

2020 Impact Report



A year for the books ...

We made it through some rough terrain in 2020, thanks to Ridge Trail supporters like you. The pandemic upended life as we know it, but it only increased the importance of parks and open space to our communities. Nearly all trails saw a substantial increase in visitors. Hikers, cyclists, equestrians, and families sought out nearby nature, and hundreds signed up to care for trails and participate in our Ridge Trail Challenge.



“In a time when most people are in their homes the majority of the day, the accessibility of parks and trails play an important role in maintaining the mental health of our community.”

—East Bay Regional Parks Survey

“Visitation during COVID restrictions compared to previous years increased 88 percent.”

—Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District



PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Berryessa BART

After years of anticipation, the Ridge Trail's **first BART connection** opened in June. You can step off the train at the Berryessa BART station and directly onto the Ridge Trail. The new 0.7-mile trail section connects 9 miles of Ridge Trail from the station, along the Penitencia Creek Trail, through Alum Rock Park and up to the sweeping views and serpentine landscape of Sierra Vista Open Space Preserve.



SAN MATEO COUNTY

Oljon Trail

In December, the Ridge Trail gained almost 2 miles, with the dedication of the **Oljon Trail** in Midpen's El Corte de Madera Creek Preserve. This gently winding trail has something for everyone, with fun curves and turns for mountain bikers, mushrooms and ferns for naturalists, shade and gentle grades for families, and dense redwood shaded paths for hikers.



NAPA COUNTY

Suscol Headwaters Preserve

In the Spring of 2020, the Ridge Trail dedicated 1 new mile of trail in **Suscol Headwaters** Preserve, adjoining Skyline Wilderness Park. The Suscol Ridge Trail offers stunning 360° panoramic views. This out-and-back trail is open for all user groups, including hardy hikers, equestrians, and mountain bikers.

ADVENTURE

Circumnavigation

As longer and longer stretches of the Ridge Trail are knit together, interest in circumnavigation—our term for traversing all dedicated Ridge Trail—is growing. Many take on the challenge (hiking, biking, or riding) section by section, sometimes over months, years, or even a decade. With almost 400 miles of the ultimate 550-mile route now complete, the idea of an epic adventure in our backyard is ever more appealing. That's why we're developing new tools to help aspiring circumnavigators explore the Ridge Trail, track their progress, and connect with others. Looking for the ultimate adventure? Get the resources you need for your circumnavigation at ridgetrail.org/circumnavigation.



FUTURE PLANS

Gap Analysis Plan

The Gap Analysis and Action Plan crystalizes years of work, taking a deep dive with our partners to review 152 outstanding gaps in the Ridge Trail route. The Plan builds off a GIS database and takes an innovative approach, using compelling graphics, annotated maps, and summary tables to tell the Ridge Trail story. The result helps facilitate new insights, strategies, and actions to accelerate trail completion. The Plan recently earned an award from the California Trails & Greenways Foundation! Learn more at ridgetrail.org/roadmap.

