THE PLANNING CENTER DC&E

# Quarry Park Master Plan

for the City of Saratoga

# Project Team

- **City of Saratoga**
  - John Cherbone, Director of Public Works
  - Iveta Harvancik, Senior Engineer
- **The Planning Center | DC&E**
  - Isabelle Minn, Principal in Charge
  - Sadie Mitchell, Project Manager
- **2M Associates**
  - Patrick Miller, Principal
- **HT Harvey,** Biology
- **NV5,** Infrastructure
- **Tom Origer Associates,** Historic
- **Tim Best,** Trails

# Workshop Agenda

- **Welcome and Introductions**
- **Presentation**
  - **Project Overview & Process**
  - **Site and Project History**
  - **Preliminary Goals**
  - **Preliminary Opportunities & Constraints**
- **Small Group Exercise**
- **Report Back**
- **Next Steps**
- **Adjourn**

# Process

***Community Inspired***
**Visionary Master Plan:**
*An implementable, far-reaching vision defined by the property, its resources, the region, and the community*

# Process & Schedule

# Integrated Management Plan and Master Plan

- Plan Contents
  - Introduction and Vision
  - Goals, Objectives, and Policies
  - Existing Conditions
  - Quarry Park Concept Plan
  - Design Guidelines
  - Interpretive Program
  - Natural Resources Management Guidelines
  - Implementation and Phasing Plan

# Site History:

*Unearthing the Stories; Identify a Strategy for Digging Deeper*

# Site History

- Mid-1850's – limestone quarrying
- 1856 – John Hutchinson bought property and began limestone quarrying.  Abandoned quarrying after two years
- 1908 – JW Knowles and JJ Stansfield bought property and converted to a gravel quarry
- 1921 – County purchased property – rock and gravel was used for construction of maintenance of County Roads

# Site History

Circa 1948

# Site History

- 1966 – Quarry Closed. Used as a picnic facility by Santa Clara County Roads Department
  - Crafted stonework and landscaping
  - Used by staff for picnicking, weddings, etc
  - Workers took care of the facility on their own time

# Site History

- Concrete Base of Processing/Loading

# Site History

- Concrete Lined Tunnels
  - Facilitated delivery of rock to the loading bins via conveyor belts

# Site History

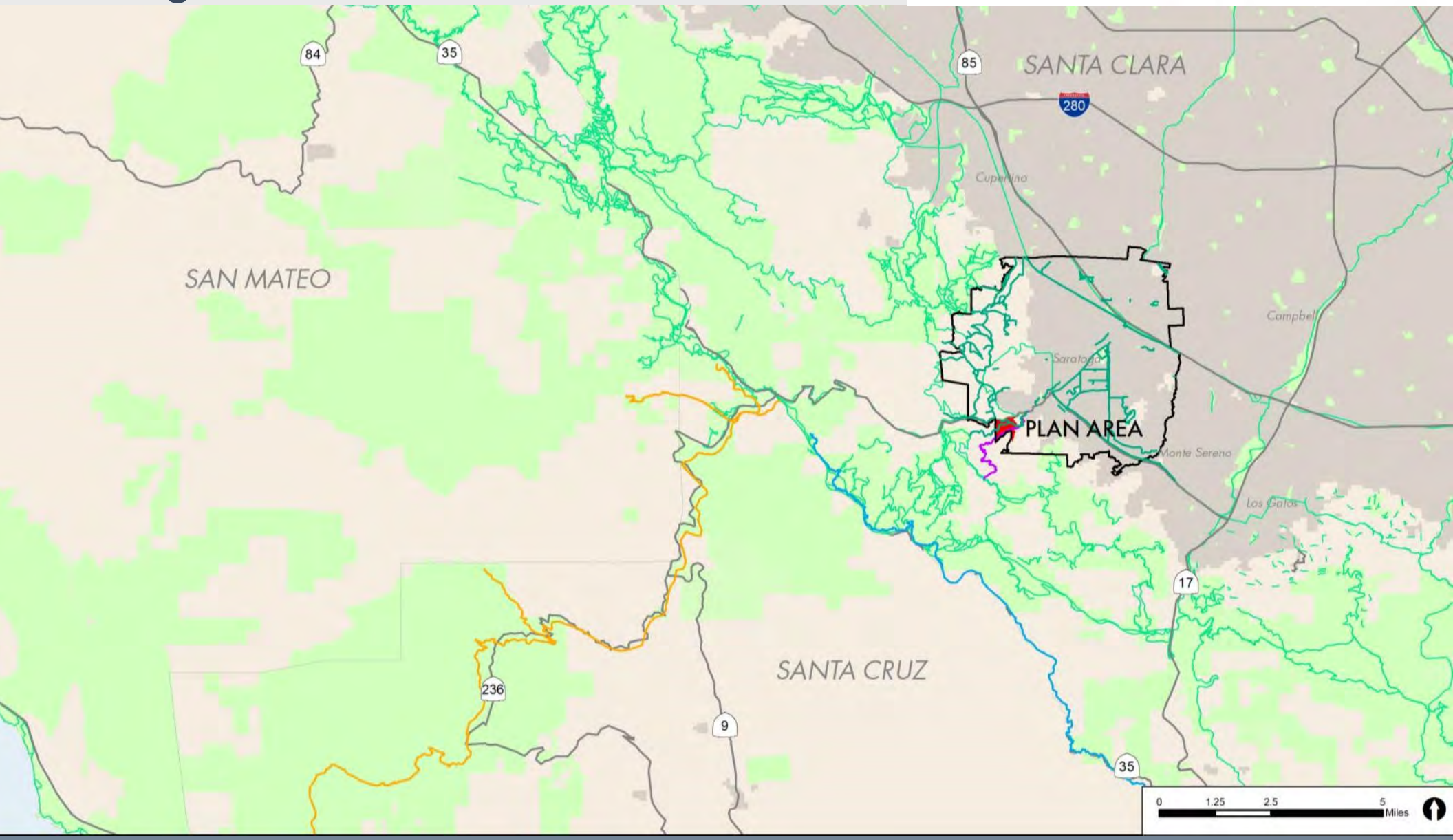
- No prehistoric resources found on the site
- Quarry could be eligible for the California Register because it was important part of the local economy during the late 19th and early 20th centuries

