

Coyote Ridge Open Space Preserve  
Planning and Design Update  
Phase 1 Project – Public Access Improvements

Presentation to Authority Use & Management Committee  
November 14, 2019



# Agenda

## 2:30 – 3:15 Staff Presentation and Discussion

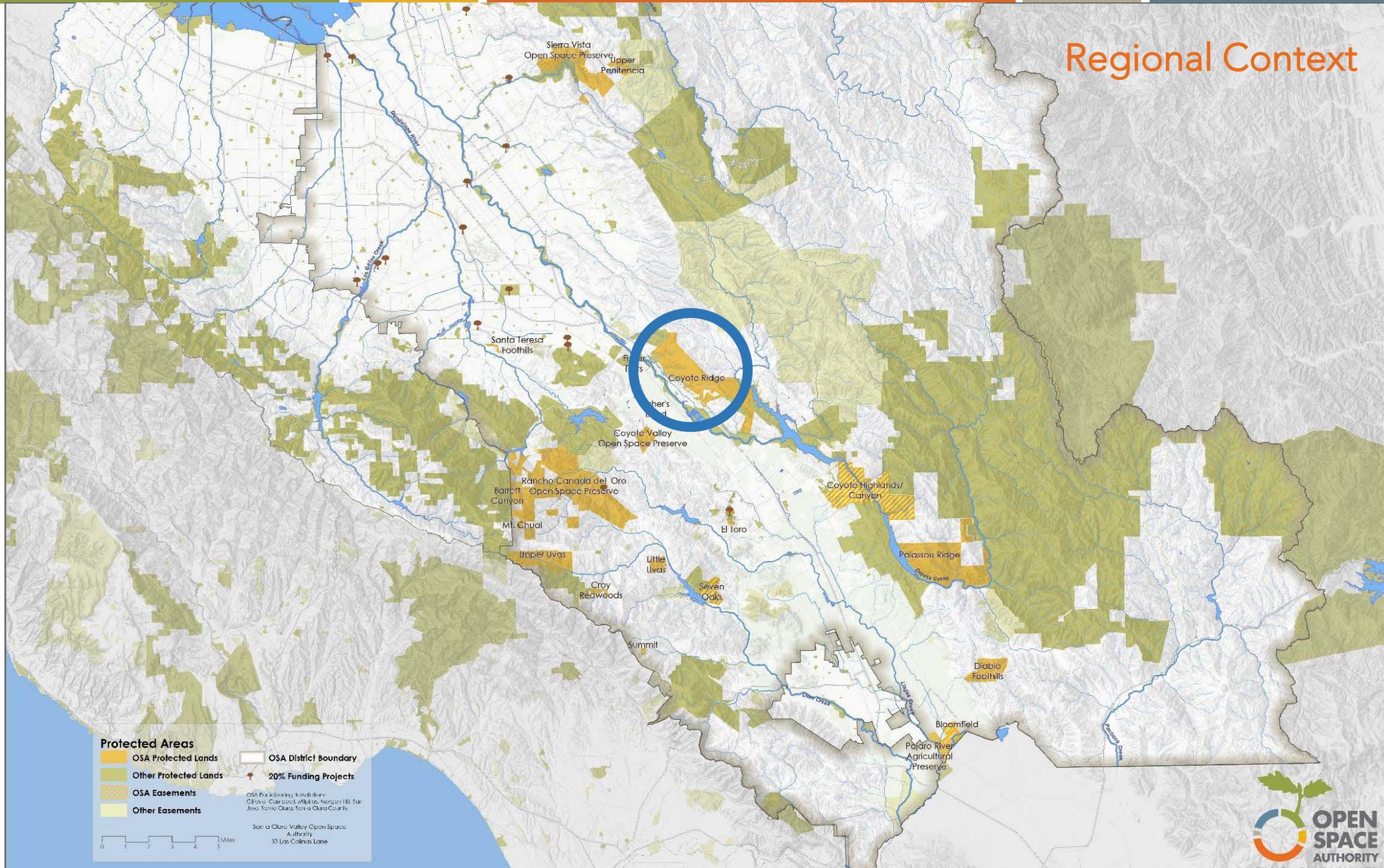
- Update Use & Management Committee on Phase 1 Project in approved Budget/Work Plan
- Review Phase 1 Project timeline and funding
- Discuss and receive feedback on planning and design progress

