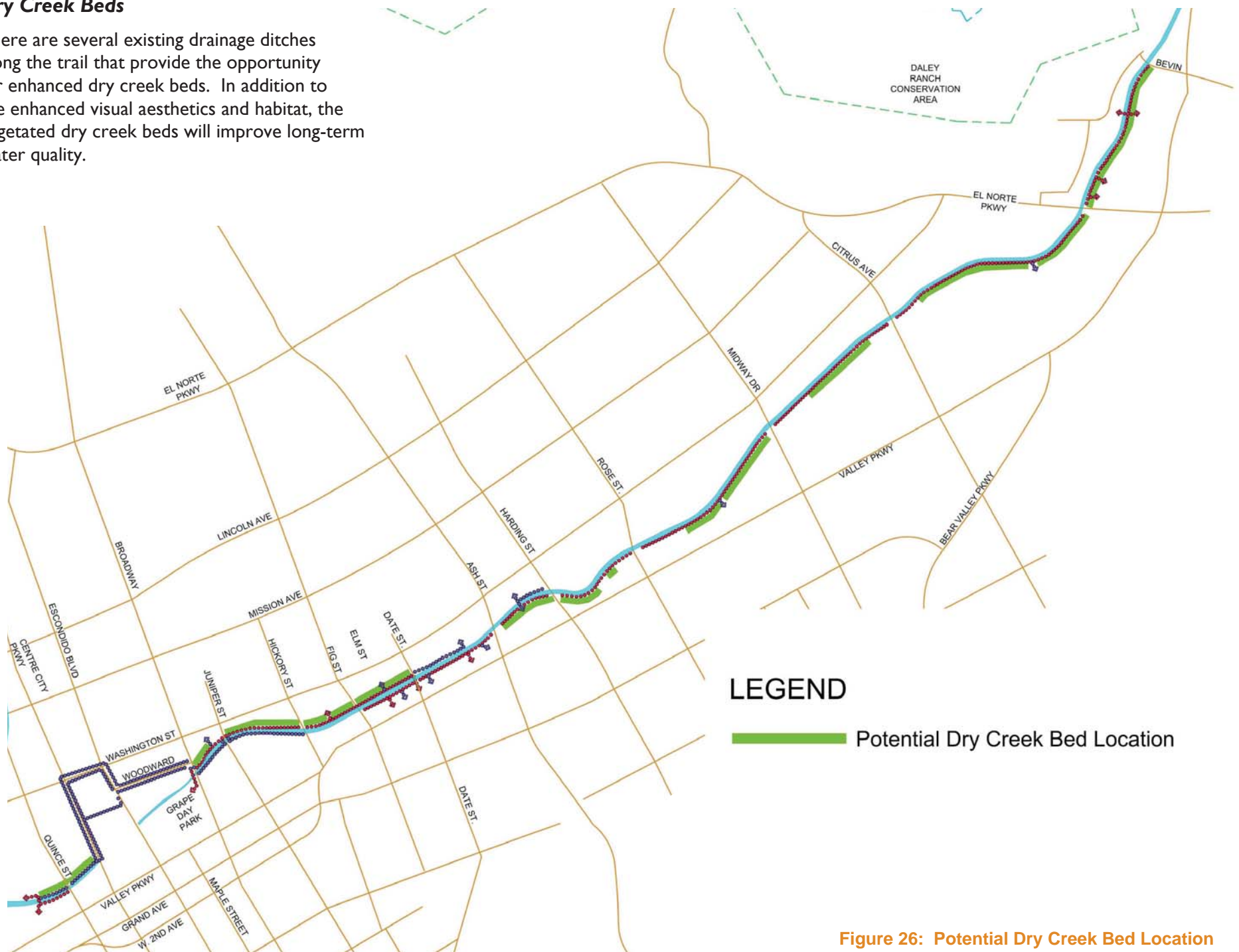


Figure 26: Potential Dry Creek Bed Location

Zone 1 – Native Plant Palette (East and West ends of Corridor) **(Coastal Sage Scrub/Chaparral/Oak Woodland)**

Inspired by the hills surrounding Escondido, these plants are well adapted to the climate and provide a connection to the Southern California landscape in color, texture, and scent.

Zone 1

Trees such as:

- *Pinus torreyana* / Torrey Pine
- *Platanus racemosa* / California Sycamore
- *Quercus agrifolia* / Coast Live Oak
- *Quercus engelmannii* / Engelmann Oak

Shrubs such as:

- *Ceanothus* species
- *Encelia californica* / California Bush Sunflower
- *Eriogonum fasciculatum* / California Buckwheat
- *Muhlenbergia rigens* / Deer Grass
- *Salvia apiana* / White Sage
- *Salvia mellifera* / Black Sage

Groundcovers such as:

- *Baccharis pilularis* ‘Pigeon Point’ / Pigeon Point Baccharis
- *Dudleya edulis* / Lady Fingers
- *Dudleya pulverulenta* / Chalk Dudleya or Live Forever

Vines such as:

- *Vitis californica* ‘Roger’s Red’ / Roger’s Red California Grape



Mexican Sage Brush

Zone 2 – Native and Mediterranean Plant Palette (City Center Area)

This zone includes all native plants included in zone 1, a number of native plants, along with appropriate low water use Mediterranean species to provide a greater variety of textures and flowering plants.

Zone 2

Trees, in addition to those listed in Zone 1:

- *Cassia leptophylla* / Gold Medallion Tree
- *Jacaranda mimosifolia* / Jacaranda
- *Syagrus romanzoffiana* / Queen Palm

Shrubs, in addition to those listed in Zone 1:

- *Agave attenuata* / Fox Tail Agave
- *Aloe striata* / Coral Aloe
- *Arctostaphylos 'Sunset'* / Sunset Manzanita
- *Cistus purpureus* / Orchid Rockrose

Groundcovers, in addition to those listed in Zone 1:

- *Arctostaphylos 'Emerald Carpet'* / Emerald Carpet Manzanita
- *Ceanothus griseus horizontalis 'Yankee Point'* / Yankee Point Wild Lilac
- *Rosmarinus officinalis* / Trailing Rosemary

Vines, in addition to those listed in Zone 1:

- *Bougainvillea* species / Bougainvillea
- *Mandevilla*/Mandevilla Vine



Coral Aloe

Zone 3 – Creek Bed Plant Palette (“Dry Creek” Bed Planting)

These plants are more tolerant of seasonal flooding and the variety of grass-like textures will accentuate the cobble swale drainage channels.

Zone 3

Trees such as:

- *Platanus racemosa* / California Sycamore

Shrubs such as:

- *Carex pansa* / Sand dune Sedge
- *Carex praegracilis* / Clustered Field Sedge
- *Juncus effuses* / Juncus
- *Juncus patens* / California Gray Rush
- *Mimulus cardinalis* / Scarlet Monkey Flower
- *Muhlenbergia rigens* / Deer Grass

Groundcovers such as:

- *Iris douglasiana* / Douglas Iris
- *Sisyrinchium bellum* / Blue Eyed Grass



Sycamore Tree



Dry Creek Bed Example



Blue Eyed Grass Flower

Safety

Safety was identified as a major concern and is evident from the unmarked street crossings, the many parts of the trail that are riddled with graffiti and litter, the limited lighting, and from feedback from police officers. To increase the sense of security, the following improvements are proposed: install safe street crossings, lighting, security cameras, more durable fencing, and more trail connections to create a variety of route options for trail users.



Graffiti



Fence Damaged by People Jumping Fence to Access the Trail

Lighting

The trail is currently closed after dark and, with the exception of a small area, it is not lit. It is recommended to light all portions of the trail with pedestrian scale pole lights. These lights should be energy efficient, durable, and have directional hoods to prevent light spill onto adjacent properties. Solar powered lights were preferred by the community; however, final selection should be based on City Engineering requirements. Illumination levels should meet the standards for Class I bike trails as defined by Caltrans Highway Design Manual. This includes an average maintained horizontal illumination level of five lux to 22 lux and light poles should meet the recommended horizontal and vertical clearances.

Proposed lighting will allow the trail to remain open in the evenings in the fall and winter months. In addition, the Class I bike standards recommend lighting because it allows bicyclists to see the bicycle



Pedestrian Pole Light with Directional Hood Solar Power Lighting Should Also be Considered.



Lighting from Adjacent Developments with Double Headed Light Poles is Encouraged

path direction, surface conditions, and obstacles.

Surveillance Cameras

Proposed video surveillance will increase the sense of security along the trail and will make it easier for police to patrol undesirable activity along the trail and in the creek channel itself. Infrared video monitoring was recommended by the police department. Cameras should be mounted on the light poles where possible and should be Note: Recommend one camera per block or per police department recommendations.



Vandal Resistant Outdoor Surveillance Cameras



Surveillance Cameras to be Located to Monitor Both Trail and Creek Channel.

Street Crossings

The trail is regularly interrupted by city streets, especially as the trail passes through the city center. At each of these locations one of two new street crossing treatments is proposed:



Intersections with a traffic volume of 500-20,000 = Pedestrian crosswalk with signage, striping, and pedestrian activated LED lights.