# Existing Conditions:

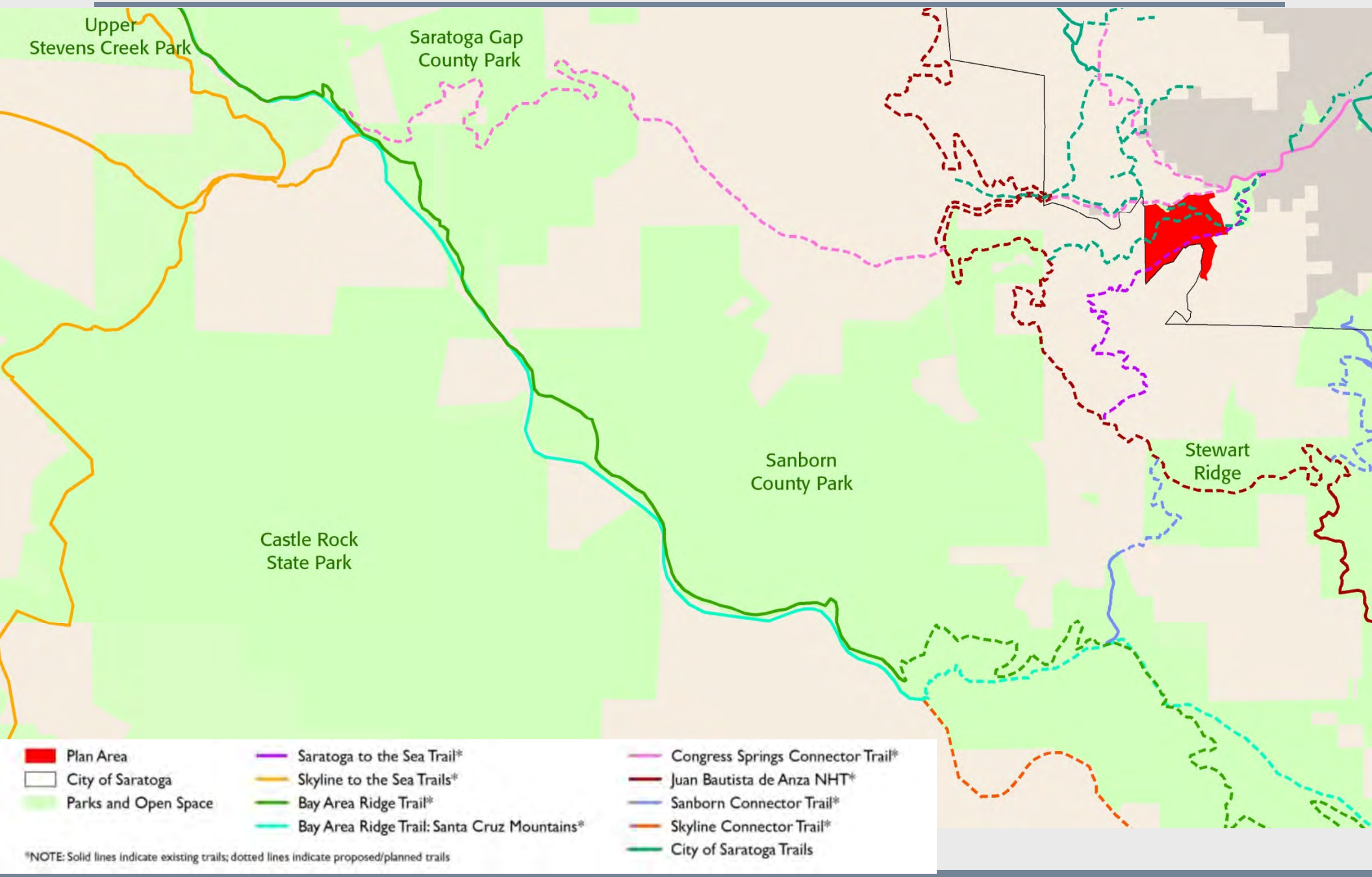
*Working within the existing setting*

