

PLACING THE WESTERN TRAIL: A COMPARISON OF TWO POTENTIAL ALIGNMENTS

Two potential alignments for the western trail required by Stanford's General Use Permit differ significantly. The route endorsed by the community and Committee for Green Foothills (C1-B) meets the environmental and recreational requirements of the County Trails Master Plan. The route proposed by Stanford (C1-C) does not.

| COMMUNITY ENDORSED TRAIL (C1-B) | STANFORD ROADSIDE ROUTE (C1-C) |
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| <i>Runs along the inside edge of the Stanford golf course, on the Dish side of San Francisquito Creek; passes through tunnel under 280 to Arastradero Road.</i> | <i>Runs largely along and adjacent to Sand Hill and Alpine Roads to Arastradero Road.</i> |
| <i>Provides "Medium to High" recreational value, as assessed by County staff.</i> | <i>Provides minimal recreational value due to its close proximity to busy roadways for the entire length of the trail.</i> |
| <i>Has low environmental impact as determined by County staff; doesn't pose threat to creek habitat.</i> | <i>Has significant environmental impacts: requires removal of more than 40 trees, including some heritage oaks, and requires creek bank fortification.</i> |
| <i>Requires no negotiation with San Mateo County or other landholders; has no impact on property owners in the Stanford Weekend Acres neighborhood.</i> | <i>Is contentious: homeowners in the Weekend Acres neighborhood have sued San Mateo County over the easement required for the trail right-of-way.</i> |
| <i>Avoids unsafe crossings with roadways and driveways; avoids the entrance and exit ramps of I-280 by utilizing a service tunnel under the freeway.</i> | <i>Creates "Medium to High risks to public safety" as evaluated by County staff, from heavy traffic on Sand Hill and Alpine Roads and cross traffic from numerous driveways and roads in the Stanford Weekend Acres neighborhood.</i> |
| <i>Is entirely in Santa Clara County.</i> | <i>Is mostly in San Mateo County.</i> |