Intersections with a traffic volume of 20,001-100,000 = Pedestrian activated signalized crosswalk.



Pedestrian crosswalk with signage, striping, and pedestrian activated LED lights similar to the recently installed crosswalk at 25th Street in Del Mar, CA



Pedestrian Activated Signalized Crosswalk

The proposed street crossing treatments are proposed based on the traffic volumes referenced in the Vision Plan (Figure 3.62, Escondido Traffic Volume Map, Page 70). Actual traffic volumes should be verified at the time of installation.



Figure 27: Street Crossings

linked to the police department.

Fencing

The existing creek trail fencing varies from one location to another. Typically a five or six foot galvanized chain link fence runs along the top of the channel on both sides. Along the perimeter of the right-of-way is a variety of fence types ranging from security six foot barbed wire fencing to decorative three foot split rail fencing. A



Existing Post & Rail Fence Near Beven Drive



Typical Chain Link Fence along the Trail



Existing Black Metal Fence near Date Street

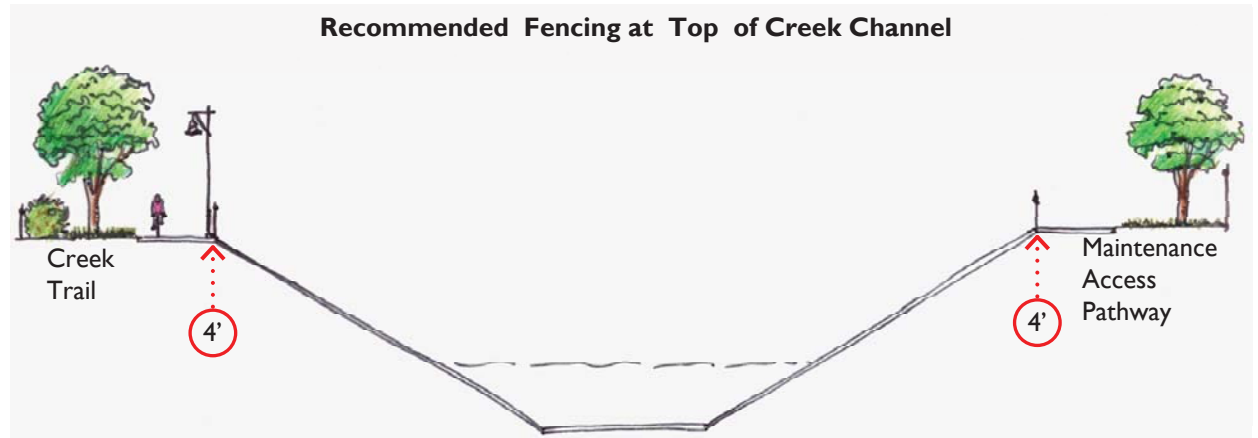
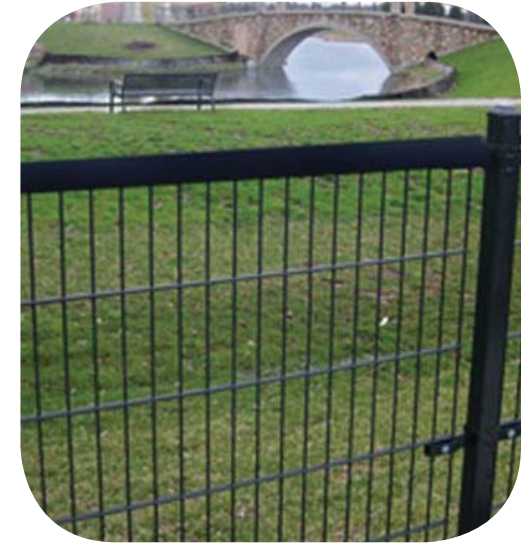


Figure 28: Fencing at Top of Creek Channel



Four Foot High Fencing Proposed at the Top of the Channel to be Black Tubular Steel or Black Metal Wire Fencing with Top Rail

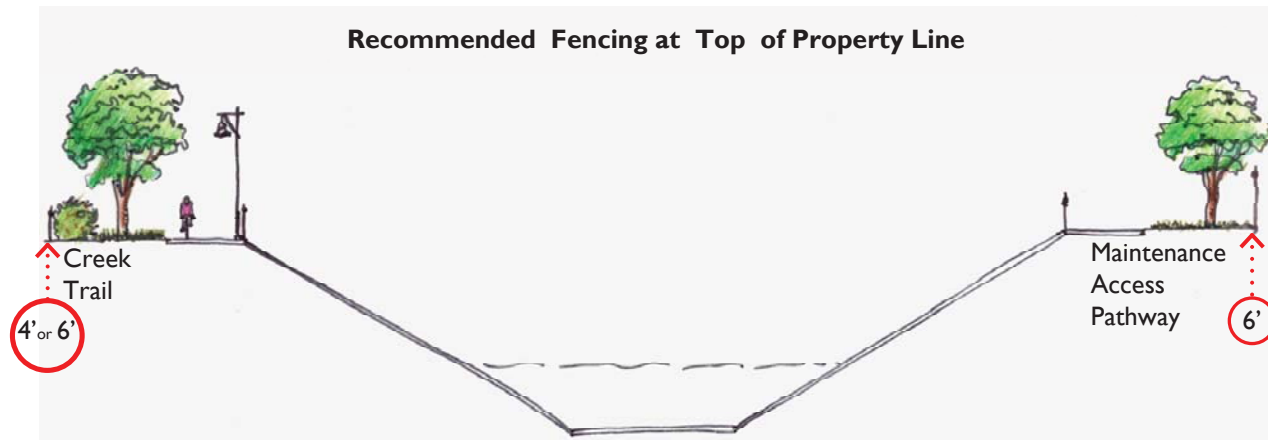


Figure 29: Fencing at Top of Property Line



Four to Six Foot High Fencing Proposed at the Perimeter of the Trail to be Tubular Steel Non-Climbable Metal Wire Fence

unified fence type along the length of the creek will improve aesthetics as well as security.

Along the perimeter of the trail the goal is to encourage adjacent properties to open onto the trail with no fence or with a low 48 inch high fence in any areas where the land use is appropriate (such as selected commercial or public use areas). The six foot high fence would be used in all areas where screening and separation from the adjacent land use is desired (typically next to residential areas).

Note: Chainlink fencing is not desirable along the trail, it currently causes problems and is in constant need of repair, because of people jumping and climbing over the fence it is badly bent in numerous areas.

Section 5

Offsite Design Guidelines

5 OFFSITE DESIGN GUIDELINES

Offsite Design Guidelines

The following guidelines include recommendations for the design and development of properties adjacent to the creek trail and include recommendations for incentivizing property owners' active use of the trail. The intent is to improve connectivity between the trail and properties adjacent to the trail.

Below are recommendations for the design and development of properties adjacent to the creek.

Recommendations for Adjacent Developments

- New developments should be oriented and designed to activate the creek trail where possible.
- Design buildings to include windows and architectural details that face the creek (no blank walls).
- Design buildings that include access doors and patios that face the creek.
- Locate trash bins away from creek trail where practical and/or screen them from view.
- Create an open connection to the creek trail or install fencing according to the Escondido Creek Trail Master Plan design guidelines.
- If installing fencing, access points should be created by incorporating gates where appropriate.
- Include landscaping to beautify the area adjacent to the creek. Select plant palettes with native and low-water use shrubs.
- Include landscape to screen any undesirable views from the creek onto the adjacent development.
- Plant shade trees where appropriate (maintain 10 foot setback from any utility).
- Install habitat gardens where possible.
- Install lights that illuminate the creek trail to a minimum of a lit candle.



Example: Encourage installation of habitat gardens

The following recommendations could be used to incentivize development of the creek trail as adjacent creek properties are developed:

Recommendations for Incentives

- Allow developments along the creek trail to achieve credits towards open space (residential) or parking (commercial) requirements in exchange for installation of trail upgrades (such as landscaping, lighting, fencing, and gates).
- Ensure that developments achieving credits for installing trail upgrades comply with the Escondido Creek Trail Master Plan design guidelines.
- Ensure that developments achieving credits for installing trail upgrades create maintenance and access agreements with the City.

These offsite design guidelines provide an opportunity for the City to stimulate improvements to the trail by private development interest. In order to be enforceable, the guidelines should be developed in detail and implemented as part of the City's regulatory framework. The following section provides additional information regarding how the guidelines may be implemented.



Example: Encourage adjacent properties to install trail amenities. Juniper Village Senior Housing shown above recently installed new landscape and lighting along the trail near Juniper Street.

