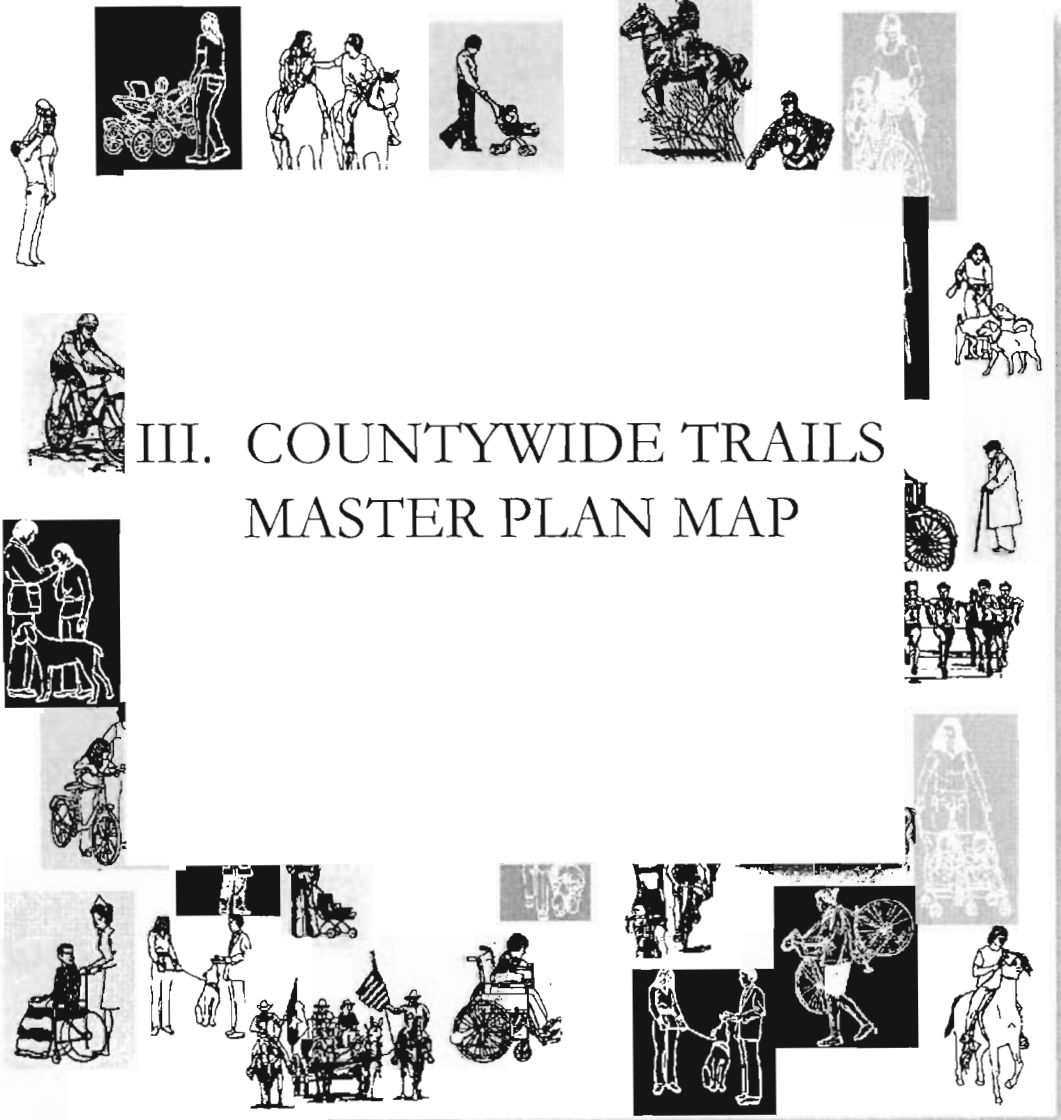




Santa Clara County
COUNTYWIDE TRAILS MASTER PLAN
Update



Final Report
Santa Clara County Trails Plan Advisory Committee

Adopted November 14, 1995
Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors

III. COUNTYWIDE TRAILS MASTER PLAN MAP

RELATIONSHIP TO COUNTYWIDE TRAIL POLICIES

Strategy #1 of the of the Countywide Trail Policies (see Section II above) refers to a Countywide trails system master plan. This master plan is to be composed of trail routes that meet a public need, offer the trail user a range of convenient urban, rural, and open space experiences, and satisfy other County trail policies. The master plan is also to serve as a general guide in directing the detailed planning, coordination and implementation of trails by the County departments and other trail providers within the County. Other aspects of the policy strategies outlined in Section II direct that the implementation of the trails system master plan will be conducted in a logical, fair, and balanced fashion.

The trail system master plan map described in this section accomplishes the intent of Strategy #1. It updates the existing trails map titled "Trails and Pathways Plan for Santa Clara County" (revised and reprinted in May 1982).

