

Santa Clara Valley Bikeways Map

- Bike path off street
- Unpaved path
- Separated bikeway
- Bike lanes on street
- Bike Boulevard
- Bike route or sharrow
- BART
- VTA light rail and station
- Caltrain
- Altamont Commuter Express/Capitol Corridor
- Hospitals/medical clinics
- Middle & high schools

Street ratings:

- High caution
- Moderate
- Expressways (bicycle permitted)
- Freeways (bicycle prohibited)
- Bike/pedestrian bridges/undercrossings
- Access points to bike paths
- Freeway on/off ramp crossing
- Locations with bike lockers and bike racks (need smart card)
- Location with bike lockers and bike racks

Bike path: a completely separated right-of-way (shared with pedestrians) which excludes general motor vehicle traffic.

Separated bikeway: physically separated bike lane on a roadway.

Bike lane: a striped lane for one-way bike travel on a roadway.

Bike boulevard: typically a street with low traffic volumes and speeds, with traffic calming features for bike priority.

Rated streets: streets frequently used by bicyclists where they share the roadway with motor vehicles. Includes city-designated class III bike routes.

Street ratings are based on the following types of characteristics:

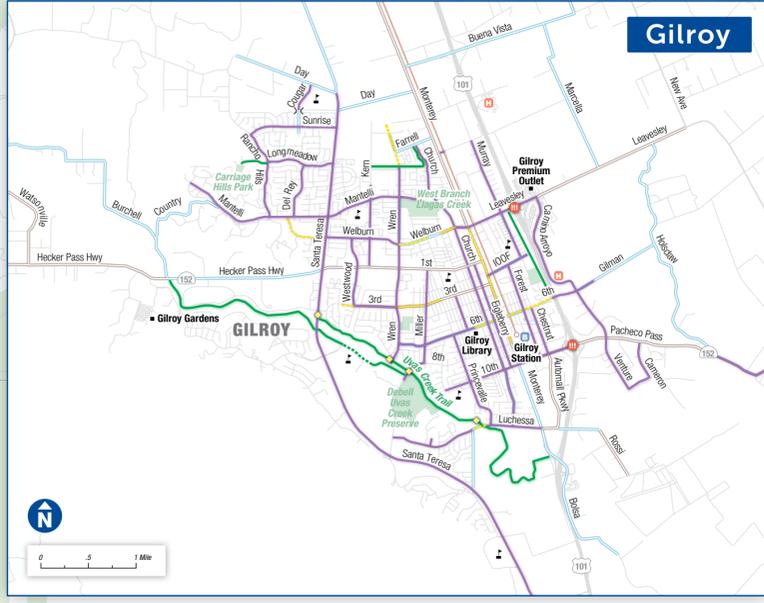
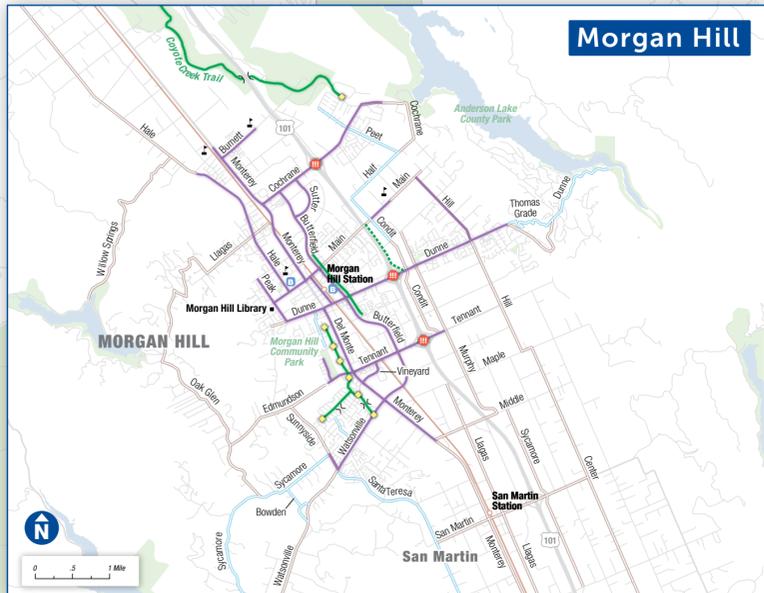
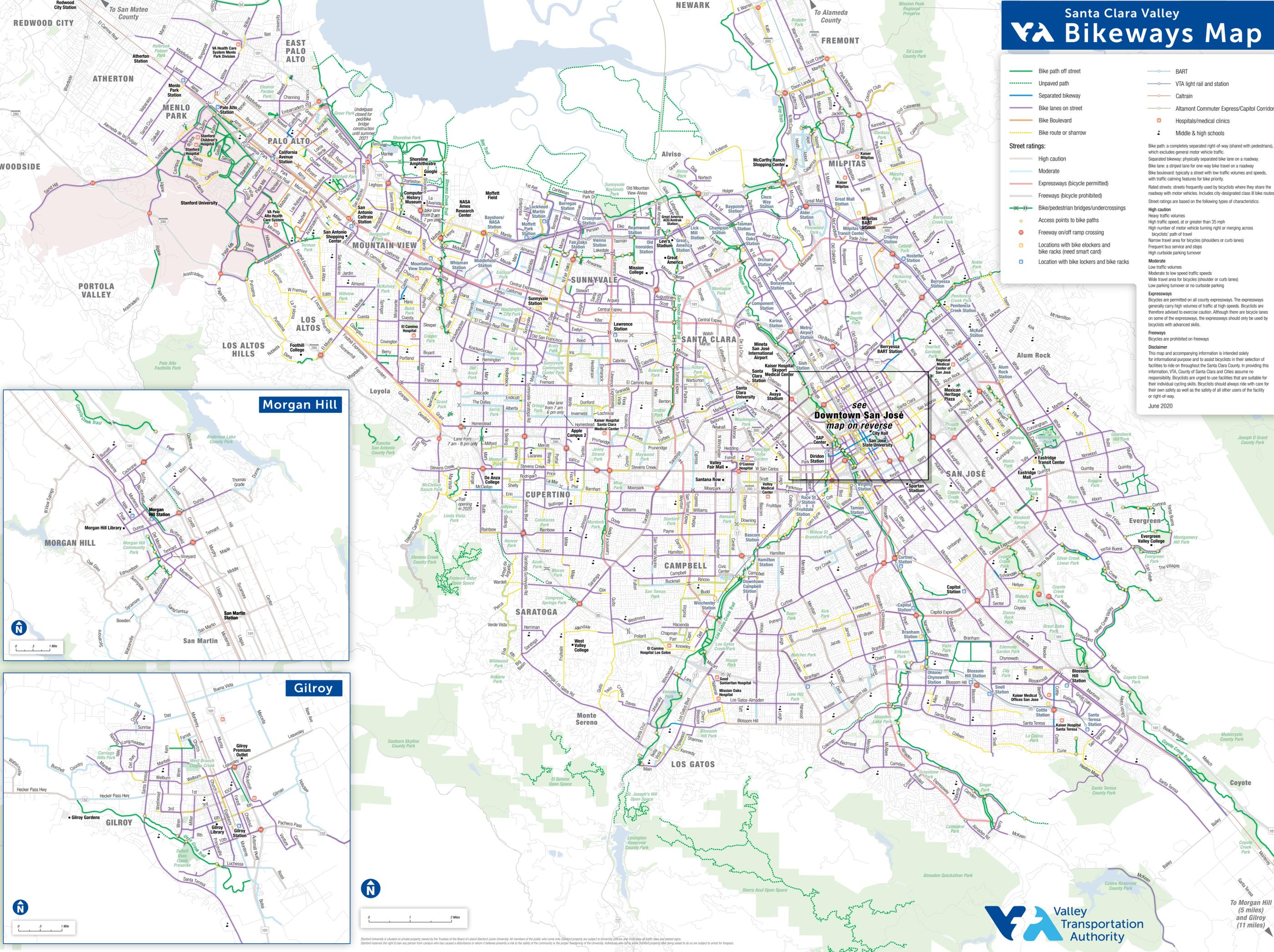
High caution
Heavy traffic volumes
High traffic speed, at or greater than 35 mph
Low parking turnover or no curbside parking

Expressways
Bicycles are permitted on all county expressways. The expressways generally carry high volumes of traffic at high speeds. Bicyclists are therefore advised to exercise caution. Although there are bicycle lanes on some of the expressways, the expressways should only be used by bicyclists with advanced skills.