Section 6

Next Steps

6 NEXT STEPS

Next Steps

As funding becomes available, the recommendations in this master plan can be incrementally implemented. This may include the investment of public as well as private funds. In addition to efforts by community groups and City staff, redevelopment can be initiated by the creation of regulatory framework, priority should be given to landscape improvements and diligent maintenance that will improve the appearance of the corridor. Vegetation will create a softer cool feeling and convey a sense of community ownership. Landscape improvements are difficult to vandalize and tag. Creating demonstration zones where a number of improvements can be implemented should also be considered. Creating a fitness loop for example, near Grape Day Park has been discussed as an early phase. Hardscape, fencing, gateway signage, and murals, improve the corridor dramatically. Once the corridor becomes more popular and vandalism is reduced, a signage program can be implemented. The offsite design guidelines for adjacent properties, for example, could be incorporated into an overlay zone or similar regulatory framework.

As the trail is installed, priority should be given to elements that will improve safety and aesthetics; the more vandal prone elements, such as interpretive panels and benches, should be installed in phases as activity on the trail increases. This will also spread out the time line for funding as needed.

One of the first steps that has been identified is a demonstration area that will be installed between Broadway and Juniper Street. This area will showcase many of the design features identified in the design guidelines such as: an upgraded trail with decomposed granite edging; lighting; fitness stations; enhanced planting; and dry creek beds. The demonstration area will serve as an example for future development and will incorporate safety and wellness amenities that encourage personal fitness, reduce obesity and promote the overall wellness of the community.



Existing Asphalt Trail Near Hickory Street

Community Support will Enhance the Ecological Integrity and the Community's Awareness of the Creek to Restore this Forgotten Landscape.



Existing Asphalt Trail

Section 7
Appendices

APPENDIX A

Community Meeting #1 Press Release

We Need Your Input!

Community Meeting to Discuss the Escondido Creek Trail Master Plan

The City of Escondido needs your input on the development of a master plan for more than six miles of the Escondido Creek Trail.

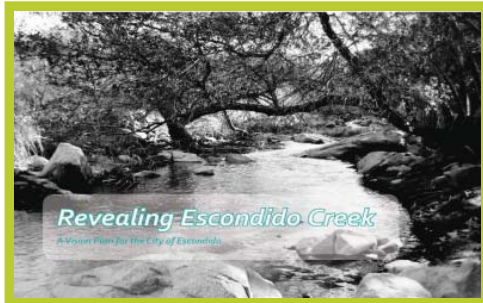
The city received a Healthy Communities Planning Grant from the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) to develop a master plan for the Escondido Creek Trail. The goal of the grant is to redevelop the trail so it becomes a safe, attractive destination, fostering healthy lifestyles by providing opportunities for physical fitness activities, commuting alternatives and increased access to healthy food.

The master plan will focus on a segment of trail approximately six miles long from the Escondido Transit Center to the Daley Ranch conservation area and could include amenities such as new trail connections and pedestrian bridges, safer street crossings, better signage, community gardens, and improved landscaping.

The master plan will build on the goals set forth in the "Revealing Escondido Creek" vision plan completed in April 2011. The vision plan is available at the Escondido Public Library and online at:

<http://www.escondido.org/Data/Sites/1/pdfs/Neighborhood/RevealingEscondidoCreek.pdf>

All community members are invited to participate in this important brainstorming session! For more information contact Dan Hippert, Program Administrator at (760) 839-6328 or dhippert@escondido.org.



Building on the foundation of the "Revealing Escondido Creek" Vision Plan completed in April 2011 by Cal Poly Pomona graduate students, this meeting will be an opportunity to discuss next steps in revitalizing the Escondido Creek Trail.

**WEDNESDAY
JULY 20, 2011
6:30 – 8:30 P.M.**

**MITCHELL ROOM
ESCONDIDO CITY HALL
201 N. BROADWAY
ESCONDIDO, CA 92025**



Community Meeting #1 Agenda

1. Master Plan Process and Meeting Schedule
2. Vision Plan: "Revealing Escondido Creek" Recap
3. Escondido Creek Master Plan
4. Opportunities and Constraints – Community Discussion
 - User Safety
 - Access to Healthy Resources
 - Amenities + Programming
 - Beautification
 - Trail Identity
5. Conclusion



Community Meeting #1 Meeting Minutes

SCHMIDT DESIGN GROUP, INC.

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Meeting Report
Page 2 of 10



Report Date: August 3, 2011

Purpose: Escondido Creek Combined Community Feedback

COMBINED COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

a) Summary of Feedback from Community Workshop#1 (7/20/2011):

Safety

- Policing
 - Consider video surveillance and additional bike patrols.
- Street crossings
 - Study street crossing options.
 - Try a 'pilot' project for new street crossing treatments.
- Access
 - Limit access at night?
 - Concern about getting trapped inside if gates are locked at night.
 - Include more access points.
- Lighting
 - Consider solar.
 - Minimize light spill into sensitive areas.

Amenities

- Fencing
 - Can one layer of fence be removed? (inner or outer?)
 - Residential areas still need division from trail.
 - Difficult to select one single fence style to work in all areas.
 - Fencing needs to be softened with landscape, color to be selected to blend in, and should not create hiding places.
 - Opportunities for future openings to commercial areas.
- Site Furnishings
 - Should be durable and vandal resistant.
 - Include bike racks.
- Beautification
 - Use planting to soften channel; include native plants and habitat.
 - Explore options to use dams to create pools and/or meander the channel.
 - Art - Explore opportunities for murals, art contests, and/or a "public art" area.

Access

- Pedestrian
 - Consider Reidy Creek connection.
 - Consider future connections to the west end of trail even though it is not included in the current study area.
 - Create better connection to Grape Day.

Theme

- Environmental theme throughout.
- Consider historical link.
- Consider cultural link (and art).
- Consider tie to agriculture.
- Consider incorporating multiple themes throughout (layering of themes).

b) Comments Provided on Online Survey (as of Aug 3, 2011):

The online survey has had over 70 responses to date. Below are the responses to question #5 *Are there any other comments or concerns you wish to share regarding the Escondido Creek Trail?*

GREAT IDEA - well worth spending city resources on funding. In others cities, I seen these types of projects become the focus of commercial, residential, and transportation expansion and improvement. Cruising Grand attracts people on Friday nights during the summer - the Creek Trail could be a 7 days a week event.

7/31/11 2:56PM

The creek trail needs to be an asset instead of an unsightly and possibly dangerous area to avoid. There is huge potential for many small changes to have a really big impact. Clearly connecting the trail to Grape Day Park in the middle, and to open space on either end of the trail, is important. As for the park, there is a big opportunity here to, eventually, bring new users to the park, which will help ongoing efforts to revitalization efforts. Options for connecting the trail and the park need to be explored. I am opposed to sending trail users down Woodward. If a light would only be possible at Woodward, perhaps sending walkers and bikers down Broadway to Pennsylvania is an option. Or an under- or over-pass, which I acknowledge would be very costly, and not part of a short term solution. The long term vision for the creek is to connect with to Grape Day Park, and not bypass it. We need to keep that in mind. Decisions made now will likely impact the creek and the park for decades. We need to get this right. There might not be easy answers, and not all options will be affordable, but that shouldn't deter us from exploring ways to make the best connection we possibly can between the creek, the park, and downtown.

7/27/11 2:53PM

The chain link fence should be changed due to crime. People walking on the trail behind wanak road jump the fence into our neighbors backyards and break into their homes. Is there anyway we can have it made into a brick wall instead? My children swim in our pool located right next to that chainlinked fence!!

7/27/11 2:36PM

Again, I wish that the city would replace the fencing along my backyard to a masonry brick wall to keep the people from the path from peering into my backyard. I have small children and I have seen people peering into my backyard. I won't leave my children out there for fear that some weirdo is going to jump the fence and get my kids. I really wish the city had the means to provide a safer environment, not only for the people using the path, but for the home owners that already live there. Also, my fence has graffiti all over it, and to this day it still says "Gonzo" on the back side of my fence. I really hope this helps.

7/27/11 2:02PM

I am particularly concerned with the issue of street crossings and would welcome an opportunity to participate in a process designed to address this vital safety issue for both bicycles and pedestrians.

7/27/11 12:21AM

The channelized creek in east Escondido should be converted to a planted boardwalk.