## 3:15 – 3:30 Travel (carpool, meet at Malech Rd. gate)

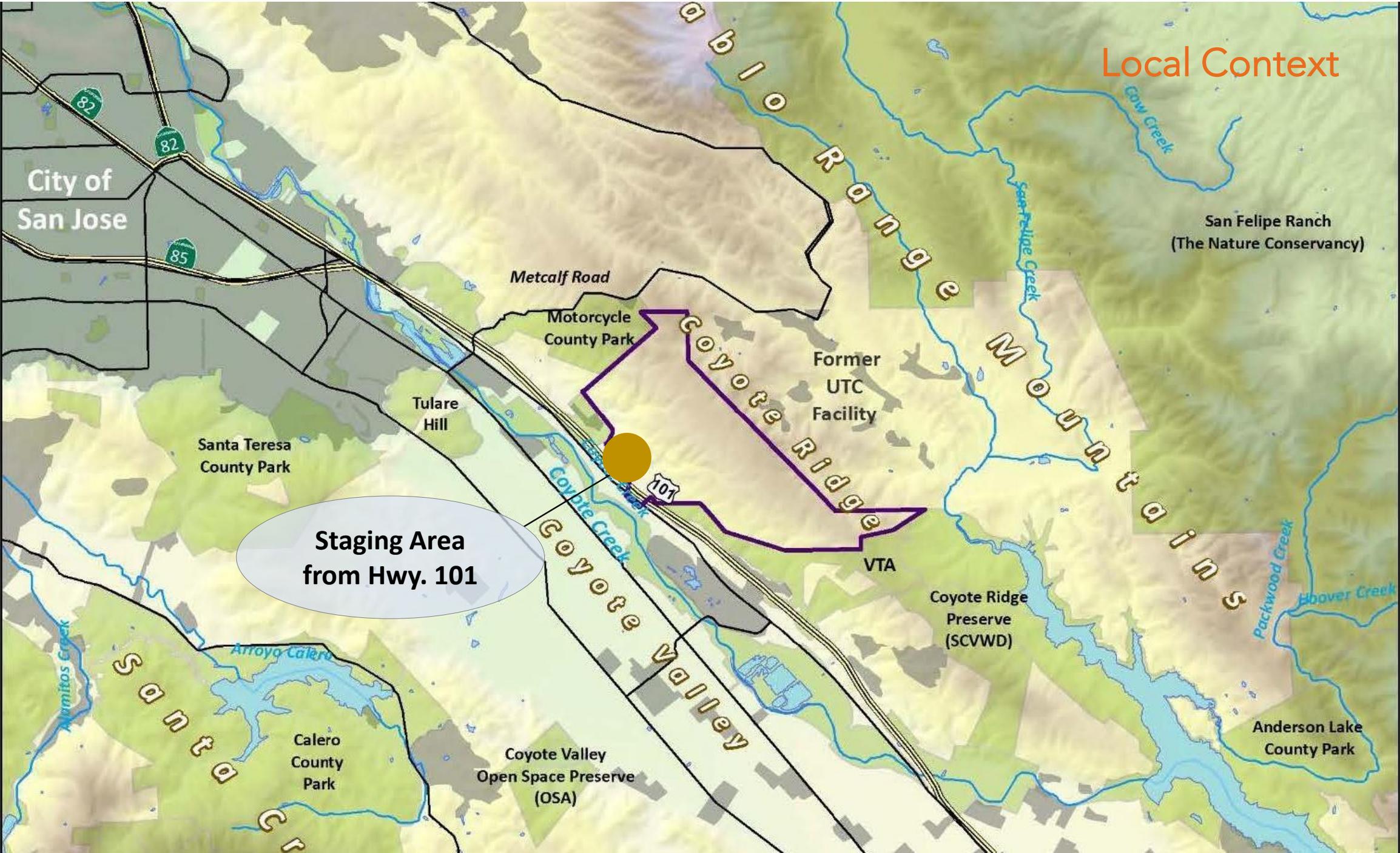
## 3:30 – 4:30 Field Visit to Coyote Ridge Open Space Preserve