Freeways
Bicycles are prohibited on freeways.

Disclaimer
This map and accompanying information is intended solely for informational purposes and to assist bicyclists in their selection of facilities to ride on throughout the Santa Clara County. In providing this information, VTA, County of Santa Clara and Cities assume no responsibility. Bicyclists are urged to use facilities that are suitable for their individual cycling skills. Bicyclists should always ride with care for their own safety as well as the safety of all other users of the facility or right-of-way.

June 2020



see map on reverse
Downtown San José

Stanford University is situated on private property owned by the Trustees of the Board of Leland Stanford, Junior University. All members of the public who come onto Stanford property are subject to University policies and must obey all traffic laws and posted signs. Stanford reserves the right to ban any person from campus who has caused a disturbance or whose behavior presents a risk to the safety of the community or the proper functioning of the University. Individuals who fail to follow Stanford property rules may be asked to do so or any subject to arrest for trespass.



To Morgan Hill (5 miles) and Gilroy (11 miles)



Bikes on Transit

General Rules:

- All bicyclists must pay the appropriate fare. There is no additional charge for bringing a bicycle on board.
- Allow other passengers to enter or exit before loading or unloading your bicycle.
- Bicyclists are responsible for loading and unloading their bicycles.
- Do not block doors, aisles, or stairwells with your bicycle while on board.
- Avoid getting chain grease on transit vehicles and other passengers.
- Muddy bicycles are not permitted on board at any time.
- Bicyclists must attend to bicycles not secured in racks while on board transit vehicles.
- Only human powered and sealed dry cell or gel cell electric-assisted bicycles are allowed on board.
- In emergency situations, please leave your bicycle on board.
- Always walk your bicycle on station platforms and on transit centers.
- Do not lock your bicycle to poles, light fixtures, railings, etc. at transit centers or on rail platforms.

Bikes on VTA Buses

All VTA buses have exterior racks that accommodate at least two bikes. Newer 60-foot articulated buses also have bike parking inside the bus, accessible through the rear door. Let the operator know before loading or unloading your bike.

Bikes on VTA Light Rail

Each VTA light rail vehicle has interior racks with space for up to eight bicycles. Please enter through the doors marked by a bicycle symbol.

Bikes are allowed on Caltrain and BART

See caltrain.com and bart.gov for details.

Bike Share

Bikes are available for up to 45-minute rentals at Bay Wheels stations or with dockless e-bikes. For a map of locations, pricing, and more information: www.lyft.com/bikes/.

E-Scooters

E-scooters are available from multiple companies throughout the county. E-scooters should only be ridden in the street or in bicycle facilities like trails and bike lanes.



Secure Bike Lockers

Secure bike parking is provided at various locations throughout Santa Clara County. See the map on the reverse side for locations.

Day-Use Lockers

VTA provides first-come first-serve electronic bike lockers at VTA transit centers and most light rail and Caltrain stations. A nominal fee, deducted from a "smart card" is charged for each use. To view locker locations or to sign up for a BikeLink smart card: bike.link (888) 540-0546.

Long-Term Use Lockers

VTA rents bike lockers to bicyclists with a \$25 key deposit. Keyed lockers are provided at light rail stations, transit centers, and Caltrain stations. To inquire about renting a locker: (408) 321-7520, Bikelockers@vta.org.

Caltrain Stations

Most Caltrain stations in Santa Clara County offer secure bike parking. For inquiries:

Bike lockers at stations Tamien northward: contact Caltrain at caltrain.com or (650) 508-6350.