7/26/11 9:03PM

MEETING REPORT

MEETING REPORT



MEETING REPORT

MEETING REPORT

Perhaps having the trail meander rather than a straight shot from cross street to cross street
7/26/11 11:46AM

Yeah, a lot. I have used the trail many, many times for bicycling; I usually enter the trail at the far East end near the dog park. I enjoy the more relaxed riding experience because I am not riding in traffic, however, as a solitary rider, I am most concerned with safety issues having to do with other human beings. I have had 2 flat tires due to (purposely, I'm sure) broken bottles at the Broadway end of the trail. Also, there is a homeless camp - in full view - on East Valley Pkwy. and when riding by said camp one morning - I had a "full view" ! Most of the walkers on the trail are men, many of which I perceived to be intoxicated. The path is littered almost the whole length with graffiti, a sure sign of gang activity. The channel itself is littered with shopping carts, furniture, baby diapers and other garbage that a certain element of the population love to strew all over the city. I went to the counter there in City Hall to address my concerns & the attitude there was "oh, well". I questioned the signage that states "bike trail closes at dusk"...the answer to that was "not really, we don't have the money to pay someone to lock the gates". Apparently littering, drug deals, homelessness, public drunkenness & rape and are all accepted behavior in the Escondido Creek. This "yeah, we know, but look the other way" needs to change so that law abiding citizens will feel secure when using this trail. The Escondido Creek Walk Project can surely be an asset to the community if done correctly and swiftly; it can be a beautiful and useful exercise & enjoyment thoroughfare for all, not just a convenient pathway for criminals & slob.
7/25/11 3:07PM

Plans for weekly maintenance should be in place for taking care of debris (particularly broken glass) on the path. It would be great if there was a dedicated bike lane, with signage, in the transition from Quince St. to Broadway going east.
7/25/11 7:34AM

Environmental issues of the creek .make it more natural. Looking.
7/24/11 11:18AM

Funding for improvements and maintenance is going to be a major obstacle.
7/24/11 9:40AM

Please consider the plan put forth by Cal Poly Pamaona as a very well researched document that doesn't need dumbing-down or lowering of expectations. We have spent billions in the equivalent of today's dollars to alter and destroy the functionality of watersheds in So Cal under the best practices of decades ago. If clean water, recharging aquifers, habitat and human health are our priorities, then we can be as committed as those who proceeded us in rehabilitating the Escondido Creek while still maintaining flood control functionality. Prior to going forth, one of the requirements of this planning process should be a bike ride/tour of the adjacent open spaces to the creek in the north, east, and western borders of the city. Unless you have had this experience you cannot appreciate how close and integral these areas are to the core of the city. You have a chance to establish a trail head off of a transit station for both bus and rail service that leads to both city and open space habitat with a very easy hike or ride. I will offer to coordinate any tour of these areas through the Escondido Creek Conservancy (TECC) of which I am a board member. Thank You.
7/23/11 10:16AM

I'd love to see the creek naturalized and less of a concrete channel. Other cities have embraced their water ways rather than industrial buildings backing up to the creek.
7/22/11 8:49PM

I believe the improvement of the trail should go from eastern Escondido at least as far as the freeway and if done well could be a game changer for the city. Escondido residents as well as bikers and walkers from all over would be drawn to the area. I believe outdoor dining at restaurants will pop up and encourage all of us to spend money and time in our city. This "Venice" atmosphere will make us all proud of the city. Beautification, safety, and conduciveness to biking, walking, shopping and dining can make this happen!
7/22/11 4:41PM

I am very encouraged by the efforts of the city to address the improvement of the trail and creek. We live in Elfin Forest. We use to go to Encinitas to do our eating and shopping, but now prefer Escondido. We appreciate the upgrades on Grand and see huge potential in the development of the creek walk. Our children attended Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, a city that was transformed with the development of a creek very similar to Escondido Creek. We also want the ballpark and see it as a focal point in making a big changes to the creek.
7/22/11 2:32PM

Esc gets Everything wrong from baseball teams to hotels. Can they At Least get ONE thing right? This project?
7/22/11 8:02AM

I am excited that this project is being worked on. I think more people will jump on board as it begins to look like it may really happen.
7/22/11 5:37AM

The security for those whose homes are located along the trail.
7/21/11 5:43PM

Considering what a mess Escondido is, the money could be better spent on other beautification projects. how about buying up some of the buildings downtown and renting them to entrepreneurs at a reasonable rate so that enterprising people could actually make a living providing goods and services in the downtown area. The downtown has wonderful infrastructure which is going to waste.
7/21/11 5:10PM

I attended the meeting on Wednesday evening and my concern is all the tangents everyone goes off on and not being able to discuss what needs to be discussed. Future meetings maybe we should pick one of two items to focus on and just discuss those items, then the next meeting focus on a couple new topics.....just an idea
7/21/11 4:54PM

Quit wasting money on a drainage ditch.
7/21/11 4:38PM

The idea presented in the meeting 7/20/2011 for security cameras was not included in this survey. I believe the cameras should be a high priority consideration to both help police solve crimes and prevent them from happening.
7/21/11 3:08PM

I can't believe the city is considering this! What a waste of resources! Don't spend money on this when we are down police officers, firemen, librarians etc. Stop this now!!! We don't need this.



MEETING REPORT

7/21/11 2:36PM

Landscaping (trees, plants, grass, etc) should be carefully considered to minimize problems. i.e. leaves, seeds on the paths that may interfere with bicyclists and pedestrians, plus if high maintenance then expensive to maintain. There should be different sculptures, sounds and other art/colors/patterns that can make it very interesting too.

7/21/11 1:11PM

This project is a waste of money.

7/21/11 12:28AM

Leave it alone. So called progress will result in more people and more problems that go with that growth in use. It's troublesome at times, especially late night, early morning, from joggers and cell phone users who talk loud and wake us up early (6:00 a.m. or earlier, even on weekends and holidays) I regret that I bought a mobile home adjacent to the bike bath, but that was before it was opened up. It was closed off when I bought, in Sept. 1999. Now is has just become a nuisance.

7/21/11 11:30AM

I consider Escondido Creek to be a valuable community asset, wildlife habitat, and opportunity for groundwater recharge. I'm also excited to see that it might in the future be a prominent feature in the City's image, and perhaps an economic asset, as well! In the process of transforming the creek, please take care to preserve the environmental characteristics of Escondido Creek. Thanks!

7/21/11 10:22AM

More passes under the cross streets like the one at auto parkway would be nice, so you wouldnt have to stop and wait for traffic to clear and cross the street.

7/21/11 10:07AM

I'd like to eventually see the concrete removed, and in the meantime, urge whatever habitat and hydrological improvements are possible to improve the natural function of the creek downstream

7/21/11 10:05AM

There is a real need to connect citizens and particularly children with nature and by focussing on environmental stewardship, human environments are also enriched. Escondido is on the Pacific Flyway and more birds pass through this area than anywhere else in North America. There is an opportunity to really put Escondido on the map as an example of how to foster biodiversity within the City. As the students stated in their vision document: The Creek must be recognized for what it is: A CREEK.

7/21/11 10:00AM

I am uncomfortable when I have to go by people who are not using the trail to get from one place to another BUT instead are just sitting or standing there. This usually happens at a midpoint between streets.

7/21/11 9:25AM

Great direction. I have seen no other project that environmentalists, bikers, joggers, walkers, old and young, businesses, city and the arts have an enthusiasm that has such synergy. It is vital to the health of our city. San Marcos may be putting in new parks...we need to "fix what ails us" and make this unique lateral parkland an attraction. I would have to say the safety and beautification are key to drawing people. Today I am thinking of more shade spots.



MEETING REPORT

7/21/11 8:30AM

I think this is an important project for our city. There is so much lost potential on the creek trail right now, and I am excited that the city is finally making this a priority! I would definitely use it a lot more if these projects are completed!

7/21/11 8:26AM

The flood channel needs to be cleaned of shopping carts, traffic cones, and other debris that gets dumped into the channel. The barrier near Harmony Grove Rd needs to be cleaned of dirt and weeds. The channel is full of dirt which needs to be removed. Bottom line is the channel is an eyesore!!!

7/21/11 8:23AM

Escondido needs a better sense of community, places where the public can gather and enjoy the city together would help bring that!

7/21/11 8:22AM

The graffiti is terrible, and I don't feel safe using it. I would use it much more if it were safe. I'm glad the concrete is staying. I just think the trail itself needs to be made safer and be made to be continuous all the way (no street crossings). Beautification is secondary to me. Safety is first. Regarding the fencing for the homes along it, how about keeping the chain link on the side bordering the residents? And removing the chain link along the creek side and replacing it with a lower, prettier fence? Thank you for listening to us residents. I was born in Escondido in 1962, and have lived here my whole life. I would like to see the flood control made safer and more usable.

7/21/11 8:21AM

The bike trail is a great idea, but as a whole, it is not in very good condition. Towards the end of my ride East, I came across a homeless camp, which didn't make me feel very secure at all.

7/21/11 8:04AM

Please do something about the homeless living down at the end off of Harmony Grove Rd. would be nice.

7/21/11 7:17AM

Too dangerous for unarmed citizens. Will invite homeless camps. Pixeled sides speak volumes. Concrete walls needed in case of heavy rains or should the Wohlford dam have a problem. Stagnant water should be sprayed for mosquitoes. Trash needs to be picked up by community service workers. Too costly to be successful.

7/21/11 7:06AM

Concern that the project has not progressed. This is critical to all the city with funding in place, yet the project has yet to begun. The city and this area is in desparate need and the process is too lengthy. Not sure if that is due to the officials in place, but the years click off and nothing gets done.....we need to drive this project to completion, sooner rather than later.

7/21/11 6:47AM

i use to walk the creek by myself in the morning, but do not any more. but i became afraid after the incident of the girl being raped, and the high school kids from valley high school go there to drink and smoke pot, so i deecided not to walk it alone any more..so i wait for my husband in the



evenings and we go together....it is a nice place to walk..it is quiet and off the streets, where you breath all the car fumes....

