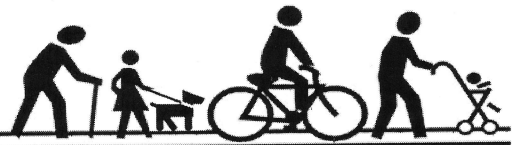


# Save Our Trails!



Promoting trails in Santa Clara County for the benefit and enjoyment of all

San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo and Councilmembers  
San José City Hall  
200 E. Santa Clara St., San José CA 95113

Sent via email c/o City Clerk

SUBJECT: Opposition to the diversion of park funds for improvements of St. James Park  
(Agenda Item 5.2; November 10, 2015)

November 07, 2015

Dear Honorable Mayor Liccardo and Members of the City Council:

**Save Our Trails: Connecting Santa Clara County Communities** is a California Not-for-Profit Corporation who mission is *"To promote trails in Santa Clara County for the benefit and enjoyment of all."* On behalf of **Save Our Trails**, I am writing to urge you to reject any resolution to divert parkland in-lieu fees for the proposed St. James Park Area park fee program.

It is clear much should be done to improve the situation in St. James Park. But the Park Trust Fund should not be raided to achieve these goals. Contributions to this fund are intended for parkland and trail acquisition in the area close to new developments. And there are many important trail projects in this area which will close significant gaps in the City's trail network: The Los Gatos Creek Trail (between San Carlos Street and the SAP Arena at Santa Clara Street), the Guadalupe River Trail (between Virginia Avenue and Tamien Station, and eventually to Chenoweth), the Three Creeks Trail (between the Guadalupe River and Kelley Park at Coyote Creek), and the Five Wounds Trail (from the Five Wounds BART station to Kelley Park).

Completing these trails will help the City achieve the goals of the Greenprint. And the Park Trust Fund must be preserved as one of the major source of funds for the acquisition of right-of-way and the construction of these vital trails. Even in full recognition of the need for improvements at St. James Park, please do not divert in-lieu fees which should go to the Park Trust Funds for this purpose.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Rankin".

Bill Rankin  
President, **Save Our Trails**; Web: [www.saveourtrails-scc.org](http://www.saveourtrails-scc.org)