

# MARSH CREEK CORRIDOR MULTI-USE TRAIL

## CONCEPT FOR EXPANDED CONNECTIVITY: DELTA SHORELINE TO MOUNT DIABLO



*Cyclist on Marsh Creek Road*



*Marsh Creek Corridor*



*View of multi-use trail*

**Project Description:** Develop an approximately 15-mile long multi-use trail through the Marsh Creek Corridor on or near Marsh Creek Road between the City of Clayton and the City of Brentwood. Once this trail and adjacent trails are completed, there will be one continuous non-motorized route from Concord to Mount Diablo that ultimately continues to the shoreline of the Delta in Oakley.

**Background:** Marsh Creek Road is a major thoroughfare that connects Central and East Contra Costa County. This stretch of Marsh Creek Road where a trail is proposed receives up to 10,000 average vehicle trips a day. The western segment of Marsh Creek Road carries a higher volume of commuters on average each day due to its proximity to the City of Clayton while the eastern segment near Round Valley Regional Preserve (Deer Valley Road) receives significantly fewer average daily vehicle trips. Marsh Creek Road is the gateway to 110,000 acres of open space and recreational areas managed by the East Bay Regional Park District, Contra Costa Water District, State Parks, and other organizations. A significant number of bicycle trips take place on Marsh Creek Road, in spite of the lack of a bicycle path or designated lane. Marsh Creek Road within Clayton has an existing Class II bicycle lane, which connects to Clayton's extensive trail network. In East Contra Costa County, the Marsh Creek Trail currently runs from the Big Break Regional Shoreline in Oakley to the southern city limits of the City of Brentwood. The East Bay Regional Park District plans to extend the Marsh Creek Trail through the City of Brentwood to the Round Valley Regional Preserve. After that section is completed, a gap in the multi-use trail would still exist between Round Valley Regional Preserve and the City of Clayton.

**Benefits:** The completed multi-use trail will create a new major non-motorized east-west thoroughfare for expanded commuting and recreational opportunities. It will provide access to downtown Clayton, Diablo View Middle School, Mount Diablo State Park, Round Valley Regional Preserve, and the existing Marsh Creek Trail in Brentwood and Oakley. Once this trail is completed, there will be one continuous trail from Concord to the Delta shoreline in Oakley that can accommodate various forms of non-motorized travel, including pedestrians, bicyclists, and equestrians. Various trail alignment options are available that allow for flexible design opportunities. These include potential alignments that follow the creek, the road or separate the trail entirely to follow safer and more user-friendly routes. Construction of the trail could be performed in conjunction with restoration of Marsh Creek, as anticipated in the East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan /Natural Community Conservation Plan, and be constructed in a manner that reflects the scenic and natural resources of the area.

**Policies:** Both the County's General Plan and the Contra Costa Transportation Authority's Countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan call for bicycle facilities along Marsh Creek Road.

**Funding Opportunities:** A number federal, state, and local funding opportunities exist to support the planning, additional ROW acquisition, and construction of the Marsh Creek Trail. Local agencies in Contra Costa County have an additional opportunity to generate secure local funding by including the Marsh Creek Trail as a project in the upcoming proposed augmentation of the county-wide transportation sales tax.

**Cost:** TBD

# Marsh Creek Corridor Multi-Use Trail Study Area