# Connectivity

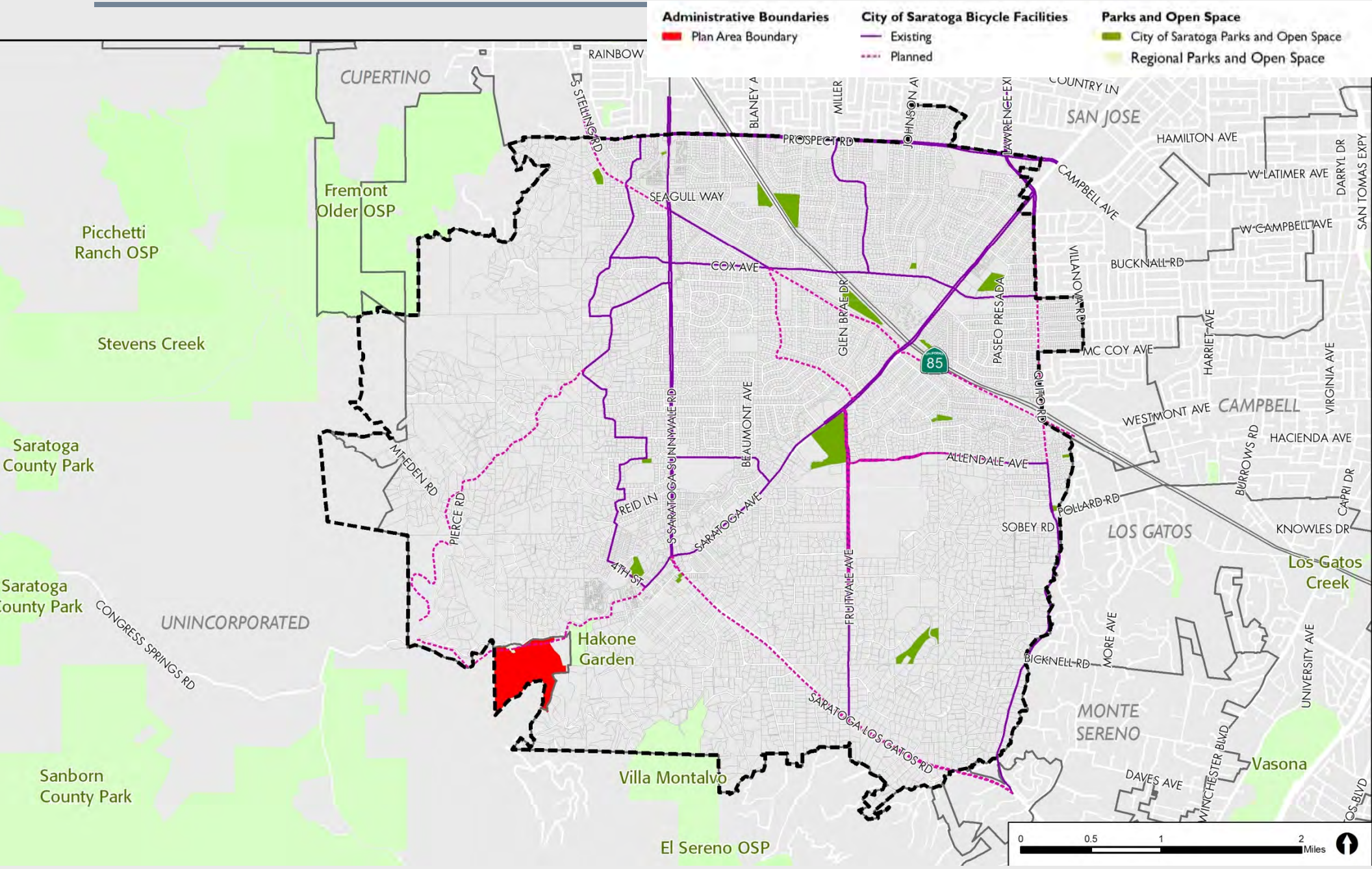
## Regional Connections



