



PRESS RELEASE

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City of Saratoga Celebrates Extension of Quarry Park Trails and Start of Saratoga-to-Sea Trail

On October 19, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. at Saratoga Quarry Park, the Saratoga City Council will celebrate the completion of a half-mile extension of an existing trail. The extension almost doubles the length of the trail system within the park. All of the trails built thus far are former roads that were used when the property was an active quarry. By repurposing these roads, the City has been able to capitalize on the existing network within the park and accelerate access to hikers with a modest park improvement budget.

Additionally, the future Saratoga-to-the-Sea Trail will branch off of this new trail segment. The Saratoga-to-the-Sea Trail will begin in Quarry Park, connecting hikers and backpackers to the coast over a 50 mile trail that connects with Sanborn County Park, travels through the Santa Cruz Mountains, and ends at Waddel State Beach. A critical component of the trail travels over San Jose Water Company property. Without this segment, the Saratoga-to-the-Sea Trail would not be possible. Efforts to finalize the easement on San Jose Water Company property for the Saratoga-to-the-Sea Trail will be complete or nearly complete by the time the City celebrates the Quarry Park Trail Extension Ribbon Cutting on October 19.

“San Jose Water Company has been a steward of our regional water resources for more than 150 years,” said Andy Gere, President and Chief Operating Officer, San Jose Water Company. “We don’t just work here, we live here. It’s important to us to be a good neighbor, which is why we are glad to work with the City of Saratoga to help make the next phase of the trail extension possible.”

“For many years, the Saratoga City Council and our community has had the bold vision to connect Saratoga to the Pacific Ocean with a hiking trail,” said Saratoga Mayor Emily Lo. “Without the support and commitment of San Jose Water Company and the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District this connection wouldn’t be possible. We are very grateful to our dedicated partners for helping us take this critical step forward in the creation of the Saratoga-to-the-Sea Trail.”

In addition to the support from San Jose Water Company for the Saratoga-to-the-Sea Trail, partial funding for the trail will also come from Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District Measure AA. The measure was overwhelmingly approved by voters in June 2014 and provides

\$300 million in general obligation bond funds to be used to protect natural open spaces, open new preserves or provide access to existing preserves closed to the public, restore open space, and construct public improvements, such as trails.

The Saratoga City Council will be recognizing San Jose Water Company and Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District during the ribbon cutting on October 19.