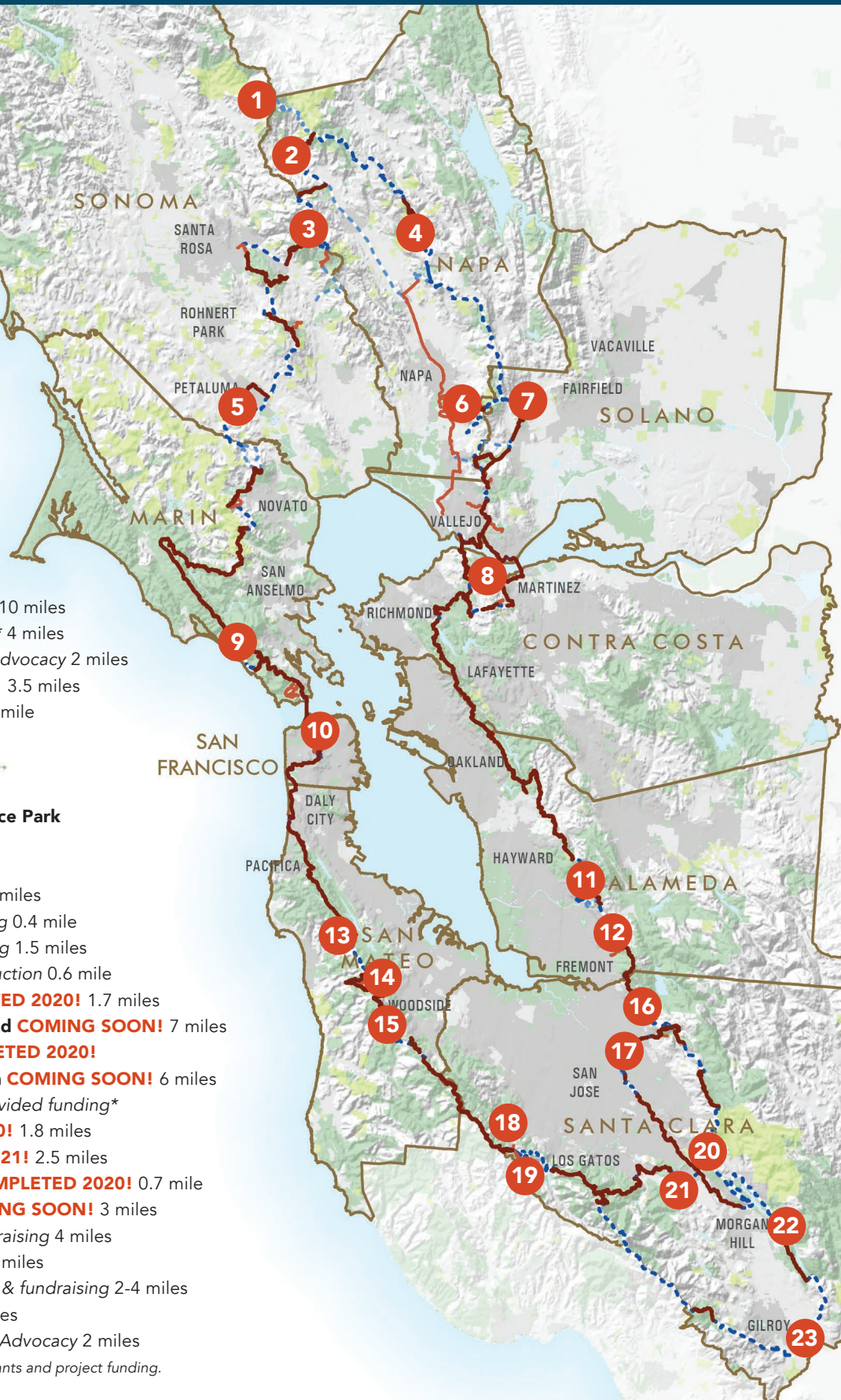


We've built 390 hard-earned miles of the full 550-mile Ridge Trail route! With your help, we can close more trail gaps, reach the 400 milestone in the coming year and push ahead on our bold vision of a fully connected world-class Ridge Trail.