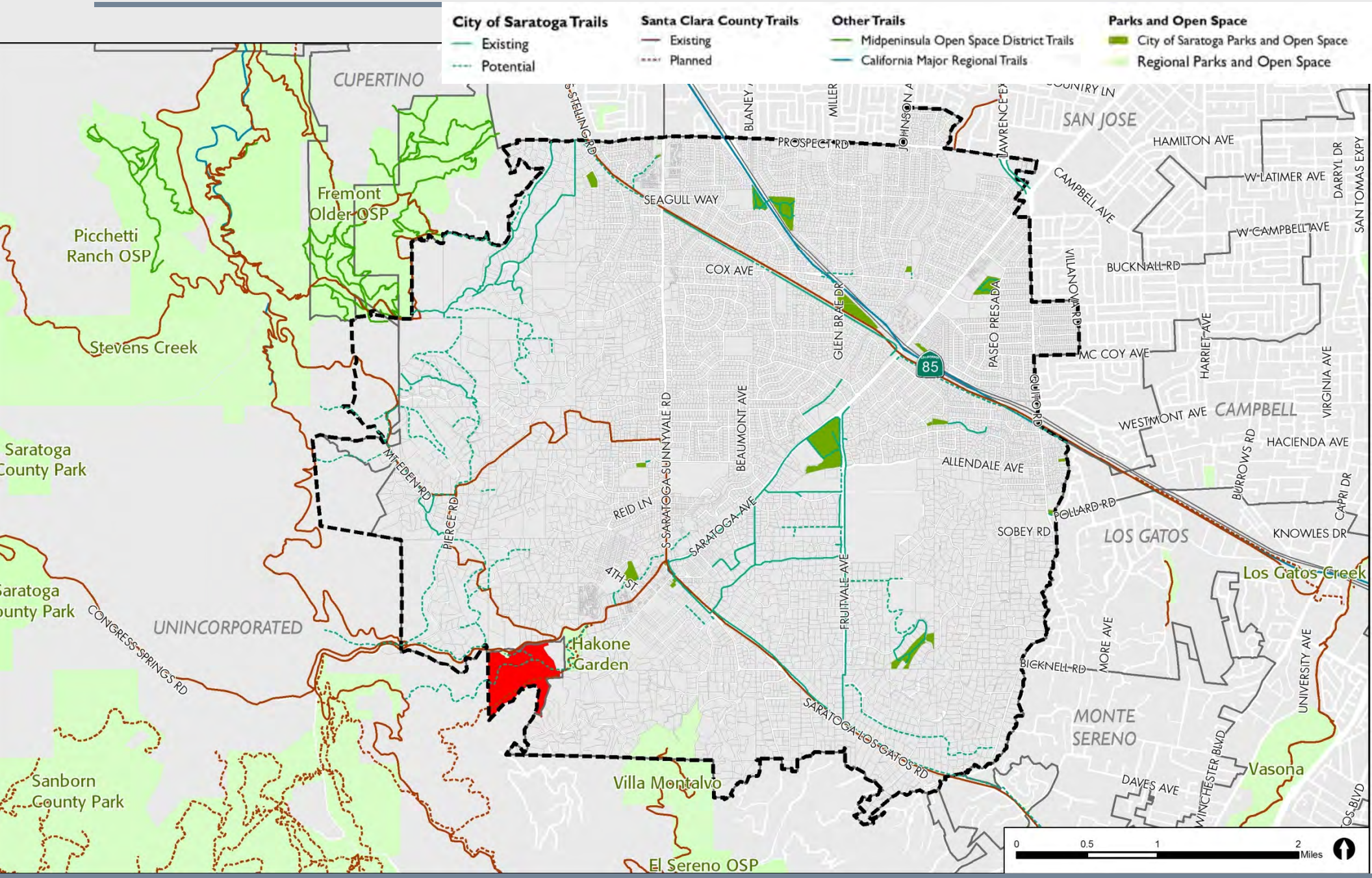
# Connectivity – Saratoga Gap Connections



