





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SANTA CLARA COUNTY PARKS WATER

37 Miles of Trails Connecting Saratoga to the Sea

SARATOGA, CA – The City of Saratoga is proud to announce the completion of the Saratoga to the Skyline Trail from Quarry Park. This 9.7-mile trail is the final segment needed to realize a dream that began over 50 years ago to connect Saratoga to the Pacific Ocean via 37 miles of hiking trails from Saratoga through County and State Parks in collaboration with the County of Santa Clara, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, and San Jose Water Company.

"As I hike the trails at Quarry Park, I am reminded of all those who worked for so many decades to make this trail from Saratoga to the Pacific Ocean a reality," said Saratoga Mayor Howard Miller. "Throughout the hike, there are beautiful vistas, views of wonderful creeks, and interpretive signs to teach you about the area. I encourage you to take your time, and enjoy nature and all it has to offer."

Quarry Park, a 64-acre property once used by Santa Clara County to mine rock and gravel for roads in the County, opened to the public on October 31, 2015. Located in the hills of Saratoga, the park features picturesque trails and picnic spots and was acquired by the City with the support of Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District and the County of Santa Clara Department of Parks and Recreation.

The partnerships that helped make the opening of Quarry Park possible were also essential to this opening of the Saratoga to the Skyline Trail just 5 years later. San Jose Water Company donated a trail easement across their property adjacent to Quarry Park. Major funding for the 3.6-mile trail through San Jose Water Company property and Quarry Park was provided by the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, thanks to the Measure AA general obligation bond passed by voters in 2014. The City of Saratoga provided the funding to complete the project and contracted with the Mountain Bikers of Santa Cruz to build Saratoga's portion of the trail due to their sustainable trail construction approach and specialization in local terrain. The remaining 6.1 miles of the Saratoga to the Skyline Trail within Sanborn County Park were completed by County of Santa Clara Department of Parks and Recreation.

"This is an accomplishment literally decades in the making," said Santa Clara County Supervisor Joe Simitian. "We can finally say yes, we can go from Saratoga to the Sea. So many good folks came together to make this happen – the City, the County, and the folks at the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District. It's been a real joy working with them all."

The Saratoga to the Skyline Trail connects Saratoga's Quarry Park with Santa Clara County's Sanborn Park. From there, avid hikers can take the Skyline-to-the-Sea Trail, completed almost 40







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SAN JOSE WATER SAN JOSE COUNTY PARKS

years ago, for the full journey from the Santa Cruz Mountains through Castle Rock State Park and Big Basin Redwoods State Park to the Pacific Ocean. There are several campsites along the way, offering spectacular views and opportunities for families and backpackers to enjoy California's incredible scenery at their leisure.

In lieu of a traditional Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony due to the COVID-19 pandemic, please enjoy these videos <u>celebrating the grand opening of the trail</u>, <u>showcasing the new trail's features</u>, and <u>hiking the new 3.6-mile trail segment</u>.