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING COUNTYWIDE SIGNIFICANCE

A series of criteria was developed by the Trails Master Plan Advisory Committee to evaluate whether a proposed trail route was of countywide significance and should be included on the Countywide Trails Master Plan map. These criteria were organized into the following categories:

- Significance of the trail route (national, state, regional, county, local)
- Responsiveness to existing County General Plan policies
- Accessibility to urban areas
- Opportunities for existing or potential use

Further information about these criteria is found in Appendix C.

COUNTYWIDE TRAIL SYSTEM MASTER PLAN

The Countywide Trails Master Plan Map (see map packet) illustrates the proposed countywide trails system. Trails shown on The Countywide Trails Master Plan Map are keyed to the text below. Detailed descriptions of individual trail routes, route segments, lengths, intended uses, and the key jurisdictions that will take the lead in implementing the trails are found in Appendix D.

The countywide trails system master plan is composed of three types of trail routes. The

components of this system are: Regional, Sub-regional, and Connector trails. These are illustrated in Figures 2, 3, and 4 respectively.

Regional Trail Routes (see also Figures 2 and 5)

Regional trail routes are those trails of National, State, or regional recreation significance. In all cases, Regional trail routes extend beyond the borders of Santa Clara County. Regional Trails are generally envisioned as shared-use trail routes in that they would accommodate a variety of trail users. In some instances, where topography and other physical constraints dictate, separate trails along the same general trail route may be needed to accommodate different users (see also Appendix D, Table D-1 for a more detailed description of trail uses proposed on individual trail routes).

As shown on the Trails Master Plan Map, there are five Regional trail routes in the County. These are:

| Map Key | Trail Route |
|---------|-------------|
|---------|-------------|

| | |
|----|--|
| RI | <p>Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail: In August, 1990 Congress included the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail in the National Trails System. It commemorates the route taken by Anza in 1775-76 when he led a group of colonists from what is now Horcasitas, Sonora, Mexico to San Francisco Bay where they established a presidio and mission for New Spain. As shown on Figure 5, Anza's expedition to northern California crossed what is now Santa Clara County three times. The Anza party first traveled north from Monterey to San Francisco. Next, after being unable to cross the Bay where the Golden Gate Bridge is now located, the expedition traveled back around the southern margins of San Francisco Bay and northward along the East Bay shoreline. Lastly, after realizing that the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta was a formidable barrier to land travel, they traveled back to Monterey south through the San Antonio Valley and down the upper reaches of the Coyote Creek drainage system.</p> |
|----|--|

To recognize this historic journey, markers and information displays along the actual route of the 1775-76 Anza expedition will be constructed for interpretive purposes. A trail will not be constructed along the actual Anza expedition route except as noted below.

As called for by the National Park Service in the Draft Comprehensive Management and Use Plan for the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail a series of "recreation retracement trails" as shown on Figure 5 and the Trails Master Plan Map would be developed. These are shared-use trails that generally follow the journey of the Anza expedition, though the trail route in most locations would not necessarily be coincidental with the actual Anza

route. Like Anza's expedition, there are three branches to the trail. These are:

- **R1-A Northern Recreation Retracement Route
(hiking, bicycle, and equestrian route)**

A shared use trail extending from the San Benito County line traveling north along the western side of the Santa Clara Valley to the San Mateo County line. In addition to this off-street, shared use route designed to ensure an equestrian route through the County, there is an on-street bicycle trail that more closely follows the expedition journey than the shared-use trail. This is indicated on the Countywide Trails Master Plan Map as R1-A (bike).

- **R1-B Bay Route
(hiking and bicycle route)**

Along the margins of the San Francisco Bay.

- **R1-C Southern Expedition Route
(hiking, bicycle, and equestrian route)**

From Coe State Park down the Coyote Creek Drainage and connecting to the expeditions' original route.

- R2 Monterey-Yosemite State Trail:** identified as a corridor of statewide significance in the California Recreational Trails System Plan, this trail route crosses the state from Monterey to Salinas, through Pacheco Pass to the north side of the Merced River basin and Yosemite National Park.
- R3 Benito-Clara Trail:** a loop trail linking recreational resources in northern San Benito County with those in southern Santa Clara County and with the Cities of Morgan Hill, Gilroy, Hollister and San Juan Bautista. Resolutions supporting this trail were passed by both the Cities of Morgan Hill and Gilroy.
- R4 San Francisco Bay Trail (hiking and bicycle route):** a network of pathways circling San Francisco and San Pablo Bays linking nine Bay Area counties and forty-two shoreline cities. In Santa Clara County, supporting resolutions were passed by the County, and the Cities of Palo Alto, Mountain View, Sunnyvale, San Jose, and Milpitas.
- R5 Bay Area Ridge Trail:** a trail system that follows the ridges and mountains that circle the San Francisco Bay and connects the nine Bay Area counties on or just below the principal ridgelines nearest the Bay. Within Santa Clara County, the Bay Area Ridge Trail incorporates portions of two trails of statewide significance as identified in the California Recreational Trails System Plan. These are the East Bay Trail and the Santa Cruz Mountains Trail.