Bike lockers at stations south of Tamien: contact VTA at bikelockers@vta.org or (408) 321-7520.

Bicycle storage shed in Mountain View: City of Mountain View public works@mountainview.gov or (650) 903-6311.

Palo Alto BikeStation: (652) 733-0106 or bikestation.org or Palo Alto Bicycles at (650) 328-7411.

BART Stations

Milpitas and Berryessa BART stations will provide electronic bike lockers and a secure bike room for 200+ bikes once they open in 2020.

Preventing Bicycle Theft

Locking your bike to a bicycle rack can prevent most bicycle thefts. If you are leaving your bike at a station make sure it is locked well. Whether you're taking your bike on board or parking it at a station, make sure you record your bike's serial number along with a description of the bike. This will greatly increase your chance of recovery if it is stolen. Lock frame and both wheels with U-Locks. Cable locks are easily cut.



MICROMOBILITY LAWS & SAFETY TIPS

Bicyclists, like all roadway users, must follow the California Vehicle Code. The Vehicle Code is available at codes.findlaw.com/cal/vehicle-code/.

Did you know?

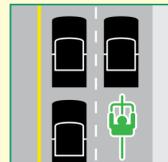
- Bicyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as motorists.
- Bicyclists may ride on all roadways unless it is specifically prohibited.
- When passing bicyclists, motorists must leave at least three feet between the bicycle and vehicle. If three feet is not possible, motorists must slow down and pass safely.
- Unless specifically prohibited, slower-speed electric bikes are permitted on paved paths if they have a maximum motor-assisted speed of 20 mph. Trail speed limits must be followed.
- Electric scooters should only be ridden in bike lanes or on the street. You must have a driver's license or instruction permit to operate an e-scooter.

DOs



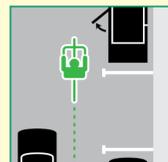
Bicyclists and e-scooters are required to obey traffic signs and signals.

Come to a complete stop at stop signs and red lights.



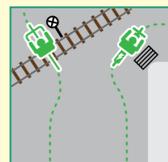
Ride in the middle of the lane in slow traffic.

Don't ride the line. Get in the middle of the lanes at busy intersections and whenever you are moving at the same speed as traffic.



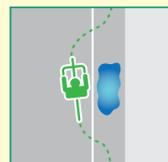
Keep clear of the door zone.

Ride a door's width away from parked cars. You have the right to ride in the middle of a traffic lane if it is too narrow to share with a car.



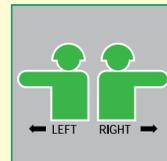
Avoid road hazards

Watch out for parallel-slat drainage grates, slippery manhole covers, oily pavement, detour signage, sand, gravel and debris. Cross railroad tracks carefully at a 90 degree angle.



You may leave a bike lane

When a road hazard obstructs a bike lane, or you anticipate a motorist might turn across your path, you may temporarily merge with caution into the adjacent traffic lane for safety.



Use hand signals

Hand signals tell motorists what you intend to do. Signal as a matter of law, courtesy, and self-protection.



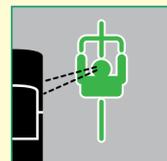
Ride with both hands, ready to brake

You may need to stop suddenly at unexpected times. In rain, allow three times the normal braking distance.



Ride to see and be seen

Use a strong headlight and rear reflector or taillight at night or when visibility is poor. Wear reflective or fluorescent clothing. Be sure your bike has pedal and side reflectors.



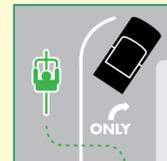
Scan the road around you

Keep your eyes roving constantly for cars, people, sand and gravel, grates, etc. Learn to look back over your shoulder without losing your balance or swerving.



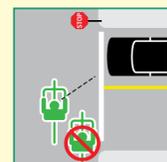
Yield to pedestrians

Pedestrians on sidewalks and in crosswalks have the right-of-way. When entering or exiting driveways, bicyclists must yield to pedestrians on the sidewalk.



Follow lane markings

Do not turn left from the right lane. Do not go straight in a lane marked right-turn only.