7/21/11 6:19AM

I hope this trail can be made safe for law-abiding citizens. The pretty creek trail in Vista, near Vista Village and along Buena Creek, is scary to walk alone - so sad. I think cameras would help alot (at both sites) Creek walks are a great way to get the community out and exploring our city. But safety comes first, especially for small folks (kids and adults). I think keeping the walk in the open, no hidden areas or enclosed over/under passes, no large hedges, etc. will help. Maybe part of the landscaping can be part of a community garden project? Scout groups, elderly homes, schools could claim sections and enhance those areas. Escondido is a good place to live!

7/21/11 6:09AM

A. Eliminating barriers between commercial lands and public lands that make up the creek's trail could (1) modulate the edges of the trail, (2) improve connections between users and businesses, (3) entice walkers to the trail. B. Routing the trail between the transit center and Woodward along Washington is ridiculous. Quince-Washington-Escondido Boulevard are mostly built out to the sidewalk. I don't know where there is room for a bike trail. I also think that a connection through Grand Ave or Valley Parkway would enhance a connection to Grape Day Park. I also believe that this more southerly route already has an inviting quality to it. -- Juliana

7/20/11 9:31PM

c) Emails:

From: christine prowld [<mailto:christineprowld@hotmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2011 11:53 AM

To: Daniel Hippert

Cc: christine prowld

Subject: Escondido Creek Meeting tonight

Hi Mr. Hippert,

I found out about the meeting tonight on SignonSanDiego.com. I am interested in becoming involved with the project to revitalize the bike trail through Escondido. I am an avid recreational cyclist. I live in Escondido and bike to work in Poway a few days per week. I used to use the Escondido bike trail for fun and exercise, but I have had two bad experiences in the last year, so have stopped using it. I don't feel it is currently safe for a single woman to ride and I also wouldn't take my kids on the path. The "Revealing Escondido Creek" plan to increase safety and use of the trail is a great start. I am unable to come to the meeting tonight due to a prior commitment, but if there is a contact list, I would like to be included in any subsequent public meetings.

Thank you for your time to make the trail a better place to ride,

Christine Harris
2219 Eucalyptus Ave
Escondido, CA 92029
760-294-0150

From: Tom Lettington [<mailto:tlettington@san.rr.com>]



Sent: Friday, July 15, 2011 11:57 AM

To: Daniel Hippert

Cc: Andy Hanshaw

Subject: Community Meeting to Discuss the Escondido Creek Trail Master Plan

Dan,

I plan to attend subject meeting at 6:30PM on July 20th.

I have been appointed by the San Diego County Bicycle Coalition to act as liaison between your project and the Bike Coalition. I attended Reveal The Creek Community Workshops in the past and drafted a document expressing safety concerns with regard to existing conditions along the current Class I Escondido Creek Bikeway. I was encouraged to see that much of what I was concerned about has been incorporated into the final version of the "Vision Plan". My original (with minor revisions) document is attached for you information.

I look forward to participating in your Community Meeting and to participating further in the future as the project goes from a plan to a reality.

I have reviewed the Vision Plan and was very impressed with the thoroughness and professionalism exhibited by the team from Cal Poly Pomona Landscape Architecture Department.

Sincerely,
Tom Lettington

Memo from Lettington, Friday, July 15, 2011:

Safety Concerns Regarding the Escondido Creek Bike Path

There are several existing bicycle/pedestrian safety concern associated with the Escondido Creek Class I Bike Path. These concerns should be addressed now before a serious accident occurs. With the possible significant increase in traffic on the bike path upon adoption of the recommendations recently made to the Escondido City Council by the "Reveal The Creek" design team, the need becomes even more urgent.

The north end of the bike path begins in Eureka Springs near the entrance to the animal shelter and dog park at Bevin Drive off of Bear Valley Parkway (County Highway S6). For purposes of the following discussion, the bike path will be discussed, for the most part, as if the rider/walker were proceeding from north to south.

There are nine (9) uncontrolled "at grade" street crossings between the north end bike path entrance and the point where the bike path is interrupted at Broadway near Grape Day Park. The cross streets are:

1. Washington/El Norte Parkway
2. North Citrus Avenue
3. North Midway Drive
4. North Rose Street
5. Harding Street
6. North Ash Street *
7. North Fig Street **
8. North Hickory Street
9. North Juniper Street



* Note: At the point where the bike path reaches North Ash Street, there are signs which direct bike path users to proceed to the corner and use the crosswalk to cross North Ash Street with the traffic light. Bicyclists are directed to dismount before proceeding. It is assumed this is directed at bicyclists who choose to use the sidewalk instead of entering the roadway to proceed to the corner traffic light. The writer uses this bike path often and has never observed a cyclist or pedestrian follow these instructions. They routinely simply wait for a break in traffic and proceed directly across North Ash Street to re-enter the bike path.

** Note: Between North Ash Street and North Fig Street, the bike path has segments that run on each the side of Escondido Creek. At North Fig Street, the bike path segment on the south side of the creek ends.

At North Broadway, pedestrians must use the sidewalks to reach in intermediate destinations or walk to where the path resumes on the west side of North Quince Street. Bicyclists normally enter the public streets at that point where they have the same options. Bicyclists and pedestrians frequently cross North Broadway at the mid-block point to enter Grape Day Park so this point should also be considered an uncontrolled crossing (number 10).

At North Quince Street, bike path users have the following options:

1. If proceeding south from West Washington Street, they simply enter the bike path from the street or the sidewalk and proceed west.
2. If proceeding north from West Valley Parkway, bicyclists may either enter the bike path from the leftmost traffic lane on North Quince Street, or join pedestrians who approach the bike path entrance from the sidewalk on the west side of North Quince Street adjacent to the transit center.

The bike path continues to the point where it crosses North Tulip Street where another uncontrolled crossing is encountered (number 11).

After North Tulip Street the bike path continues west where below grade underpasses facilitate travel under Interstate 15 and Auto Park Way. Access to the underpass is also provided on both the north and south sides of Auto Park Way to allow users to join the bike path there. The underpasses at both Interstate 15 and Auto Park way serve as informal campgrounds for apparent vagrants who frequently partially or completely obstruct through access with shopping carts, bicycles, pets, trash, bags of miscellaneous belongings, or sleeping bags (sometimes occupied). Because it is dark in these underpasses, it is difficult for bike path users to see these obstructions in a timely fashion.

After the Auto Park Way the bike path continues to the point where it ends at Harmony Grove Road.

The primary safety issue concerns the eleven (11) unprotected street crossings. A secondary safety concern is the obstruction in the Interstate 15 and Auto Park Way underpasses although the remedies for this concern do not involve infrastructure.

With respect to the primary issue of uncontrolled street crossings, the following comments are made regarding potential infrastructure changes to ameliorate the safety issues involving potential vehicle/pedestrian or vehicle/bicycle collisions resulting in property damage, personal injury or death.

1. As an absolute minimum, crosswalk markings should be painted on the streets crossed by bike path users at the point where users cross the eleven (11) uncontrolled street crossings.
2. In addition to the crosswalk markings, signs should be placed on the roadway to warn vehicle operators that pedestrians and bicyclists may be encountered and directing them to yield the right of way.
3. Flashing lights may be added to the warning/yield signs to make them more visible to vehicle operators.



4. Traffic signals should be installed at the high volume crossing points (including, but not limited to, Ash, Broadway, and Tulip) activated by push buttons to be used by pedestrians or bicyclists who intend to cross there.

<http://www.sdbc.org/Crossings.pdf> is an excellent presentation on this issue.

9/29/2010 (Revised 7/15/2011) Thomas F. Lettington (tlettington@san.rr.com)

APPENDIX B

Community Meeting #2 Press Release



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: September 7, 2011

CONTACT: Dan Hippert
PHONE: (760) 839-6328

COMMUNITY MEETING TO DISCUSS ESCONDIDO CREEK TRAIL MASTER PLAN

On Thursday, September 22, 2011 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. the City of Escondido will host the second in a series of community meetings to receive public feedback regarding the development of a master plan for the Escondido Creek Trail. The meeting will take place in the Mitchell Room at Escondido City Hall located at 201 North Broadway.

The City of Escondido received a Healthy Communities Planning Grant to develop a master plan for the Escondido Creek Trail from SANDAG (San Diego Association of Governments) as part of Healthy WorksSM, a countywide initiative making systems and environmental changes promoting wellness and addressing the nationwide obesity epidemic. Healthy WorksSM, administered by the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency, is funded through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services through the County of San Diego.

The goal of the master plan is to revitalize the trail so it becomes a safe, attractive destination, fostering healthy lifestyles by providing opportunities for physical fitness activities, commuting alternatives and increased access to healthy food.