In Santa Clara County the Bay Area Ridge Trail consists of five branches:

- **R5-A Santa Cruz Mountains**

Following in a north-south direction the ridgelines of the Santa Cruz Mountains on the west side of the valley from the San Mateo County Line to Mt. Madonna County Park.

- **R5-B Diablo Range**
Following in a north-south direction, the ridgelines of the Diablo Range on the east side of the valley from the Alameda County Line in Ed Levin County Park south to Coyote Lake County Park.
- **R5-C El Sombroso / Penitencia**
Connecting the mountain ranges in an west-east direction from El Sombroso east through Almaden-Quicksilver County Park to Alamitos Creek and Santa Teresa County Park continuing east to Coyote Creek Parkway and then north along Coyote Creek to Penitencia Creek, and east to Alum Rock Park.
- **R5-D Santa Teresa / Anderson Lake**
Connecting the mountain ranges in an west-east direction from the Penitencia / El Sombroso portion of the trail at Parkway Lakes south along Coyote Creek to Anderson Lake County Park.
- **R5-E Mt. Madonna / Coyote Lake**
Connecting the mountain ranges in an west-east direction south of the City of Gilroy linking Mt. Madonna County Park with Coyote Lake County Park.

In some instances, such as where the San Francisco Bay Trail and portions of Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail could be planned to follow coincidental alignments, Regional trail route alignments have been combined.

Sub-regional Trail Routes (see also Figure 3)

Sub-regional trail routes are those that in some way:

- provide regional recreation and transportation benefits such as providing key links for accessing rail stations, bus routes, or park-and-ride facilities;
- provide for continuity between cities; generally crossing a city or passing through more than one city; or
- provide convenient, long-distance trail loop opportunities by directly linking two or more Regional trails to create an urban trail network.

In rural areas, Sub-regional trail routes are ideally shared-use trails or consist of parallel trails that accommodate different trail users. Equestrian use is often excluded from Sub-regional trails within most urban areas because horses can not be accommodated without going onto a city street.

Nine Sub-regional trail routes are shown in the Trails Master Plan Map. These are:

| Map Key | Trail Route |
|---------|---|
| S1 | Matadero Creek/Page Mill Trail: passing through Palo Alto, Los Altos Hills, and Stanford University from the Bay Trail (R4) to the Bay Area Ridge Trail (R5-A) |
| S2 | Stevens Creek Trail: crossing the cities of Mountain View, Sunnyvale, Los Altos, and Cupertino linking the San Francisco Bay Trail (R4) with the Bay Area Ridge Trail (R5-A). |
| S3 | Guadalupe Trail: routed in a north-south direction from the Bay Trail (R4) in San Jose, to Guadalupe Reservoir. |
| S4 | Los Gatos Creek Trail: from its confluence in San Jose at the Guadalupe/Santa Teresa trail upstream through Campbell and Los Gatos to the Bay Area Ridge Trail (R5-A) at Lexington Reservoir. |
| S5 | Coyote Creek /Llagas Creek Trail: from the Alameda County Line and the Bay Trail (R4) to the San Benito County Line and the Monterey-Yosemite Trail (R2). |
| S6 | West Valley Trail: from Almaden Lake Park to the southern county link of the Bay Area Ridge Trail (R5-E) (Alternative Highway 152 alignment). |
| S7 | Morgan Hill Cross -Valley Trail: an east-west route from the West Valley Sub-regional Trail (S6) to Lake Anderson County Park . |
| S8 | San Martin Cross-Valley Trail: an east-west route from the West Valley Sub-regional Trail (S6), crossing the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail (R1-A) to the Bay Area Ridge Trail (R5-B) near Coyote Lake. |

Connector Trail Routes (see also Figure 4)

Connector trail routes are those that:

- form convenient means of access and linkage from urban areas, developed areas, and public lands within the county to the primary trail network of Regional and Sub-regional Trails. Linkages from within urban areas are derived from individual City trails plans and policies; or
- offer benefits such as emergency access or egress, improved fire/vegetation management, provision for safety on County roads, or dispersion of existing trail use patterns that are consistent with County trail policies and guidelines.

Connector trail routes may or may not be shared-use trails. Thirty-one Connector trail

routes listed below are shown in the Trails Master Plan. Except as specifically noted below, Connector trail routes involve off-street trails for some combination of hiking, equestrian, and/or bicycle use.

