

Overview

The proposed Sabercat Trail project will extend and improve the existing trail, located in the Mission San Jose area. The project will extend the trail to the west over Interstate 680 to connect with the Irvington community at Osgood Road. The existing trail will be widened, improved, and extended easterly along Pine Street to connect with Mission Boulevard and Ohlone College. A new interpretive area will inform the community about the unique paleontological history of the area from 1.9 million years ago.



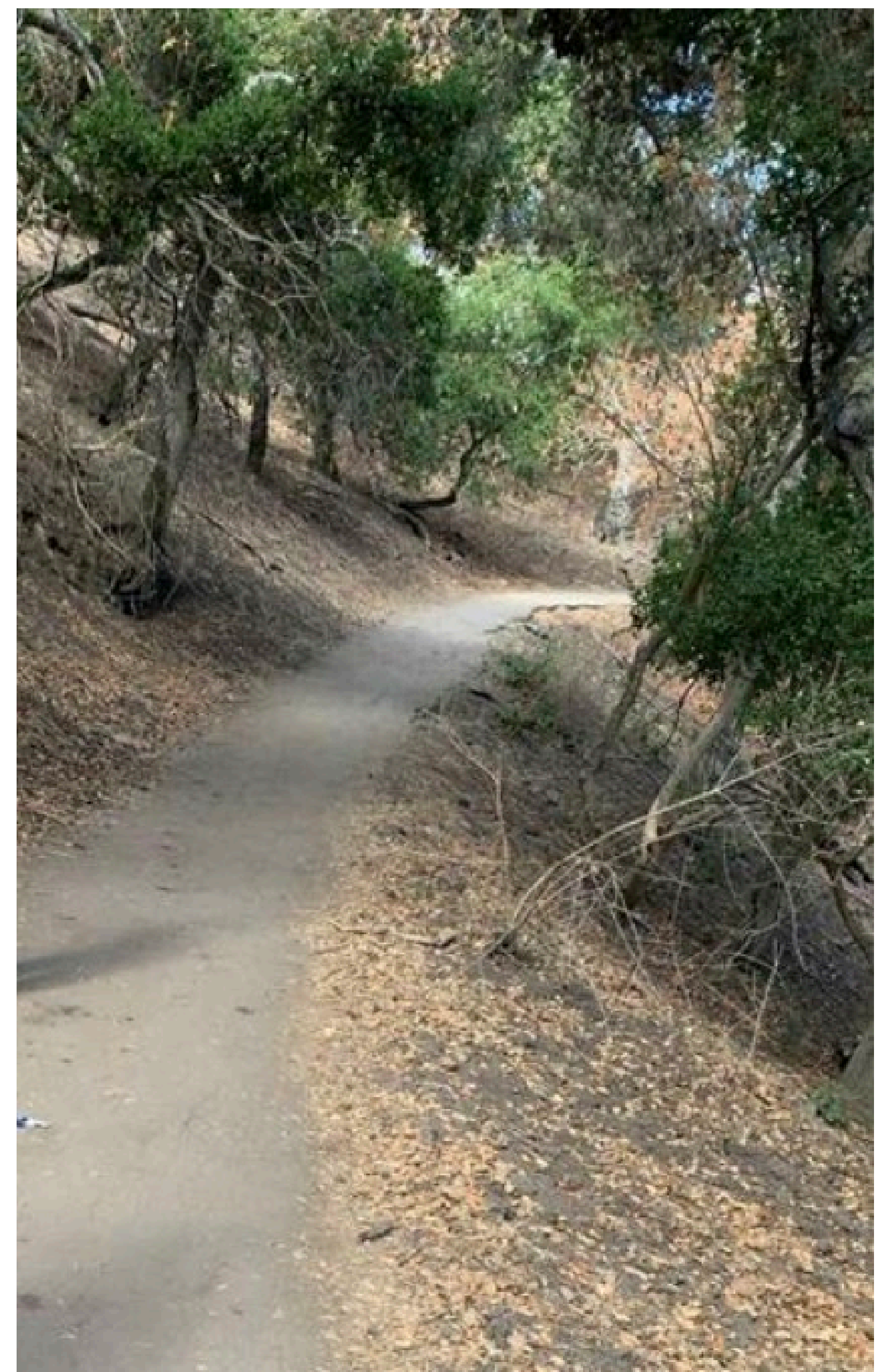
Planned “fossil” bridge design for Sabercat trail extension over Interstate 680.