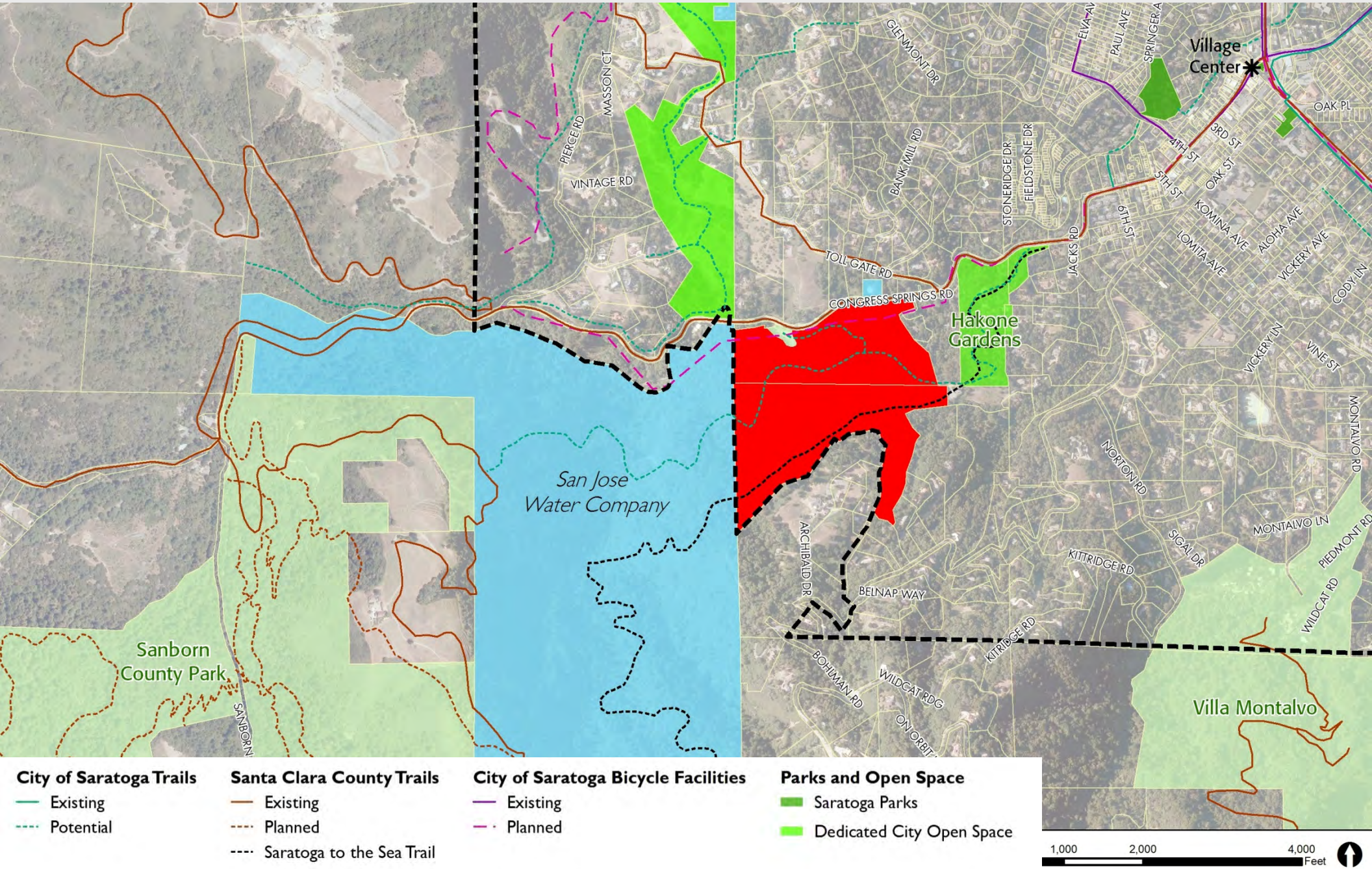
# Connectivity – Existing and Proposed Bike Facilities