RIDGE TRAIL PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS 2020-2023

- 1 **Mount Saint Helena COMING SOON!** 10 miles
- 2 **Ridge Trail/Vine Trail** *Provided funding** 4 miles
- 3 **Sugar Hood Loop/McCormick Ranch** *Advocacy* 2 miles
- 4 **PUC to Moore Creek COMING SOON!** 3.5 miles
- 5 **Helen Putnam Extension** *Advocacy* 0.5 mile
- 6 **Suscol Headwaters Preserve**
Phase 1: **COMPLETED 2020!** 1.0 mile
Phase 2: **COMING SOON!** 2.0 miles
- 7 **Patwino Worrtla Kodoi Dihi Open Space Park**
*Provided funding** 3 miles
- 8 **Carquinez Strait Scenic Loop**
Almond Ranch **COMPLETED 2020!** 1.6 miles
Crockett Blvd Trail *Planning & fundraising* 0.4 mile
Vallejo Bluffs Trail *Advocacy & fundraising* 1.5 miles
- 9 **Easy Grade Trail** *Fundraising for construction* 0.6 mile
- 10 **Twin Peaks & Stanyan Edge COMPLETED 2020!** 1.7 miles
- 11 **Garin Regional Park to Niles Canyon Rd COMING SOON!** 7 miles
- 12 **Ohlone College/Mission Peak COMPLETED 2020!**
- 13 **Southern Skyline Ridge Trail Extension COMING SOON!** 6 miles
- 14 **Highway 35/Skyline Blvd Crossing** *Provided funding**
- 15 **El Corte de Madera COMPLETED 2020!** 1.8 miles
- 16 **Ed Levin County Park COMPLETED 2021!** 2.5 miles
- 17 **Berryessa BART/Penitencia Creek COMPLETED 2020!** 0.7 mile
- 18 **El Sereno Open Space Preserve COMING SOON!** 3 miles
- 19 **Highway 17 Crossing** *Advocacy & fundraising* 4 miles
- 20 **Coyote Ridge Open Space** *Advocacy* 4 miles
- 21 **North Coyote Valley/Baily Ave** *Design & fundraising* 2-4 miles
- 22 **Coyote Canyon COMING SOON!** 3 miles
- 23 **Gilroy Gardens/Hecker Pass Gateway** *Advocacy* 2 miles

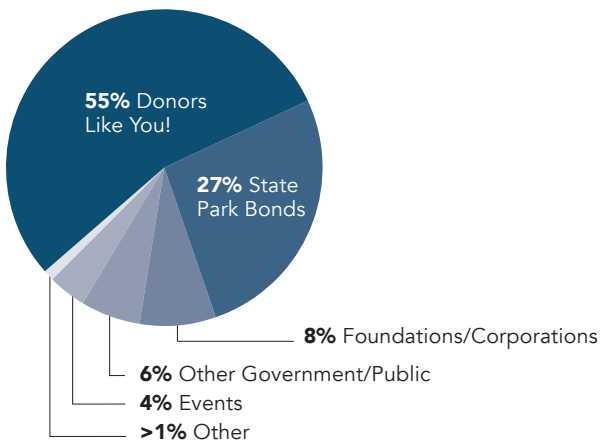
**Ridge Trail Council provided \$340,000 in partner grants and project funding.*





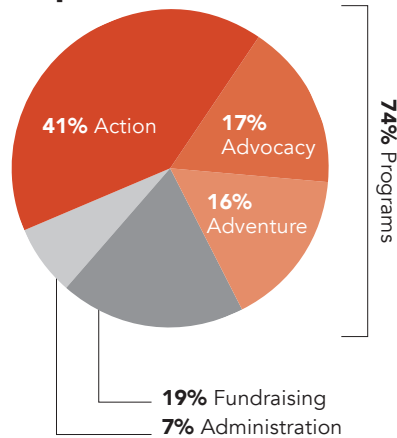
2020 FINANCIALS

Income



Individuals.....	\$490,045
State Park Bonds	\$235,914
Foundations/Corporations	\$70,305
Other Government/Public	\$56,622
Events	\$32,334
Other	\$1,169
TOTAL	\$886,390

Expenses



PROGRAMS:

Action: Trail Planning, Coordination & Construction	\$392,370
Advocacy: Outreach and Education	\$158,028
Adventure: Trail Outings & Events.....	\$155,870
TOTAL PROGRAMS	\$706,268
Fundraising	\$178,508
Administration	\$63,976
TOTAL	\$948,752

Special thanks to donors like you, and thanks to these agency member & sponsors:

CA Coastal Conservancy REI Co-op

Bay Area Barns & Trails
Clif Bar Family Foundation
Columbia Sportswear Company
East Bay Regional Park District
Greater Vallejo Recreation District
John Muir Land Trust

Hall Capital Partners
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Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
Mountain Bike SF
Napa County Parks & Open Space District
Pacific Coast Trail Runs
Peninsula Open Space Trust
Presidio Trust

San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
San Francisco Recreation & Park Department
Santa Clara County Parks & Recreation
Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority
Silicon Valley Mountain Bikers
Solano Land trust
Sonoma County Ag + Open Space
Whole Foods Market

Help complete the trail by funding one of our 23 projects! Visit us at ridgetrail.org or call (415) 561-2595.