| Map Key | Trail Route |
|---------|--|
| C1 | San Francisquito /Los Trancos Creeks: connecting Waverly Street in Palo Alto to the intersection with the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail (R1-A) in Arastradero Preserve. |
| C2 | Adobe Creek: connecting the Bay Trail (R4) with the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail (R1-A) in Arastradero Preserve. |
| C3 | Calabazas Creek: connecting the Bay Trail (R4) with the Hetch-Hetchy Trail (C4). |
| C4 | Hetch-Hetchy Trail: from Fair Oaks Avenue in Sunnyvale to Coyote Creek in San Jose. |
| C5 | San Tomas Aquino / Saratoga Creeks: connecting the Bay Trail (R4) with Prospect Road in San Jose. |
| C6 | Calera Creek Trail: connecting Higuera Adobe Park with Ed Levin County Park. |
| C7 | Calaveras Trail: a bicycle route connecting the San Francisco Bay Trail (R4) with Ed Levin County Park |
| C8 | Piedmont Trail: connecting Piedmont Road in Milpitas with the Bay Area Ridge Trail (R5-B). |
| C9 | Southern Pacific Rail Trail: connecting Los Gatos Creek Trail (S4) with the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail (R1-A) at Rancho San Antonio County Park. |
| C10 | Coyote Ridge Trail: connecting the Villa Maria Picnic Area at the Prospect Street entrance of Fremont-Older Open Space Preserve with Stevens Creek Reservoir County Park. |
| C11 | Stevens Canyon Lookout Trail: connecting Prospect Road with Stevens Creek Reservoir County Park. |
| C12 | Congress Springs Trail: an on-street bicycle route connecting Saratoga /Los Gatos Road with Skyline Boulevard at Saratoga Gap. |
| C13 | Sanborn Trail: connecting Stuart Ridge County Park with Sanborn-Skyline County Park. |
| C14 | El Sereno Trail: connecting Villa Montalvo with the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail (R1-A) in the Stuart Ridge County Park/ El Sereno Open Space Preserve area. |
| C15 | Upper Los Gatos Creek / Mt. Umunhum Trail: connecting Lexington |

- Reservoir with the Bay Area Ridge Trail (R5-A) via the historic Wrights Station and Lake Elsmar.
- C16 Upper Guadalupe Trail:** connecting the Guadalupe Trail (Route S3) and Guadalupe Reservoir with the Bay Area Ridge Trail (R5-A) in the El Sombroso area.
- C17 Almaden-Hicks Road Loop:** an on-street bicycle route encircling Almaden-Quicksilver County Park and connecting with the Upper Guadalupe Trail (C16), the Bay Area Ridge Trail (R5-C) and Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail (R1-A).
- C18 Guadalupe / Calero Trail:** connecting Guadalupe Reservoir and Almaden-Quicksilver County Park with Calero Reservoir County Park.
- C19 Calero / Santa Teresa Trail:** connecting McKean Road / Calero Reservoir County Park with Santa Teresa County Park.
- C20 Bailey Road Trail:** connecting Calero Reservoir County Park with the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail (R1-A) and the Bay Area Ridge Trail (R5-C).
- C21 Silver Valley Trail:** connecting Coyote Creek County Park with Joseph D. Grant County Park.
- C22 Silver Creek Loop Trail :** extending from Lake Cunningham Regional Park to create a trail loop through the Silver Valley and connecting to the Bay Area Ridge Trail (R5-B).
- C23 South Metcalf Trail :** connecting Coyote Creek County Park with the Bay Area Ridge Trail (R5-B).
- C24 Willow Springs Trail:** an on-street bicycle route connecting Coyote Creek County Park with Chesbro Reservoir.
- C25 Main Street Trail:** connecting Santa Teresa Blvd. through Morgan Hill with the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail (R1-A) and the Coyote Creek/Llagas Sub-Regional Trail (S5) to Hill Road (C27).
- C26 Paradise Valley Trail:** an on-street bicycle route connecting the Morgan Hill Cross Valley Trail (S7) with the West Valley Trail (S6) .
- C27 San Martin / South Valley Trails:** connecting Main Street in Morgan Hill with the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail (R1-A) and the Bay Area Ridge Trail (R5-E).
- C28 Uvas Reservoir to Uvas Canyon County Park Trail:** connecting Uvas Reservoir and the West Valley Trail (S6) with Upper Uvas Creek County Park Trail.
- C29 Little Arthur Creek Trail:** an equestrian and bicycle trail connecting Chitactac-Adams Heritage County Park with Mt. Madonna County Park. (note: the bicycle trail is an on-street route following Redwood Retreat and Old Mount Madonna Roads.)

- C30 Hecker Pass Trail:** an on-street bicycle route connecting the West Valley Trail (S6) at Hwy. 152 with Mt. Madonna County Park.
- C31 Buena Vista - Day Trail :** connecting the Watsonville Road and the West Valley Trail (S6) with Day Road and the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail (R-1A), the Benito-Clara Trail (R3), and the Coyote Creek / Llagas Creek Trail (S5).
- C32 West Branch Llagas Creek Trail:** connecting a proposed Gilroy Community Park at Santa Teresa / Day Road area with the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail (R-1A), the Benito-Clara Trail (R3), and the Coyote Creek / Llagas Creek Trail (S5).
- C33 Skyline-Summit Trail:** an on-street bicycle route connecting the Bay Area Ridge Trail (R5-A) in Sanborn-Skyline County Park with the Bay Area Ridge Trail (R5-A) just south of Loma Prieta Mountain
- C34 Guadalupe River / Coyote Creek Trail:** an on-street bicycle route connecting the Los Gatos Creek Trail (S4) and Guadalupe / Santa Teresa Trail (S3) with the Coyote Creek / Llagas Sub-regional Trail (S5).