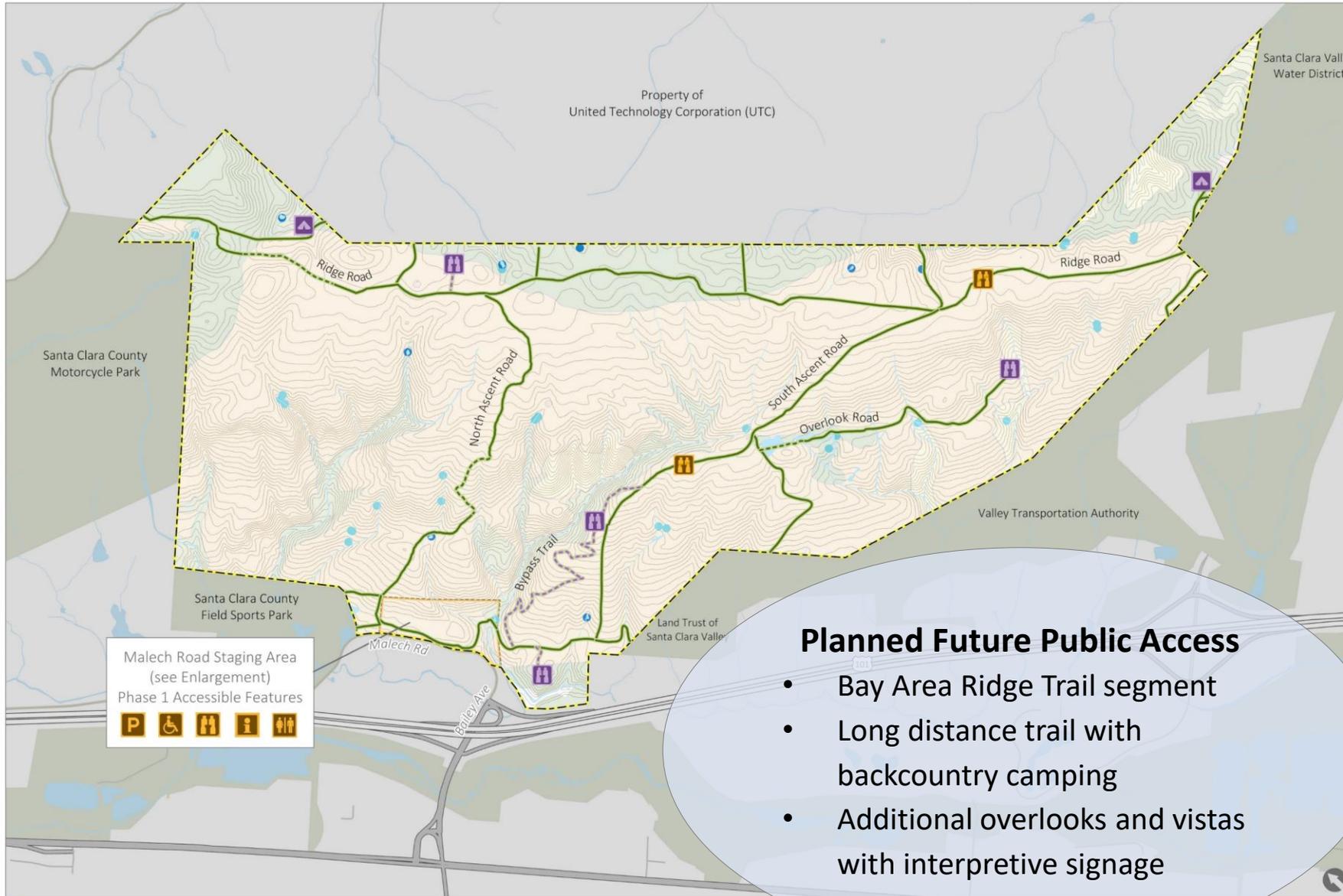
## 4:30 – 4:45 Travel Back to Authority Administrative Office (optional)

# Regional Context



# Local Context





### Public Access Features

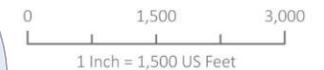
- Phase 1 Parking Area (20 - 30 Vehicles)
- Phase 1 Accessible Restroom
- Phase 1 Trailhead Kiosk
- Phase 1 Overlook
- Future Overlook
- Future Backcountry Campsite
- Existing Service Road/Trail
- Road/Trail Segment to be Realigned
- Future Trail (New Construction)

### Natural Resources

- Ponds
- Water Sources
- Water Features (Wetlands, USFWS)
- Serpentine Bunchgrass Grassland
- Non-dominant Land Cover

### Other

- Malech Road Property Boundary
- Coyote Ridge OSP Boundary
- Other Protected Lands