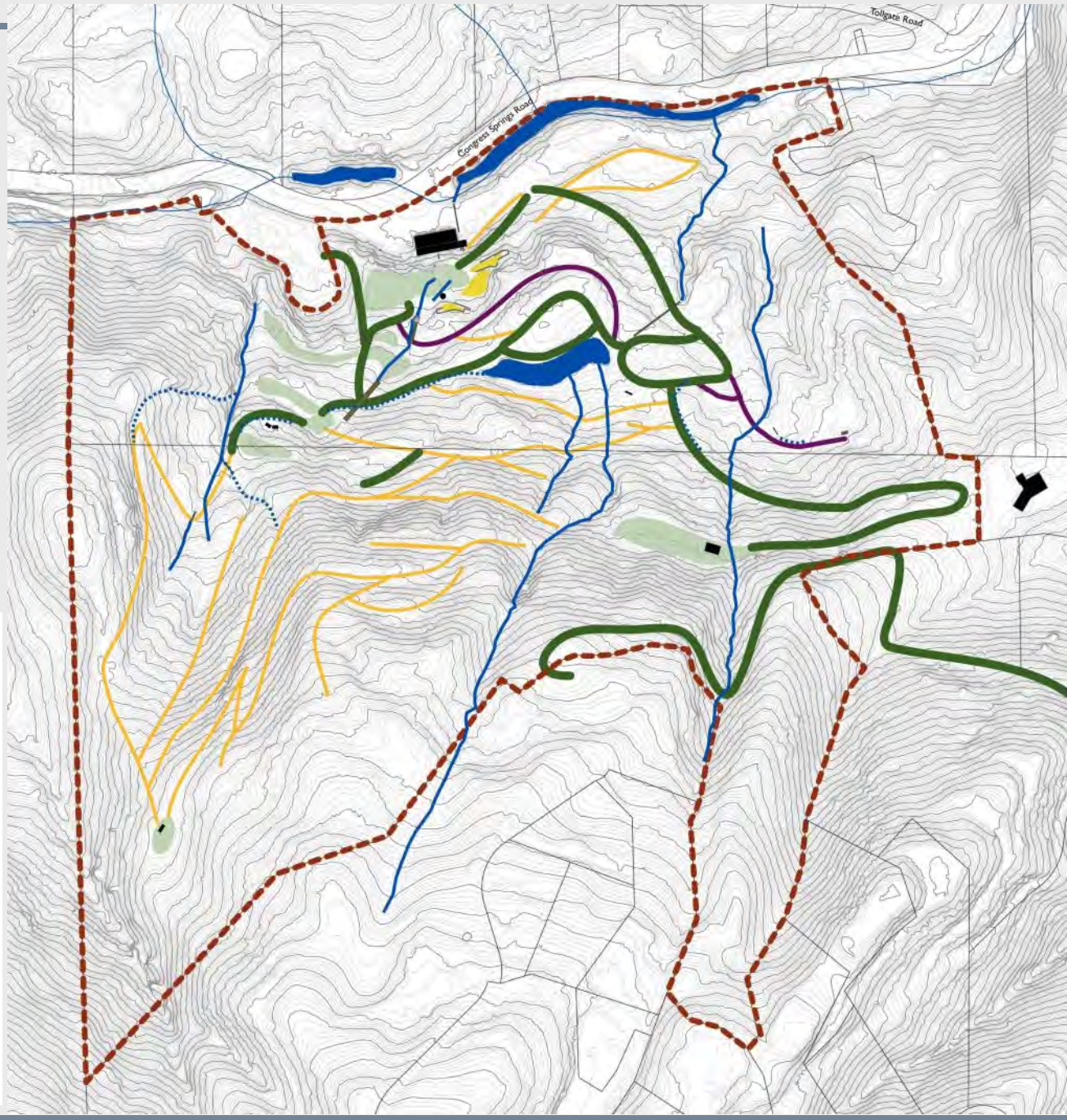
# Connectivity – Existing and Proposed Trails



# Connectivity



# Existing Site Facilities




- Plan Area Boundary
- Parcels
- 2" Contour Lines
- 10" Contour Lines
- Main Road
- Secondary Road
- Tractor Road
- Drainage
- Streams
- Pond/Stream
- Existing Building
- Existing Water Structure
- Culvert
- Potential Parking
- Existing Flat Area