The master plan will focus on a segment of trail approximately six miles long from the Escondido Transit Center to the Daley Ranch conservation area and could include amenities such as new trail connections and pedestrian bridges, safer street crossings, better signage, community gardens, and improved landscaping. The plan will build on the goals set forth in the "Revealing Escondido Creek" vision plan completed in April 2011. The vision plan is available at the Escondido Public Library and online at:

<http://www.escondido.org/Data/Sites/1/pdfs/Neighborhood/RevealingEscondidoCreek.pdf>

All community members are invited to participate in this important brainstorming session. For more information contact Dan Hippert, Program Administrator at (760) 839-6328 or dhippert@escondido.org.

###

Community Meeting #2 Agenda

1. Agenda
2. Master Plan Process and Meeting Schedule
3. Vision Plan & Master Plan Recap
4. Summary of Community Feedback
5. Master Plan Trail Identity
6. Master Plan Design Guidelines
7. Conclusion



Community Meeting #2 Meeting Minutes

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Meeting Report
Page 2 of 2

Report Date: September 28, 2011

Purpose: Escondido Creek Community Feedback from Workshop #2

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK WORKSHOP #2

a) Summary of Feedback from Community Workshop#2 (9/22/2011):

A community meeting was held on 9/22/11 to review the progress of the Escondido Creek Master Plan. Glen Schmidt presented an overview of the creek trail's existing features, the master plan goals, and the feedback from the first workshop, followed by a review of all the proposed design elements.

There were approximately 35 people in attendance at the meeting and they provided the following feedback:

Channel Design

- Strong desire for master plan to include options for opening/softening/day-lighting the creek where appropriate in the long term.
 - Plant willows in channel walls
 - Living moss on channel walls
 - Locate trees next to top of channel to provide shade
 - Provide habitat next to trail
 - Include de-channelizing as a goal
 - Encourage habitat friendly yards for residents adjacent to the creek

Theme

- Continue strong environmental theme throughout
- Support layering of community and heritage themes through the city core
- Like themed nodes and area rug concept

Amenities

- Fencing
 - Consider tube steel
 - Remove outer fence segment where appropriate
- Activities for Kids
 - Create a space that kids feel welcome
 - Skate "node"
- Beautification
 - Like murals on channel walls
- Community Gardens
- Trail to be a teaching instrument



- Consider mileage markers that indicate distances in both directions
- Consider a fitness loop that incorporates the transit center to use buses to take participants to a designated fitness stop so they can walk/run/ride the trail back to the transit station.

Trail Layout

- Strong desire to incorporate meandering trail
- Possibility to create connection through a right-of-way through the shopping center
- Link to Grape Day Park

Safety

- Include lighting, security and video surveillance

Future Development

- Incorporate requirements for new developments to invest in creek trail as part of their open space requirements.

b) Comments Provided on Online Survey (between the dates of Sept 6 and Oct 1):

The online survey had 4 additional responses since community workshop #2. Below are the responses to question # 5: *Are there any other comments or concerns you wish to share regarding the Escondido Creek Trail?* Please also see the complete survey response document.

I had spotted the Clapper Rail using the creek the west end, and swallow bird building mud nest under bridges of Hale Street. The abandon house use by homelesses near the creek need to be torn down or fix-up as a Creek Trail Park ranger station.

10/1/2011 6:41 PM

As this plan only addresses the "trail", I don't believe it should be called a Master Plan. While the plan as presented Sept 22nd was great, key pieces are still missing. Which section will have restaurants?

Where is the gondola station(s) going? I'm serious.

Why is a Master Plan only focusing on walking and biking?

Where is the part about daylighting through the shopping center?

Solana Beach has a plan to remove every sea wall - We can have a plan to remove one shopping center.

Please don't call this an Escondido Creek Master Plan.

9/29/2011 7:54 PM

Again, it's critical that we involve the entire community in this project. If residents along the path are not engaged, they will have much less incentive to be proactive in regard to neighborhood watch-type activity, to assist in keeping the path free of litter, and to resist vandalism and graffiti. Increased police presence would be a mixed blessing, as many of the regular (and law-abiding) trail users likely equate Escondido officers with harassment.

9/27/2011 7:40 PM

Open it up. Keep landscaping low profile for safety. Include both north and south sides of the creek. Not sure we want lighting if it will be disruptive to neighbors and night sky. WE NEED LOTS OF PLACES TO ENTER/EXIT SO WE ARE NOT TRAPPED.

9/6/2011 4:01 AM



City of Escondido Neighborhood Services Department

Escondido Creek Master Plan Survey

Over the next few months, the City of Escondido will be developing a master plan for improvements along Escondido Creek Trail. The trail currently parallels the Escondido Creek channel and the study area is from the Escondido Transit Center to Daley Ranch. Public input is an important part of the process. Please take a few moments to complete this survey about your local trail. The results of the survey will be incorporated into the final master plan.



For more information about this survey or the master planning process, please contact Daniel Hippert in the Neighborhood Services Department at (760) 839-6328 or via e-mail at Dhippert@ci.escondido.ca.us.

Learn more about the previously completed Vision Plan:
<http://www.escondido.org/Data/Sites/1/pdfs/Neighborhood/RevealingEscondidoCreek.pdf>



Section 1: Ideas for Improvement along Escondido Creek Trail

- 1) Would you consider using the trail more often if it was upgraded and/or beautified?
 Yes No Not Sure
- 2) There are existing pedestrian bridges behind the Transit Center, at Grape Day Park, and at Date Street. Do you see any opportunities for any additional mid-block pedestrian crossings? If so, where?
-
- 3) Please rank the importance of the following facilities and programs that may be considered in the master plan:

	1 – High importance	2	3	4 – Low Importance	Not Sure
Beautification (new landscaping, signage, fencing, etc)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Better directional signage	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
More trail connections to local destination points (ie. retail and grocery stores, schools, other neighborhoods etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lighting for nighttime use	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mileage markers and fitness stations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Benches along the trail	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
New farmer’s market	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
New community garden	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (Please describe)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

- 4) What safety issues concern you?

	1 – Highest concern	2	3	4 – Least Concern	Not Sure
Dangerous street crossings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Difficult access	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Crime / Drugs / Graffiti	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Gangs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Homelessness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Rundown buildings and housing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of lighting around the trail	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access to the trail is difficult	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Need for more police presence	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

- 5) Are there any other comments or concerns you wish to share regarding the Escondido Creek Trail?

Section 2: Escondido Creek Trail Usership Information

- 6) Approximately how often do you use the trail?
 3 or more times a week More than 3 times a year
 1-2 times a week 1 to 2 times a year or less
- 7) What activities best describe your use of the trail? (select all that apply)
 Commuting to work Connections to other parts of the community
 Connections to stores
 Exercise (walk, jog, bike, etc.) Other: _____
 Leisure
 I don’t currently use the trail

Section 3: Personal Profile

- 8) In which neighborhood do you live? (optional)

- 9) Would you be interested in attending public meetings focused on providing input during the trail design process?
 Yes No

If yes, please provide your contact information to receive meeting notices: (optional)

 E-mail address and or Phone

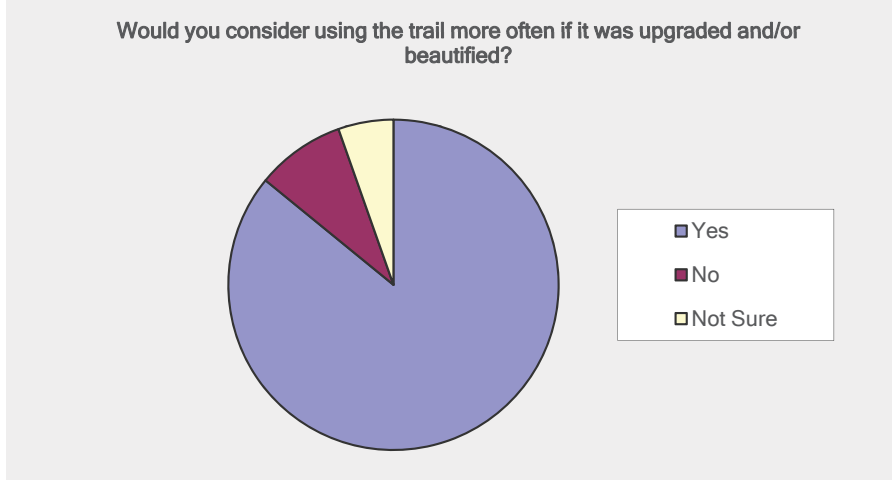
 Address (optional)

Online Survey Responses

Escondido Creek Master Plan - 5 Minute Public Input Survey

Question 1

Would you consider using the trail more often if it was upgraded and/or beautified?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	85.9%	79
No	8.7%	8
Not Sure	5.4%	5
<i>answered question</i>		92
<i>skipped question</i>		0



Question 2

There are existing pedestrian bridges behind the Transit Center, at Grape Day Park, and at Date Street. Do you see any opportunities for any additional mid-block pedestrian crossings? If so, where?	
<i>answered question:</i>	30
<i>skipped question:</i>	62