Watch for cars pulling out

Make eye contact with drivers. Assume they don't see you until you are sure they do. When the sun is in their eyes, drivers may not see you.



Call out when passing other trail users

Slow down, call out or ring a bell before passing other trail users, and always give at least three feet passing distance.



Ride the speed limit on trails

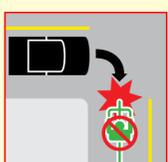
Most trails have speed limits of 15 mph or less. Respect the safety and comfort of other trail users by riding at or below the speed limit, and slowing when passing.



Choose the best way to turn left

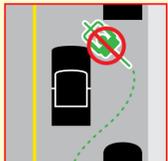
- Like a vehicle:** Signal, look back for oncoming traffic, then move into the left turn lane. Turn left when it is clear.
- Like a bicycle:** Ride to the far side of the intersection, stop, turn, and then ride across the street when the light turns green.
- Like a pedestrian:** Walk your bike across the intersection.

DON'Ts



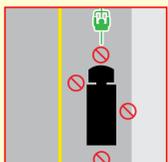
Never ride against traffic

Motorists are not looking for people riding against traffic on the wrong side of the road.



Don't weave between parked cars

Motorists may not see you when you try to move into traffic.



In front, or far behind, not beside!

To ensure drivers of large vehicles (buses, trucks and motor homes) can see you, stay out of their blind spots. Never pass on the right side. Ride far enough behind for the driver to see you, and at least four feet from the sides to avoid falling under a large vehicle.



Don't ride on the sidewalk

The sidewalk is for pedestrians. Riding on the sidewalk is against the law in some cities. If you must ride on the sidewalk, ride slowly, yield to pedestrians, and watch for cars at driveways and intersections.



Don't pass on the right

Motorists may not look for nor see a person passing on the right.