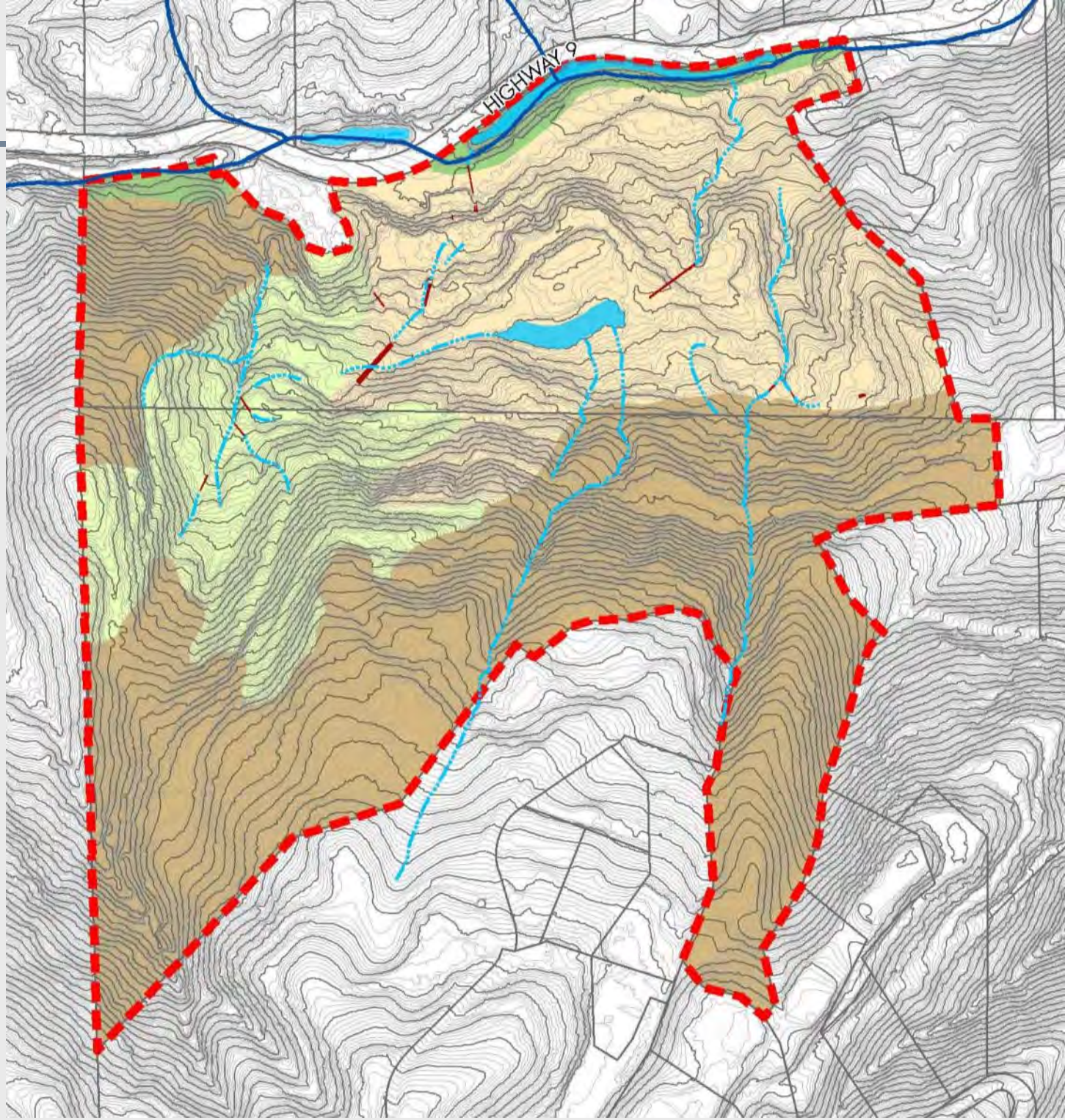
# Infrastructure

- No onsite sewer
- Storm drainage flows downhill towards Saratoga Creek
- Site served by PG&E.  Remnants of electrical power on the property
- Old irrigation system
  - Small above ground water tank
  - Two above ground steel water storage tanks
  - Steel water tanker trailer
  - Large wood covered reservoir

# Biology

**Habitat Type**

- Broad leaved Upland Forest
- Mixed Native/Non-native Woodland
- Northern Coastal Scrub
- Riparian Forest



# Conservation Easement

- *Restricts the use of the Property to activities involving recreation (hiking, picnicking, nature research and study), enjoyment of views, open space, natural habitat and environmental protection, restoration and related uses which are consistent with this Easement*.

# Conservation Easement

- The Master Plan for the Park will include, but not be limited to, the following:
  - Provisions that promote the protection of public resources;
  - Provisions for the implementation of an erosion control program;
  - Provisions that promote public access for recreation;
  - Provisions for the development of the **Saratoga-to-the-Sea Trail** through the Property (from Hakone Gardens through the Park that will allow for a reasonable alignment for a trail continuing to Sanborn County Park)

# Preliminary Vision Statement

*Quarry Park is a gateway to history and the Santa Cruz Mountains. Quarry Park provides opportunities to explore, play in, learn, and experience the outdoors to benefit the visitor's physical health and spirit.*

# Preliminary Goals

- **Public Access and Recreation**
  - Provide safe day-use outdoor recreation
  - Create education opportunities
  - Develop Quarry Park as a gateway to the Santa Cruz Mountains
  - Connect the Park with nearby public park and open space lands.

# Preliminary Goals

- **Resource Management**
  - Maintain and enhance Saratoga Creek, including erosion control
  - Enhance habitats to promote native biodiversity and support threatened and endangered species.
  - Manage invasive species.
  - Manage vegetation to reduce wildfire risk
  - Coordinate with adjacent State Scenic Highway Corridor SR 9

# Preliminary Goals

- **Habitat Protection and Restoration Opportunities**
  - Restore and expand the edge of the riparian corridor along Saratoga Creek
  - Restore and enhance onsite wetland
  - Undertake targeted invasive, non-native plant removal
  - Concentrate impacts and new development within existing road and picnic area footprints

# Preliminary Goals

- **Health**
  - support and encourage physical activities for varying levels of use
- **Education and Interpretation**
  - Educate about the park's geologic resources and the role the Quarry played in the development of Silicon Valley Highways
  - Interpret the historic mining
  - Educate regarding the ecosystem and habitat resources

# Preliminary Goals

- **Operations and Management**
  - Provide adequate resources to ensure sufficient staff or park partners are available to manage use
  - Site and design facilities to reduce maintenance needs and life cycle costs
  - Coordinate implementation of the Master Plan with non-profit organizations, volunteers, and other recreation and education partners