Objectives

- Provide a trail and off-street bikeway route to connect the Irvington and Mission San Jose communities, including such destinations as the Sabercat Historical Park, Ohlone College, and the planned Irvington BART station.
- Expand the network of urban trails linking the Sabercat Trail with the planned East Bay Greenway and with trails in the Fremont Hills connecting to Mission Peak.
- Provide educational information about the unique history of the area.
- Supports local, regional, State, and national goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increased mobility by walking, bicycling and using transit.

Features

- The pedestrian and bicycle bridge over I-680 will have the distinctive look of a fossil skeleton to reflect the special history of the surrounding area, a preference expressed during the recent community outreach process.
- Narrow parts of the existing trail in Sabercat Historical Park will be widened and improved to safely accommodate an increase in trail usage.
- An interpretive area will be located along the trail providing information about the area’s history.



Area of existing Sabercat Trail planned for widening to accommodate safe use by more trail users.



Rendering of Interpretive Area to learn about paleontology and past history.

Contact

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Project Webpage

www.fremont.gov/government/departments/public-works/public-works-projects/sabercat-trail-extension-project

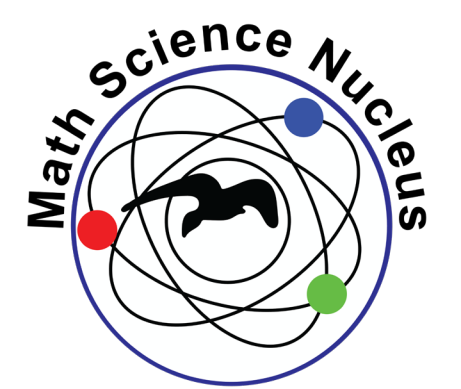
Project Status

Funding grants from the Alameda County Transportation Commission and the California Natural Resources Agency have allowed completing the project scoping, planning, and environmental clearance phases. In February 2022, the Fremont City Council unanimously approved the project and authorized continued work on final design, land acquisition, and pursuing funding for construction. In September 2022, new State grant funding (\$12 million) was approved that will allow the project to be ready for construction starting in 2025. Additional funds are needed to fully fund the construction phase and will be pursued from regional, state, and federal sources. To allow portions of the project to advance with partial funding for construction, a phasing plan has been proposed: Phase 1, upgrade existing trail; Phase 2a, relocate an existing I-680 toll sign that conflicts with the new bridge; Phase 2b, build Sabercat Trail extension to the west with new bridge over I-680; and Phase 3, extend east end of Sabercat trail to connect into the Ohlone College campus and the hiking trail to Mission Peak and the Bay Area Ridge Trail.



Map of Sabercat Historical Park and existing trail.

Partnership Agencies



Schedule

Scoping	Completed December 2018
Planning/Environmental (CEQA)	Completed February 2022
Environmental (NEPA)	Complete July 2024
Final Design	Complete Fall 2024
Right-of-Way	Complete Fall 2025
Construction	Spring 2025 – Summer 2027*

*Schedule subject to funding availability



Illustration of Fremont 1.9 million years ago. Photo credit: Math Science Nucleus.

Cost (\$x1000)

Scoping	\$ 75
Planning/Environmental	\$ 2,125
Final Design/Right-of-Way	\$ 9,982
Construction	\$57,144
Phase 1 – Upgrade Existing Trail	\$ 10,313
Phase 2a – Relocate Existing I-680 Toll Sign	\$ 1,036
Phase 2b – Extend Trail to West Over I-680	\$ 42,795
Phase 3 – Extend Trail to East Ohlone College	\$ 3,000
Total Cost	\$69,326

Funding (\$x1000)

Alameda CTC (Measure BB)	\$ 75
State (Natural Resources Agency 2019)	\$ 5,700
State (Parks and Recreation 2022)	\$ 6,000
State (Caltrans 2022)	\$ 6,000
TBD*	\$51,551
Total Funding	\$69,326

*Project is seeking funding from Regional, State, and Federal sources.

Related Project

Irvingtonian Fossil Museum Project - The Sabercat Trail Extension project also includes planning for a museum to celebrate and educate the public about the natural history of the Irvingtonian period, dating back 1.9 million years ago. Fossils from this period were uncovered starting in the 1940s by teacher Wes Gordon and his team of “boy paleontologists”. Their efforts brought international recognition to this era of natural history, which was officially designated as the Irvingtonian period, named after the location of the discovered fossils. The museum would display a collection of Irvingtonian artifacts. The envisioned new museum would provide a world-class natural history attraction in Fremont, similar to the La Brea Tar Pits in Los Angeles.