Regional Staging Areas

Appendix E provides a listing of existing and planned staging areas within the parks and open space preserves of the County. As differentiated from these, Regional Staging Areas provide access opportunities to the countywide trail system outside of "park" areas. Regional Staging Areas are easily accessible by vehicle from the County's urban areas and areas of the County with substantial rural residential development. Regional Staging Areas are strategically located to encourage use of the Regional and Sub-regional trail route system. Regional Staging Areas are day-use facilities that also:

- allow for ease of management and security;
- offer a potential of future expansion;
- complement the pattern of existing and planned staging opportunities within the County's regional park and open space areas;
- are of sufficient size to buffer trail staging activities from potential land use conflicts; and
- have the potential for linkage with a County transit route or for weekday use as a park and ride facility.

Regional Staging Areas, while serving all types of trail users, are generally single-purpose facilities or joint-use facilities associated with commercial developments or educational institutions. Regional Staging Areas are without other recreation amenities that may be typically associated with Regional Parks.

Five Regional Staging Areas are identified on the Trails Master Plan Map to complement existing and planned staging areas at Regional Parks and Open Space Preserves. These are located outside of the County's system of park and open space areas and are at or near the following general locations:

- Evergreen College / Montgomery Hill Park (San Jose)
- Metcalf Road and the Coyote Creek Park Chain (San Jose)
- Lyndon Canyon and Highway 17 Area
- Gavilan College (Gilroy)
- San Martin Avenue / New Avenue Area

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NOTE:

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THIS MAP IS NOT A TRAIL GUIDE:

This map is a planning tool. Many of the routes or staging areas identified on the Map are simply proposed and not open to the public for any purpose. This map does not convey any rights to the public to use any trail routes shown on this drawing; nor does this map exempt any person from trespassing charges. For copies of maps about existing trails that are available for public use, contact the Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department at (408) 358-3741.