- | Number | Response Text |
|--------|--|
| 1 | Somewhere between Citrus and El Norte |
| 2 | NO |
| 3 | Yes. There is one on the eastern end that you forgot to list. |
| 4 | No, sorry |
| 5 | At all cul-de-sac junctions would be nice - that way neighborhoods could be connected and jogging/biking routes more convenient. |
| 6 | At Beech Street (Ash is a bit busy with fast-moving car traffic) |
| 7 | I don't use the trail enough to know where exactly, I think but being able to cross from one side to the other, or use both sides of the creek would be beneficial, especially in high population areas. |
| 8 | No. What I would like to see is the chain-link fence that separates homes from the creek to be replaced with a brick wall. I don't like the graffiti on my wood en fence or people on the path looking/ peering into my back yard. |
| 9 | Since I normally ride the trail from start to finish or use the bridge at the transit center to connect with the Coastal Rail Trail, I'm not familiar with any other needs for bridges. |
| 10 | That will not change how I use the trail |
| 11 | Possibly associated with the Charter High School on East Valley |
| 12 | Can't think of any. |
| 13 | No |
| 14 | Ash st. |
| 15 | Ash/78 |
| 16 | There should be several bridges all along the creek trail. |
| 17 | I have lived here for 12 years and I am not aware of these pedestrian bridges |
| 18 | No |
| 19 | City doesn't need to spend money on this when we are down police officers, firemen, librarians and the list goes on!! Shut this project down! |
| 20 | Perhaps at the shopping areas between Grape Day and the Transit Center (?) |
| 21 | No |
| 22 | maybe, cant think of any now |
| 23 | I liked the ideas from last night except building over |
| 24 | Unknown |
| 25 | No. What it really needs are more tunnels or ways to cross the streets easily and safely, so that we can walk/bike continuously across town. |
| 26 | Harmony Grove Rd would be nice. The channel does go all the way out there too |
| 27 | Beech St. |
| 28 | Low income areas-high crime opportunities. |
| 29 | El Norte needs a clear crossing path, either with traffic lights, stop sign, cross over bridge etc. This is truly for safety..... |
| 30 | Yes, in commercial districts to improve a connection between trail users and commercial venues |

Question 3

Please rank the importance of the following facilities and programs that may be considered in the master plan:

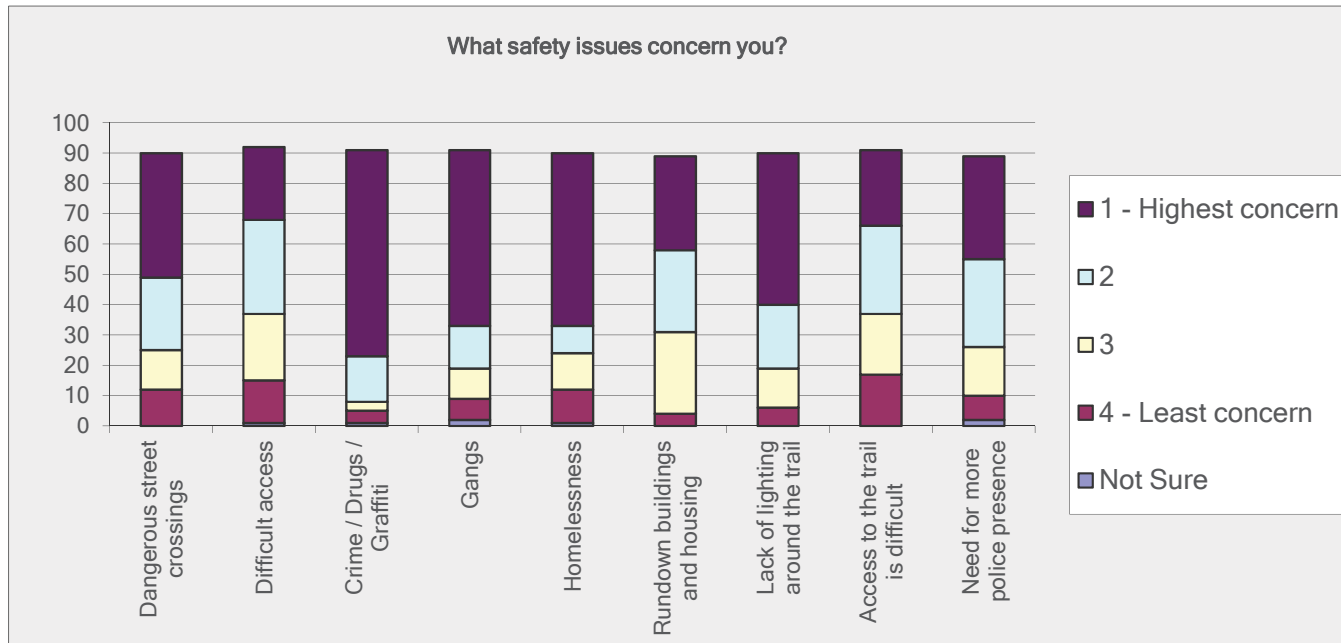
Answer Options	1 - High importance	2	3	4 - Low importance	Not Sure	Response Count
Beautification (new landscaping, signage, fencing, etc)	64	15	5	7	0	91
Better directional signage	18	33	15	24	1	91
More trail connections to local destination points (ie. retail and grocery stores, schools, other neighborhoods etc.)	44	24	9	14	1	91
Lighting for nighttime use	52	16	12	9	1	90
Mileage markers and fitness stations	13	27	22	23	3	88
Benches along the trail	27	27	18	17	1	90
New farmer's market	26	15	21	27	2	91
New community garden	20	20	22	25	3	90
Other (please specify)						30
					<i>answered question</i>	91
					<i>skipped question</i>	1

Other (please specify)

- 1 Other safety precautions (not having large bushes for people to hide in)
- 2 High importance: Robust outreach to residents living along the path. Their buy-in is critical, in regard to enhancing safety and minimizing vandalism, graffiti, and litter.
- 3 Specifically a latin flavor farmers market FOOD ONLY TO AVOID SWAP MEET. would work near rose. i know the city owns property on washington side, but i would prefer to see it on the valley pkwy side to open creek trail up to shopping area. in the future there may be an opening in that shopping center whe
- 4 Security cameras
- 5 HAVE DEDICATED POLICE at all times
- 6 Safer crossings across Ash, and other busy rds.
- 7 Use drought tolerant plants - Names of plants near them.
- 8 Interpretive signage about the watershed, wildlife, and city history.
- 9 Shade, Water, Bathrooms, Parking
- 10 Security cameras and call boxes; police bicycle patrols
- 11 New recreational opportunities (play or fitness equipment), new ways to connect with nature (the creek itself, birds, mammals, plants), new art projects
- 12 Better fenceing between the creek and the homes on the path.
- 13 Better street corssing control and better control of graffiti.
- 14 Signage encouraging pedestrians to stay to the right (allow passage of bicyclists)
- 15 Graffiti eradication plan
- 16 "Local" should be taken to mean connection to opens spaces the urban areas. Daley Ranch and Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve are within 20 minutes by bike from downtown.
- 17 Bike path
- 18 Cameras!
- 19 Security ...cameras and police patrol
- 20 Clear Bike/Pedestrian separations, VERY important.
- 21 Better road crossings
- 22 Keep open during rebuilding phases
- 23 Improving habitat to the extent possible
- 24 Creation of wildlife habitat
- 25 Some access from east west avenues
- 26 Clean the nasty flood channel!!
- 27 People need to clean up after their dogs
- 28 Armed sercurity.
- 29 Project will strengthen, improve the city.
- 30 Art installations and local cultural references

Question 4

What safety issues concern you?						
Answer Options	1 - Highest concern	2	3	4 - Least concern	Not Sure	Response Count
Dangerous street crossings	41	24	13	12	0	90
Difficult access	24	31	22	14	1	89
Crime / Drugs / Graffiti	68	15	3	4	1	91
Gangs	58	14	10	7	2	91
Homelessness	57	9	12	11	1	90
Rundown buildings and housing	31	27	27	4	0	89
Lack of lighting around the trail	50	21	13	6	0	90
Access to the trail is difficult	25	29	20	17	0	91
Need for more police presence	34	29	16	8	2	89
					<i>answered question</i>	91
					<i>skipped question</i>	1



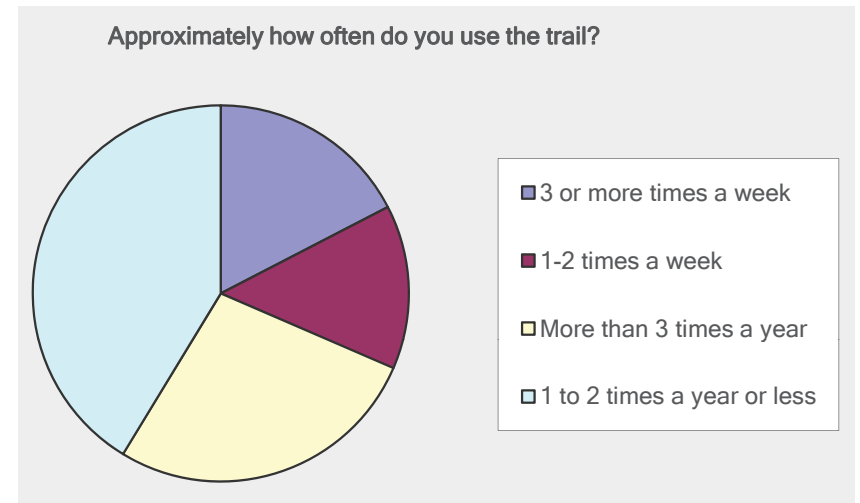
Question 5

Are there any other comments or concerns you wish to share regarding the Escondido Creek Trail?		
Answer Options	Response Count	
	55	
<i>answered question</i>	55	
<i>skipped question</i>	37	