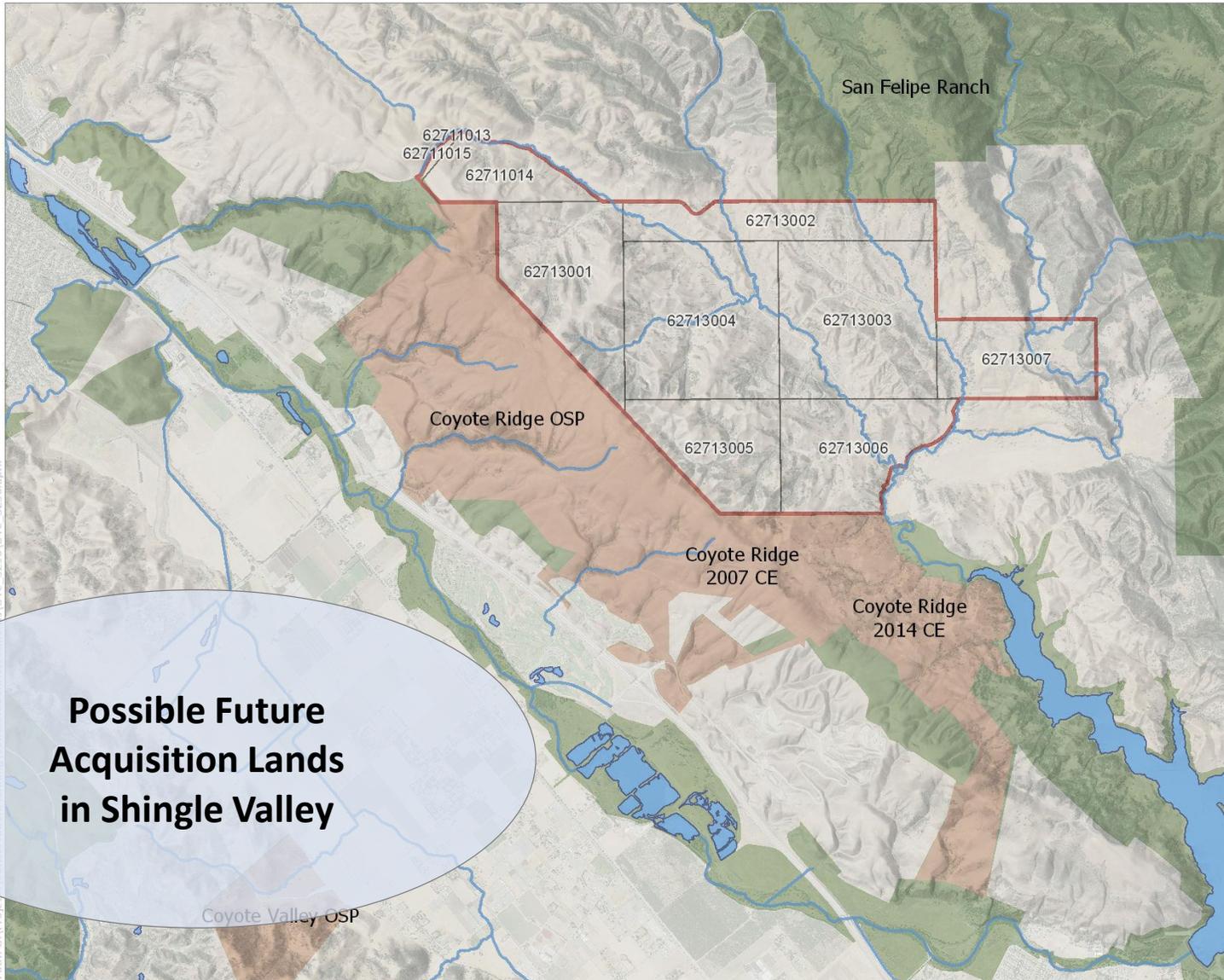
Malech Road Staging Area  
(see Enlargement)  
Phase 1 Accessible Features

### Planned Future Public Access

- Bay Area Ridge Trail segment
- Long distance trail with backcountry camping
- Additional overlooks and vistas with interpretive signage

# SHINGLE VALLEY (UTC 3296 ACRES)

Context



- Property Boundary
- Parcels
- OSA Protected Lands
- Protected Lands

**Possible Future Acquisition Lands in Shingle Valley**





# Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species at Coyote Ridge

## Rare Flora

- Metcalf Canyon Jewelflower
- Santa Clara Valley Dudleya
- San Francisco Wallflower
- Mount Hamilton Thistle
- Smooth Lessingia
- Most-beautiful Jewelflower
- Hall's Bushmallow
- Fragrant Fritillary