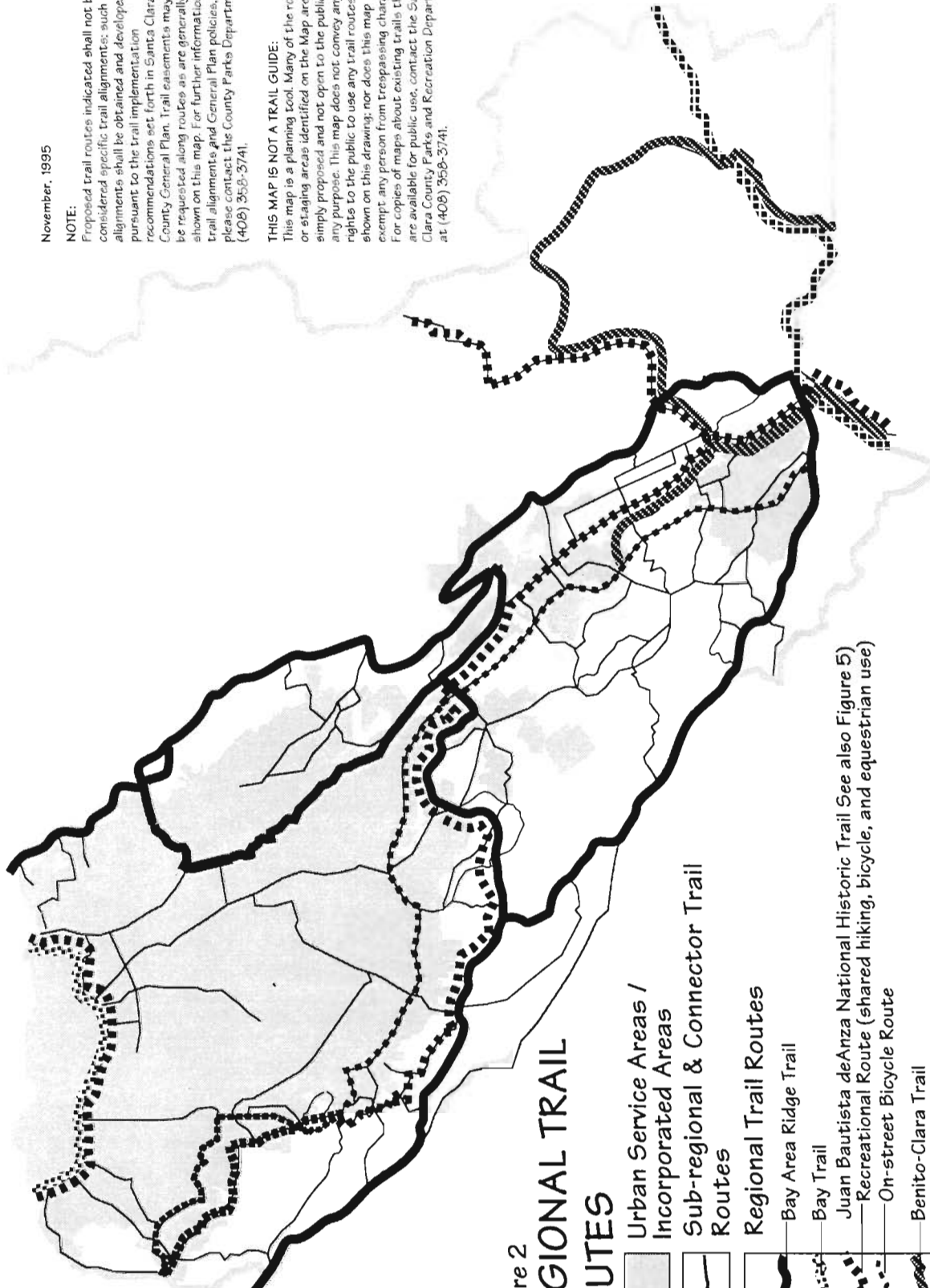


Figure 2

REGIONAL TRAIL ROUTES

- Urban Service Areas / Incorporated Areas
- Sub-regional & Connector Trail Routes
- Regional Trail Routes
 - Bay Area Ridge Trail
 - Bay Trail
 - Juan Bautista deAnza National Historic Trail See also Figure 5)
 - Recreational Route (shared hiking, bicycle, and equestrian use)
 - On-street Bicycle Route
 - Benito-Clara Trail
 - Monterey-Yosemite State Trail

Note: See also Countywide Trails Master Plan Map and related text for explanation

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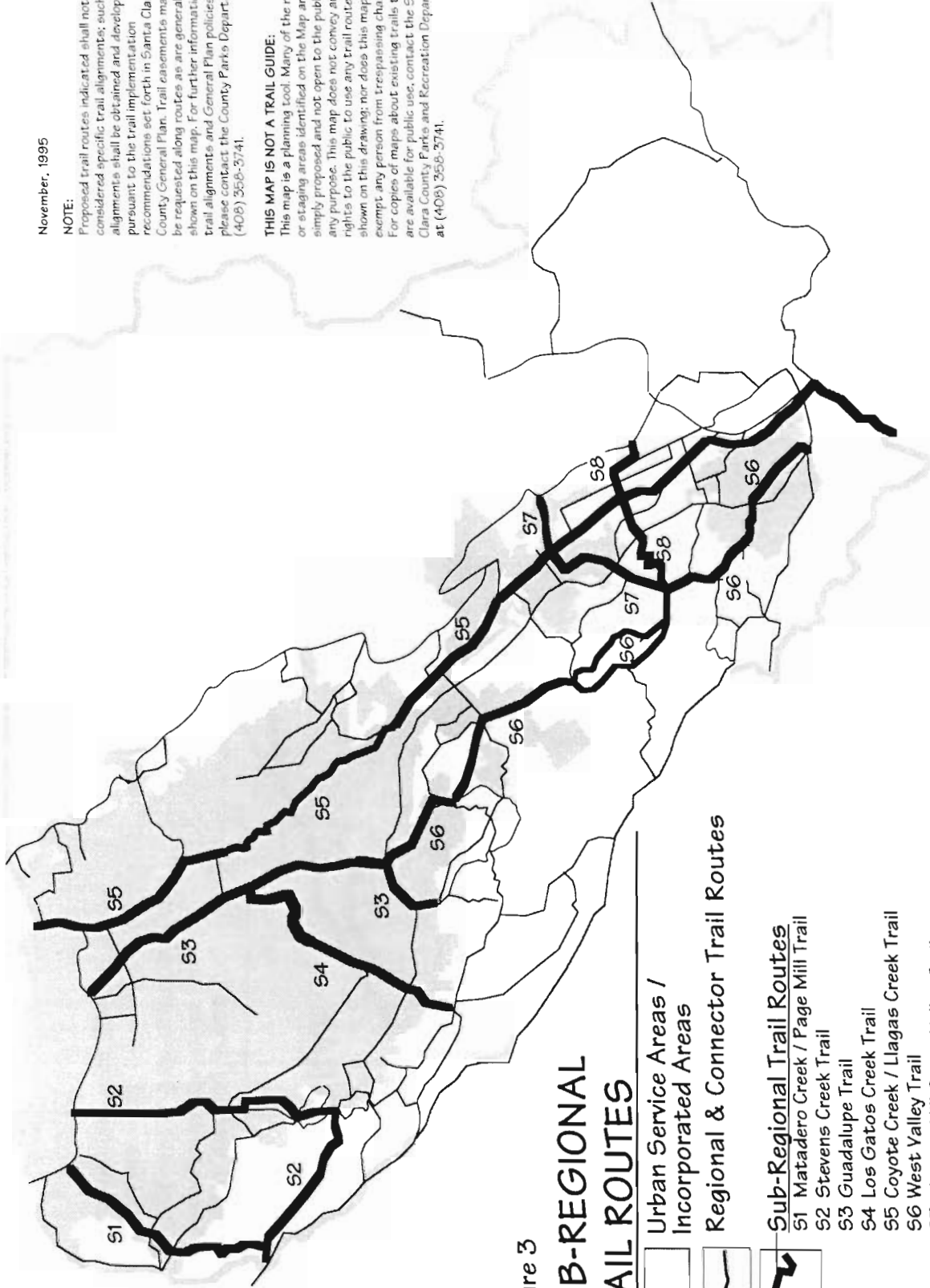





