

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
BOARD

HARRY S. MAVROGENES
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SEE BELOW

APRIL 25, 2006

INFORMATION

**SUBJECT: APRIL 25, 2006 MERCURY NEWS ITEM REGARDING THE
GUADALUPE RIVER PARK PROJECT**

In today's (April 25, 2006) San Jose Mercury, there was an article about the remaining trail closures in the Guadalupe River Park. Following is the status of each of the trail closures and the timing of their opening.

1 East Bank UPRR Undercrossing:

The trail on the east bank under the Union Pacific Railroad tracks has been approved by the PUC. That trail section requires the construction of a shed building under the tracks. The plan is to open it for public use by September 2006. We are working with DOT and GSA staff to contract for crews to complete this work, which will allow the trail to open as early as July 2006.

2. West Bank Autumn Street At-Grade Crossing:

Completion of the west bank trail is not on schedule. Cousins Development and UPRR are supposed to complete the Autumn Street at-grade crossing by September 30, 2006. UPRR has not submitted plans for city review. Even if construction of that crossing could meet that schedule, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has asked the City to delay construction of the Autumn Street crossing. The Corps made this request because the new crossing would be demolished and then rebuilt as part of the construction of the new UPRR railroad bridge that the Corps plans to build in 2007. The Corps would prefer to limit its project costs. The railroad bridge construction has been delayed because of Corps financing and disagreements between the Corps and UPRR over the design. Although the bridge

construction is not fully funded by the Corps, Redevelopment Agency staff is reluctant to approve a project delay in the construction of Autumn Street as the delay would further inhibit the public's use of the trail.

3. Rt. 87 Trail Closure:

VTA has confirmed that the construction causing the trail closure between Santa Clara and San Fernando Streets will be complete and the trail will be reopened in the spring of 2007.

4. Long Term Trail Closures:

As a result of past trail closures, due to adjacent construction (e.g. Route 87 HOV project), the City will now treat these trail closures just like public street closures and will require that the trails either stay open during construction or a convenient detour be available. The Agency has told the Corps that construction of the UPRR Bridge must include a convenient alternative crossing during the entire construction period. Any delay in construction will also require approval by the PUC.

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