## Rare Fauna

- Bay Checkerspot Butterfly
- California Red-Legged Frog
- California Tiger Salamander
- Golden Eagle
- White-Tailed Kite
- Burrowing Owl





# Balancing Conservation and Access

Primary goal is to protect and rehabilitate sensitive habitats and natural communities

- Open the Preserve for docent-guided public access
- Use adaptive management and develop an ongoing monitoring plan for the Preserve
- Utilize existing ranch roads where feasible; consider new sustainable trails in some locations
- Develop trail amenities including rest areas and overlooks to provide visitors with a memorable experience while keeping them away from sensitive areas



Malech Road Staging Area  
(see Enlargement)  
Phase 1 Accessible Features

### Public Access Features

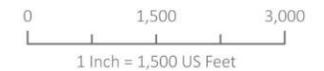
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# Phase 1 Project Malech Road Staging Area and Public Access Improvements



## Malech Road Staging Area

- 20-30 car parking area
- Vault toilette
- Bus drop-off
- Accessible interpretive trail, overlook, and picnic areas

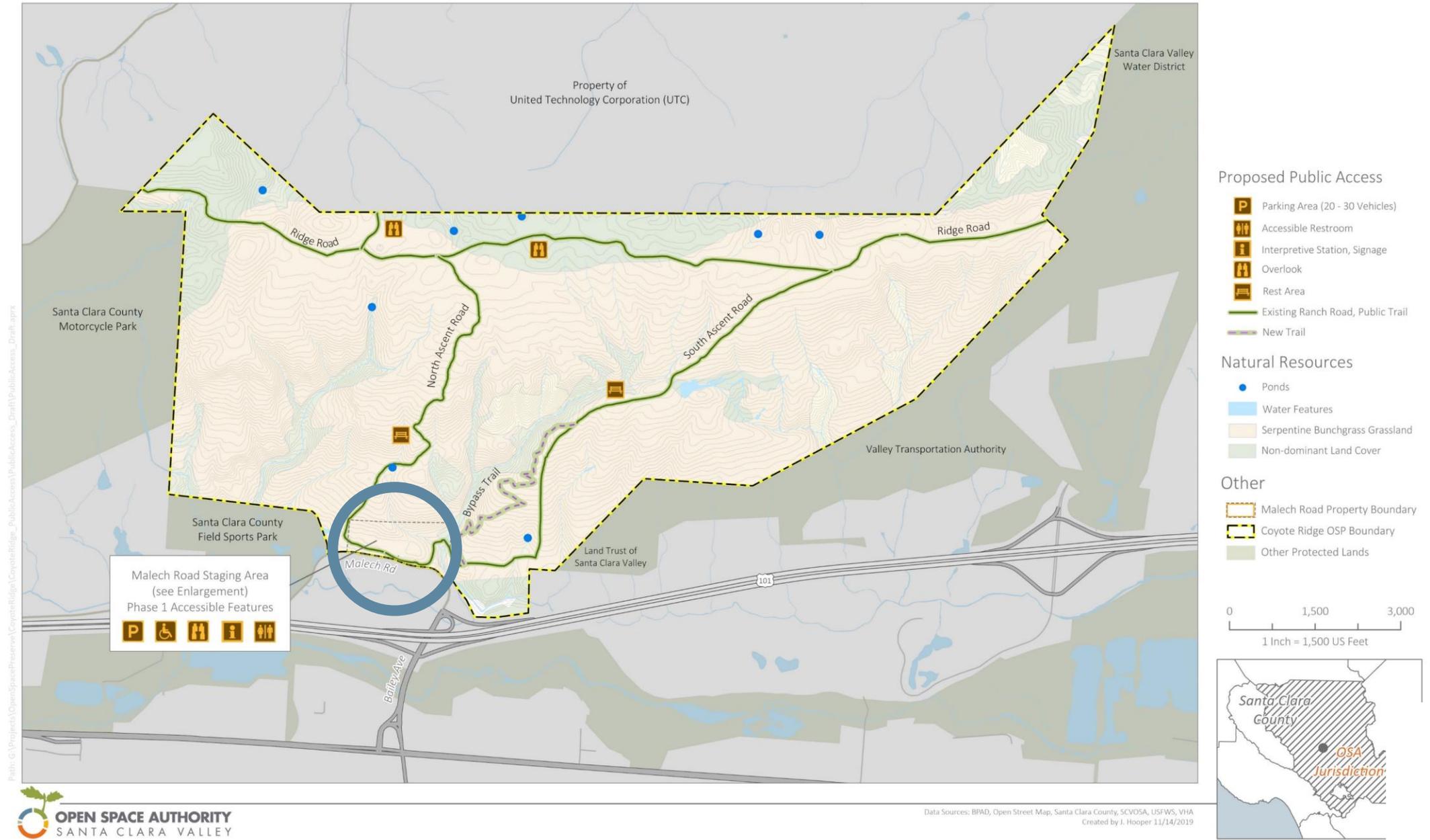
## South Ascent Bypass Trail

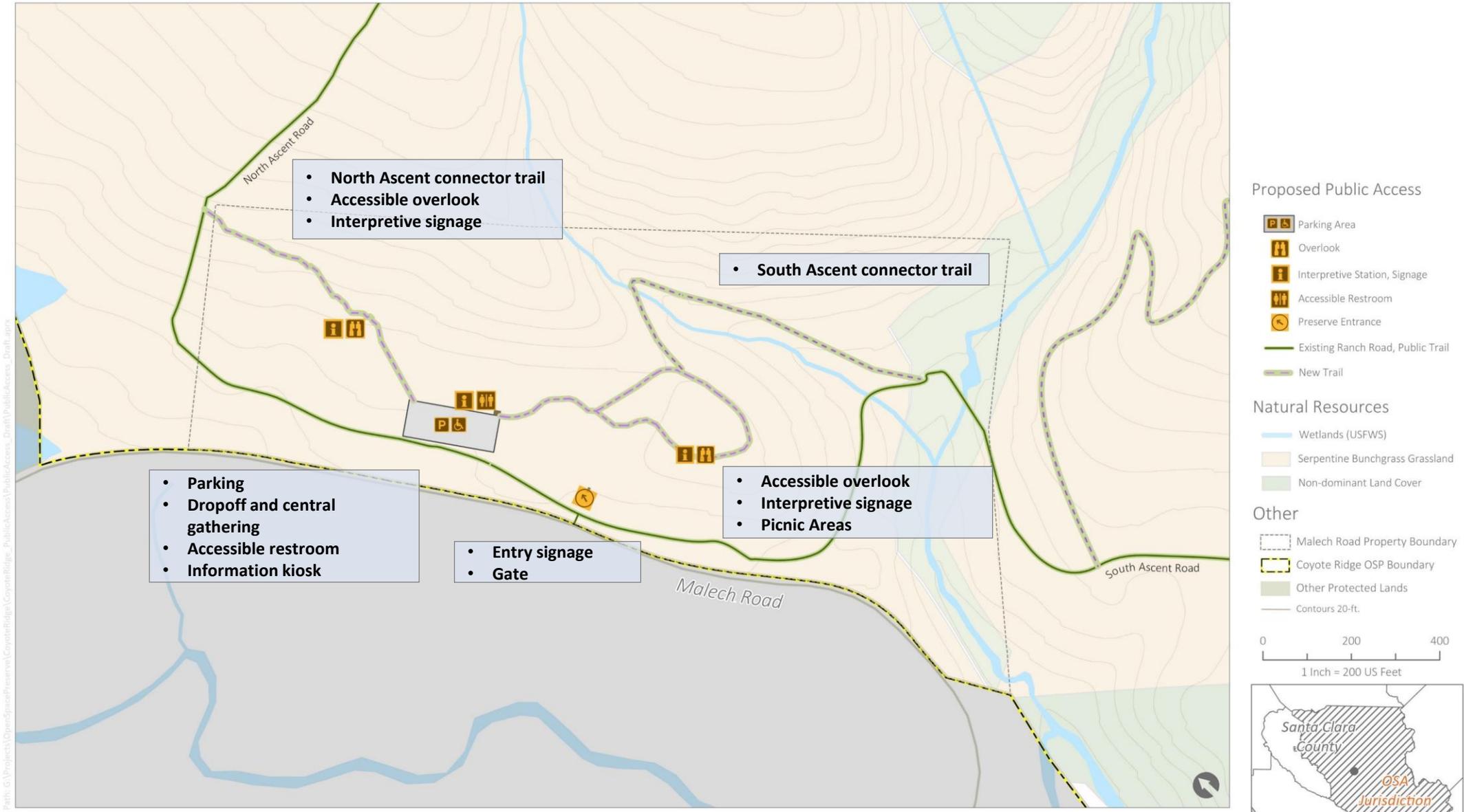
## Public Access Amenities

- Two overlooks at Ridge Road
- Trailside rest areas

# COYOTE RIDGE OPEN SPACE PRESERVE

## Phase 1 Public Access Improvements

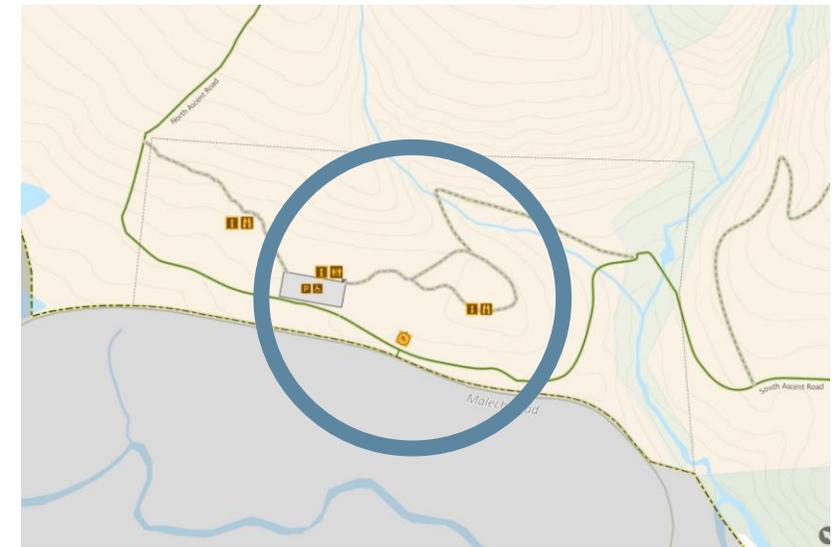




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# Malech Road Staging Area

- Parking lot with capacity for 20-30 cars; creatively manage stormwater
- Accessible restrooms with one vault toilet
- Accessible overlook with relationship to parking area
- Trailhead connection for north ascent trail
- 2-3 interpretive stations/signage



## Alternative A: Central Gathering with North Overlook

- + Less site impact
- + Large central gathering space
- Visitors will have to hike farther to experience trails