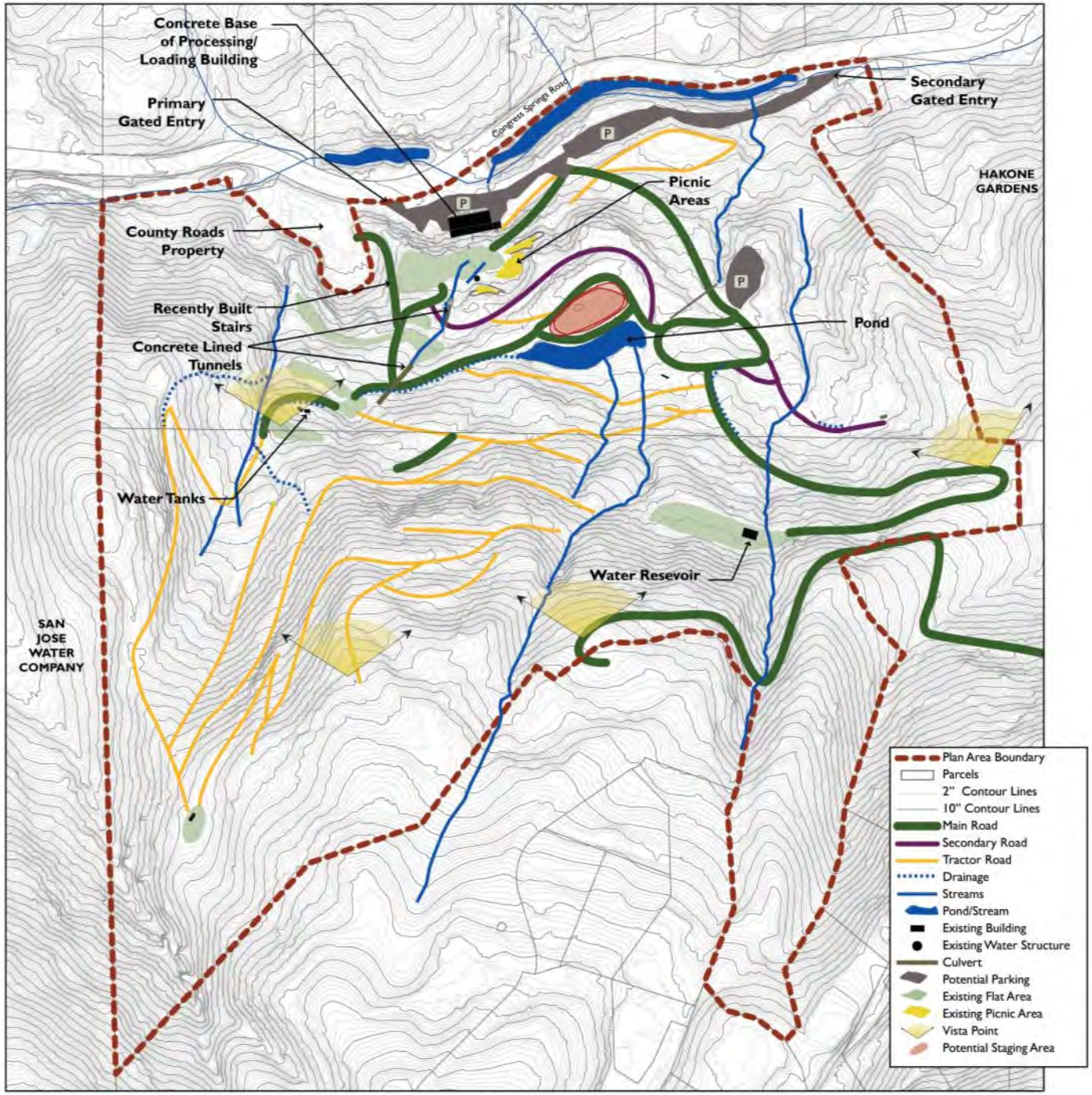
# Preliminary Opportunities & Constraints

- Community and regional asset
- Local hub for open space and trail connections
- Careful examination of existing infrastructure - balanced decision of what is history and what is hazard
- Balance needs of hikers, bikers, equestrians
- Include activities for young children
- Embrace and highlight the site's history

# Preliminary Opportunities & Constraints

- Incorporate educational opportunities – history, mining, flora and fauna
- Create a connection to village
- Address parking needs – including buses, horse trailers
- Evaluate re-use options for concrete foundation – visitor center, museum, community center

# Preliminary Opportunities & Constraints



# Workshop Ground Rules

- ***Listen***
- ***Be Succinct***
- ***Don’t Interrupt***
- ***Take Turns***
- ***Be Polite***

# Small Group Exercise

1. Park “Vision” statement
2. Park goals
3. Access
4. Uses and activities
5. Facilities
6. Trails
7. Habitat
8. Volunteers / Funding
9. Priorities
10. What are we missing?

# Report Back

# Next Steps

1. History Interviews
2. Quarry Park Atlas
3. Team Work Session
4. Alternative Concept Plans
5. Community Workshop #2 – September 2013

# Additional Comments

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