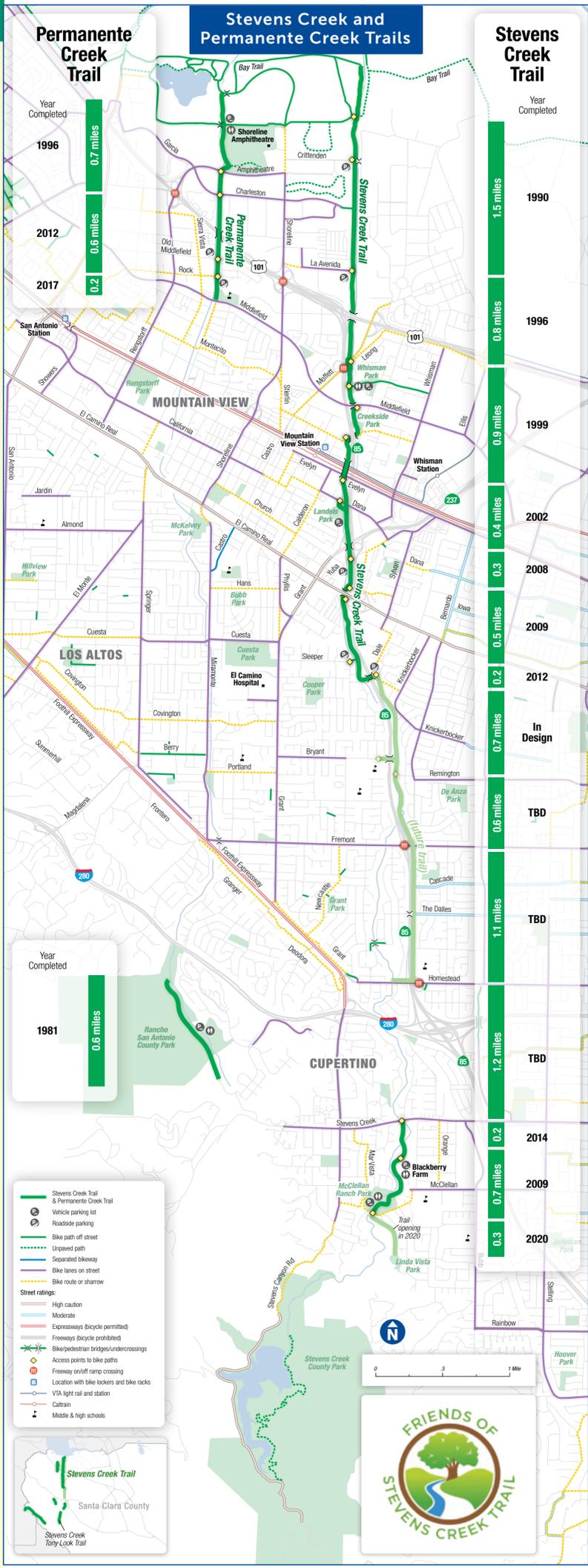
Don't bike under the influence

It is against the law to ride a bicycle or e-scooter under the influence of alcohol or drugs.



Earbuds only in one ear

It is against the law to wear earphones or earbuds in both ears while riding. You must always keep one ear free to listen to traffic.



VTA Contact Information

VTA Downtown Customer Service Center
55-A West Santa Clara Street, San José, CA 95113
Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Closed Saturdays, Sundays and holidays

Customer Service Call Center

(408) 321-2300
Automated information available 24 hours in English/Spanish
(800) 894-9908 outside Santa Clara County
(408) 321-2330 TTY
customer.service@vta.org

VTA Bike Locker Information

(408) 321-7520
bikelockers@vta.org

Lost and Found

If you forget your bike on the bus or train, you can claim it at 3531 North First Street, San José, CA 95134 in the Protective Services Department located in Building C between the hours of 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please call (408) 321-7171 to check for your bicycle before arriving.

Get Involved

VTA and County Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee . . . vta.org/about/board-and-committees
Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition bikesiliconvalley.org
Friends of Stevens Creek Trail stevenscreektrail.org
California Bicycle Coalition calbike.org
California Walks calwalks.org

Many cities have a Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) comprised of residents who provide input on bicycle and pedestrian issues. Contact your city government for more information.

The VTA Bikeways Map illustrates the bike lanes, multi-use paths, and bicycle/pedestrian bridges throughout Santa Clara County. The map also rates the level of difficulty for selected streets. The ratings were developed jointly by VTA, local jurisdictions, and bicyclists. This map is also available at: vta.org/go/maps

"Riding a bike is probably the most fun you can have to help fight our climate crisis."
Cindy Chavez, President of the VTA Board of Supervisors and Chair of VTA Board of Directors



Tips for Commuting by Bicycle

- Plan your route in advance.** Use this map, online maps, and talk to other bicyclists to find the best route for you. Test ride your route when you're not in a rush.
- Maintain your bicycle in good condition.** Check brakes regularly and keep tires properly inflated. Routine maintenance is simple and you can learn to do it yourself.
- Ride a well-equipped bicycle.** Be sure your bicycle is adjusted to fit you properly. Outfit it with front and rear lights, a bell, rear-view mirror, and fenders (for rainy rides). Racks, baskets or bike bags are also useful for carrying things.
- Dress appropriately.** Wear a helmet whenever you ride (required by law for bicyclists 17 and under). Wear clothes in layers, so you can adjust to temperature changes on longer rides. Wear reflectors or fluorescent colors when riding in the dark.
- Add transit to your ride.** Taking your bike on the bus or train means you can travel longer distances or skip sections you're not comfortable biking.
- Take a class.** Several organizations provide bicycle classes for adults. Start by contacting the Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition: bikesiliconvalley.org
- Expressways:** Bicycles are permitted on all Santa Clara County expressways. The expressways generally carry high volumes of traffic at high speeds. Bicyclists are therefore advised to use caution. Although there are bike lanes on some expressways, expressways should only be used by bicyclists with advanced skills.
- On-ramps/Off-ramps:** Bicyclists should exercise extreme caution in areas where freeway and expressway on-ramps and off-ramps merge with local streets.
- Bike loop detectors:** At some intersections, bicyclists can trigger a green light by placing the bicycle's wheels on the loop detector. The loop indicator may or may not be marked with a permanent stencil.