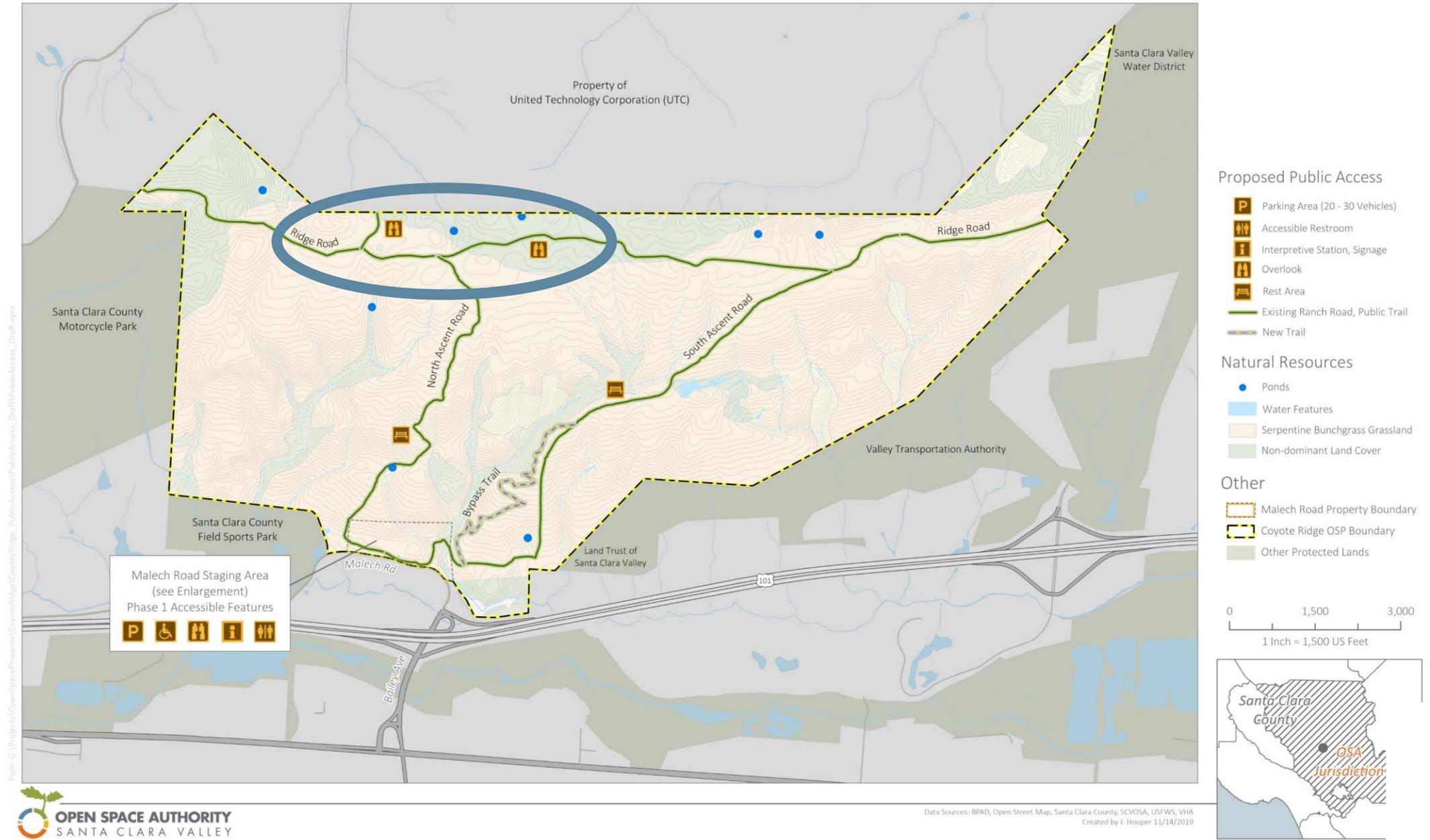


## Alternative B: Knoll Overlook Trail

- + Easy and Accessible loop trail to top of knoll
- More site impact

# Precedent Project: Jenner Headlands Staging Area







**Celebration Hill Overlook**

- - - - ACCESSIBLE 'CONSTELLATION' TRAIL
- - - - ACCESSIBLE LOLLIPOP TRAIL
- JEWEL FLOWER POLYGON
- NODE FOR OVERLOOK



## Celebration Hill Overlook

- Overlook highlighting views east and west. Quiet location and "isolated" from valley
- Large level area provides opportunity for accessible amenities accessed from east UTC property
- Interpretive opportunities for elk spotting, highlighting fault lines and history of UTC property





**Middle Ridge Overlook**

- NODE FOR OVERLOOK DECK
- NON-SERPENTINE SOILS
- DETACHABLE SEASONAL SHADE OPTIONS



## Middle Ridge Overlook

- Located between north and south ascent trails
- Minimalist intervention envisioned, including potential for a cantilevered deck located outside serpentine soils
- Views of agricultural fields in Coyote Valley and Downtown San Jose



# Look and Feel: Overlook and Rest Area



# Schedule of Key Milestones\*

2019/20

**PRE-DESIGN**

Site Survey

Cultural Survey

Botanical Survey

Preliminary CEQA

Site Analysis

Conceptual Design

Valley Habitat Agency Preliminary Permitting

2020/21