Figure 3

SUB-REGIONAL TRAIL ROUTES

-  Urban Service Areas / Incorporated Areas
-  Regional & Connector Trail Routes
-  Sub-Regional Trail Routes
- S1 Madero Creek / Page Mill Trail
- S2 Stevens Creek Trail
- S3 Guadalupe Trail
- S4 Los Gatos Creek Trail
- S5 Coyote Creek / Llagas Creek Trail
- S6 West Valley Trail
- S7 Morgan Hill Cross Valley Trail
- S8 San Martin Cross Valley Trail

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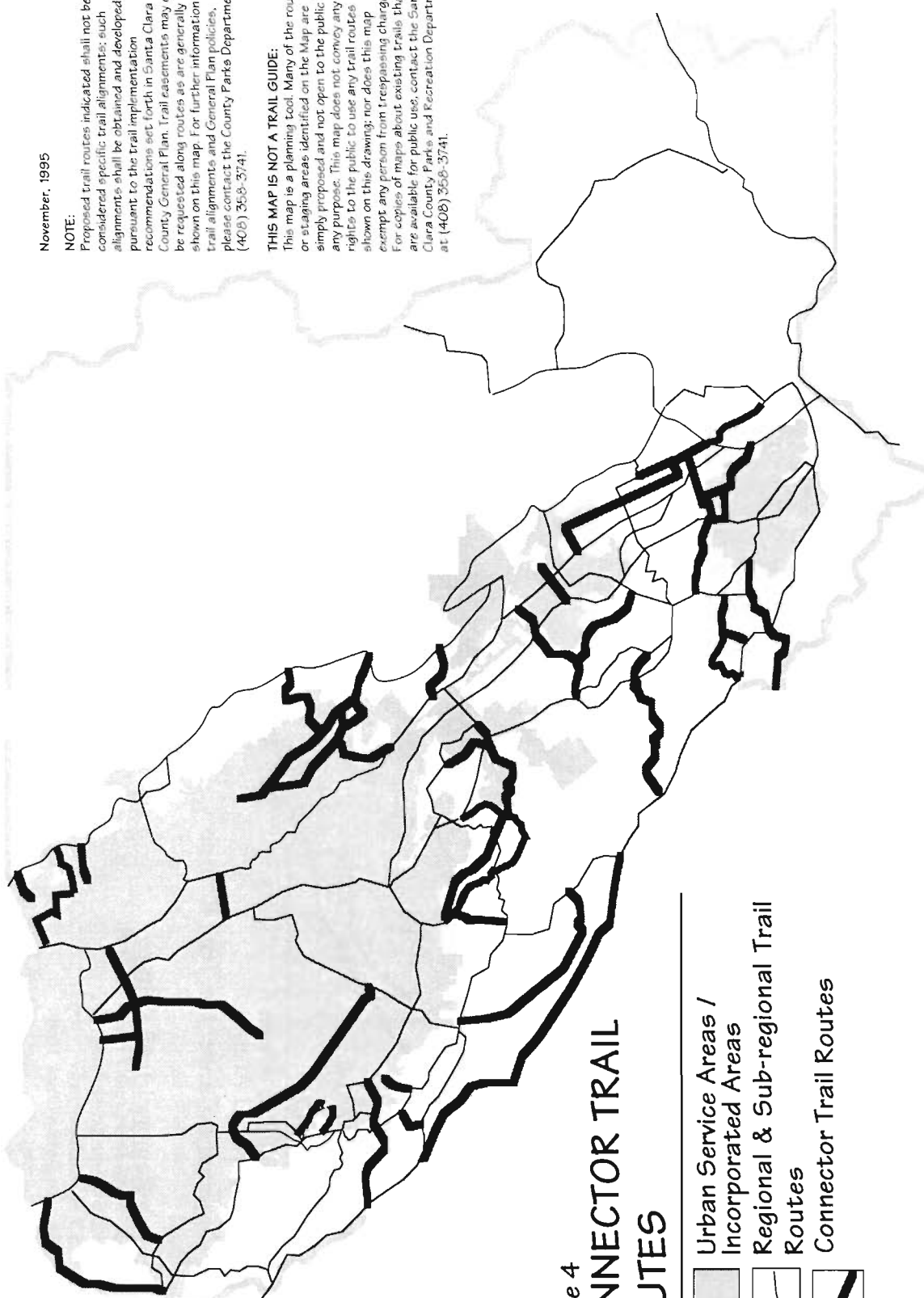