- Please see Appendix A and B, Community Meeting Minutes for complete list of responses

Question 6

Approximately how often do you use the trail?			
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count	
3 or more times a week	17.4%	16	
1-2 times a week	14.1%	13	
More than 3 times a year	27.2%	25	
1 to 2 times a year or less	41.3%	38	
<i>answered question</i>			92
<i>skipped question</i>			



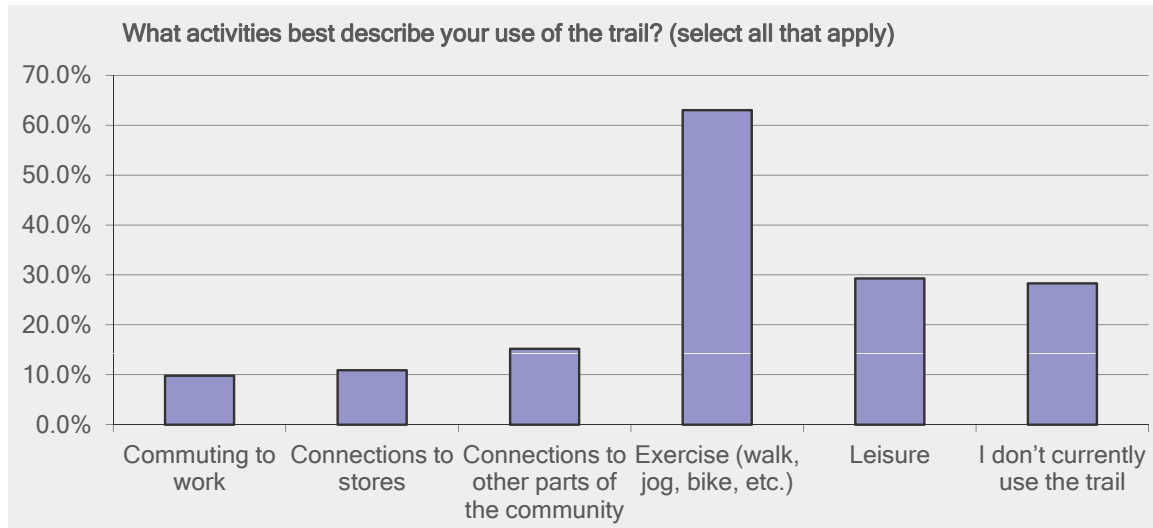
Question 7

What activities best describe your use of the trail? (select all that apply)

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Commuting to work	9.8%	9
Connections to stores	10.9%	10
Connections to other parts of the community	15.2%	14
Exercise (walk, jog, bike, etc.)	63.0%	58
Leisure	29.3%	27
I don't currently use the trail	28.3%	26
Other (please specify)		16
<i>answered question</i>		92
<i>skipped question</i>		0

Other (please specify)

- 1 Commuting cross town to relatives.
- 2 Have used it to commute to train toward work invista in the past. Don't feel this is safe because i am alone.
- 3 I am frequently Calling IN Graffiti in Progress or calling in other suspicious gang activity IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD near the the flood control channel
- 4 Would use it more often if it was better cared for; possibly drinking water stations, benches, and evening lighting.Would consider riding into downtown for activities.
- 5 I am gonna have to try it out, I just want to know it is safe.
- 6 I do not use the trail now but might if it had benches and proper lighting. This would be such an asset to the City of Escondido. Many smaller towns than ours have these beautiful walks. Our citizens need a beautiful place to stroll or ride their bikes.
- 7 If the trail was more attractive and interesting I would use it.
- 8 Would like to use the trail for exercise and leisure, but access and safety are significant concerns for me.
- 9 I've used part of it to walk to work only a few times. It is so unsightly that I am not tempted to use it on a regular basis.
- 10
- 11 The trail is ugly, mainly filled with garbage and homeless people. i would not consider going there
- 12 The city does not need to pay to do this.. this is stupid to spend resources on this! Stop the madness!
- 13 I would definitely use it more if it was safer at street crossings.
- 14 I'm a mobile home resident living 24 feet from the bike path at 2280 E. Valley Pkwy. I hear enough noise even at 2:00 A.M. to have my fill of that path. It should be closed off totally and locked at night.
- 15 I live on east side of town...my kids in Old Escondido.It is the BEST route to go
- 16 Gang banger's habitat.
- 17 Exercise, dog walks.



Question 8

In which neighborhood do you live? (optional)

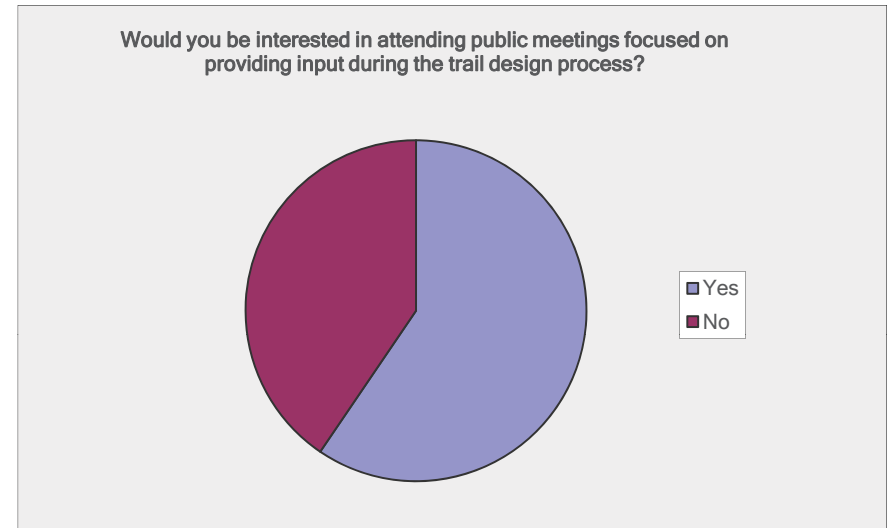
Answer Options	Response Count
<i>answered question</i>	65
<i>skipped question</i>	27

- | Number | Response Text |
|--------|--|
| 1 | Country Club |
| 2 | Ash and Washington |
| 3 | Near glen view school |
| 4 | Cedar-Cedar Brook located between Washington Ave and the Creek |
| 5 | C.A.L.M. Grove |
| 6 | I live in Los Arboles Neighborhood |
| 7 | Work for the city. |
| 8 | south escondido |
| 9 | Oak Hill area |
| 10 | Near Lake Dixon |
| 11 | South central Escondido |
| 12 | Just south of Old Escondido at the end of Ninth and up a hill. |
| 13 | Mountain View Park area |
| 14 | northeast escondido, near Daley Ranch |
| 15 | carlsbad |
| 16 | East Escondido (Citrus & Bear Valley Parkway) |
| 17 | Los Arboles Neighborhood |
| 18 | Rancho San Pasqual |
| 19 | Escondido Blvd and El Norte Pkwy |
| 20 | Old Escondido |
| 21 | Homes off of Wanak, Albert Court |
| 22 | Off of citrus and Wanek |
| 23 | Rancho Bernardp |
| 24 | Near Oak Hill Cemetery |
| 25 | Old Escondido Historic District |
| 26 | San Marcos (Work on East Valley Pkwy) |
| 27 | Quite Hills |
| 28 | NE Escondido, Greenway Rise area off of El Norte Pkwy |
| 29 | Fallbrook currently but was born and raised in Escondido |
| 30 | Homeland acres |
| 31 | Harmony Grove |
| 32 | Grape St. |
| 33 | South East Escondido, 17th @ Juniper |
| 34 | Northern Escondido |
| 35 | I commute in from Elfin Forest and ride my bike |
| 36 | Laurel Valley |
| 37 | Esc |
| 38 | near eureka springs |
| 39 | HArmony grove |
| 40 | Imperial Mobilehome Park |
| 41 | Downtown |
| 42 | Cedar/Cedar Brook |
| 43 | El Norte / Washington |
| 44 | Near felicity and center city |
| 45 | near Hidden Valley Middle School. |
| 46 | Above Los Arboles.....where its relatively safe |

Question 9

Would you be interested in attending public meetings focused on providing input during the trail design process?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	59.5%	50
No	40.5%	34
<i>answered question</i>		84
<i>skipped question</i>		8



Note: Contact Information not included for privacy reasons.