**DESIGN**

Final Conceptual Design

Cost Estimates

Valley Habitat Agency Land in Lieu/Permitting

Draft and Final CEQA Documentation

Draft and Final Design Documents

Draft Permit Applications

2021/22

**CONSTRUCTION**

RFP for Construction

Pull Final Permits

Construction Mobilization

Staging Area Construction

Overlook Construction

Preserve Opening

Winter 2021/ Spring 2022

\* Notes:

- 1) Draft schedule only – subject to change based on permitting, design and construction constraints.
- 2) A wider range of construction time may be needed to accommodate sensitive serpentine species.

# Estimated Project Cost and Funding\*

<b>Project Costs</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Analysis, Design, and Permitting	\$1,000,000
Construction	\$4,500,000
<b>Estimated Total Project Cost</b>	<b>\$5,500,000</b>
<b>Funding</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Authority FY 2019/20 Funding	\$300,000
Gordon & Betty Moore Foundation	\$400,000
Priority Conservation Areas Grant (pending)	\$400,000
<b>Total Committed Funding</b>	<b>\$1,100,000</b>

\* Notes:

- 1) Additional funding for the project will be sought as grant program solicitations are released.
- 2) All costs are preliminary until conceptual design is further developed.
- 3) Phasing and programming are subject to change based on funding.