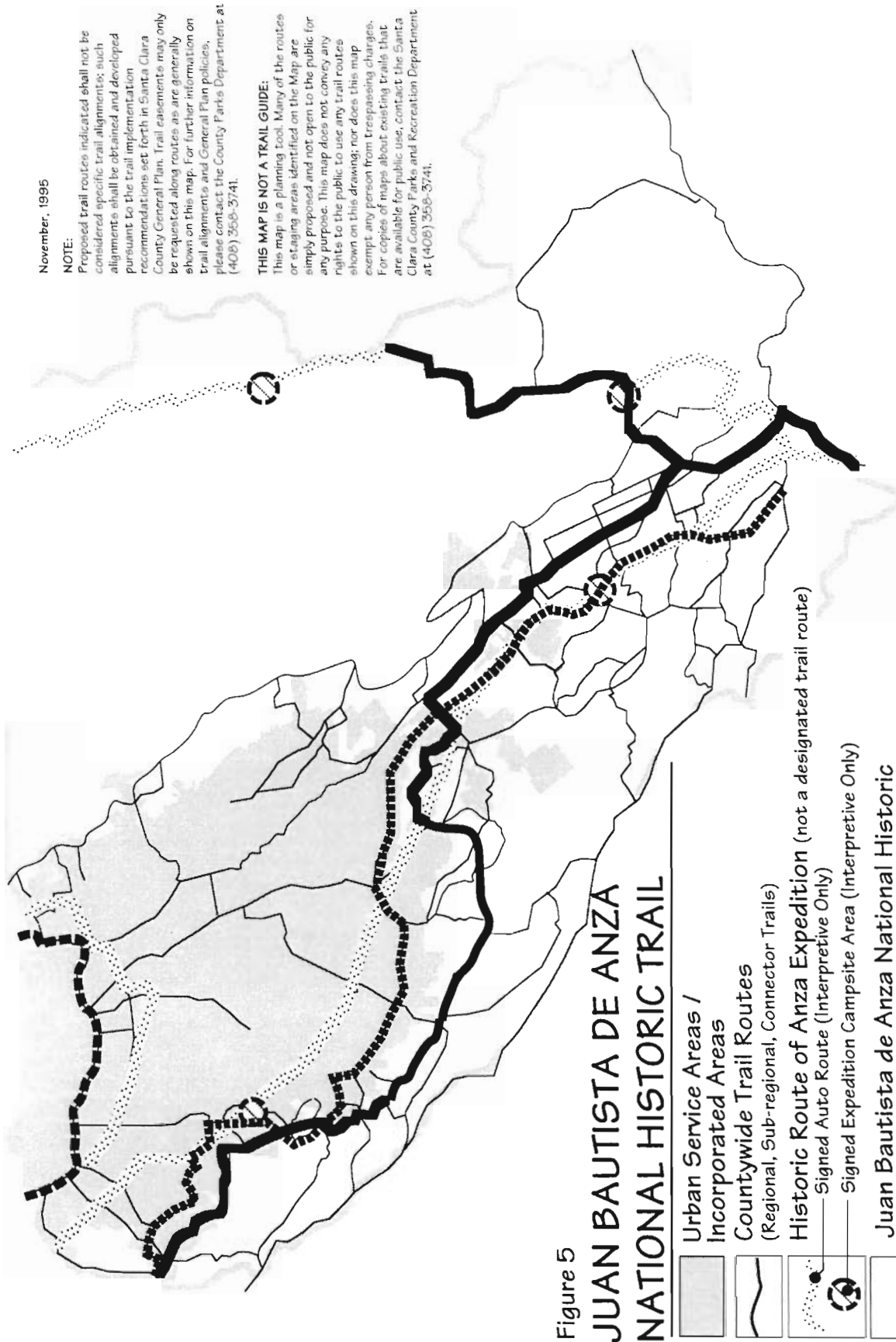


Figure 4
CONNECTOR TRAIL ROUTES

-  Urban Service Areas / Incorporated Areas
-  Regional & Sub-regional Trail Routes
-  Connector Trail Routes

Note: See also Countywide Trails Master Plan Map and related text for explanation

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NOTE:










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Figure 5

JUAN BAUTISTA DE ANZA NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

-  Urban Service Areas / Incorporated Areas
-  Countywide Trail Routes (Regional, Sub-regional, Connector Trails)
-  Historic Route of Anza Expedition (not a designated trail route)
 -  Signed Auto Route (Interpretive Only)
 -  Signed Expedition Campsite Area (Interpretive Only)
-  Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail - Recreational Retracement Route
 -  Shared-Use Trail (hiking, bicycle, and equestrian use)
 -  Shared-Use Trail (hiking and bicycle use)
 -  On-street Bicycle Route