

# Sign Hill Master Plan

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JUNE 2023



wra





Larch Ave

Larch Ave

Hillside Blvd

Sister Cities Blvd

Sign Hill Park

**Study Area**

SOUTH  
SAN FRANCISCO  
THE INDUSTRIAL CITY

Paradise  
Park

Larch Ave

Park Way

Almond Ave

Rocca Ave

Diamond Ave



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# Overview

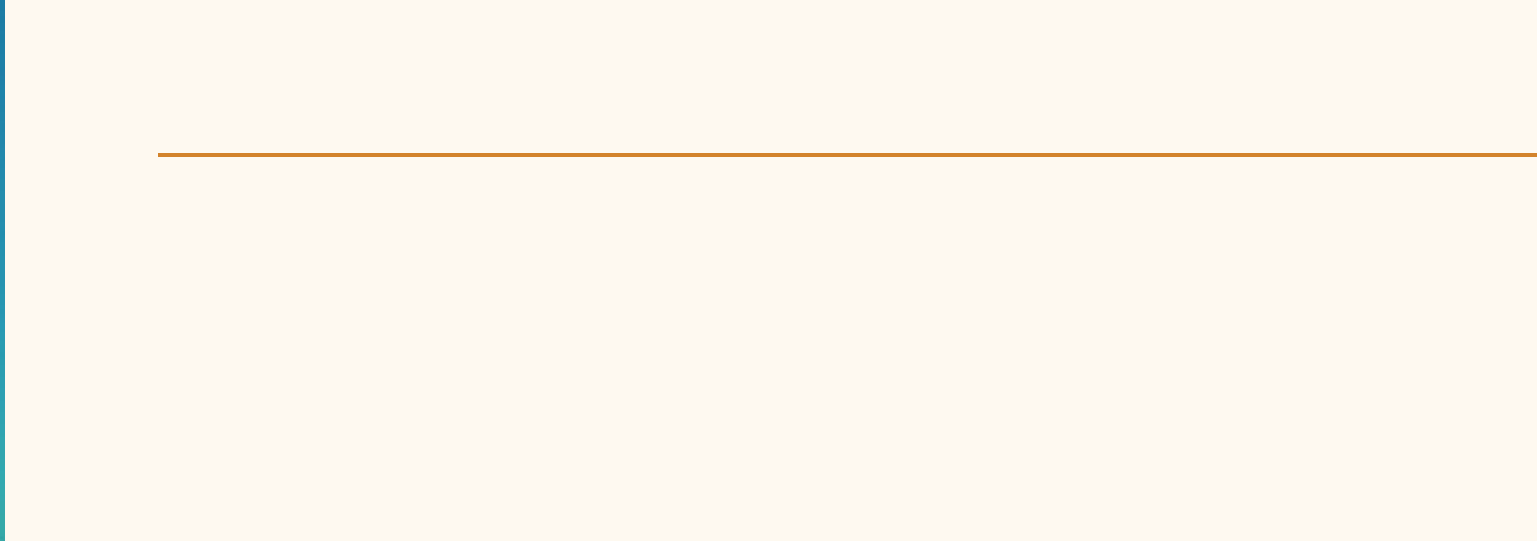
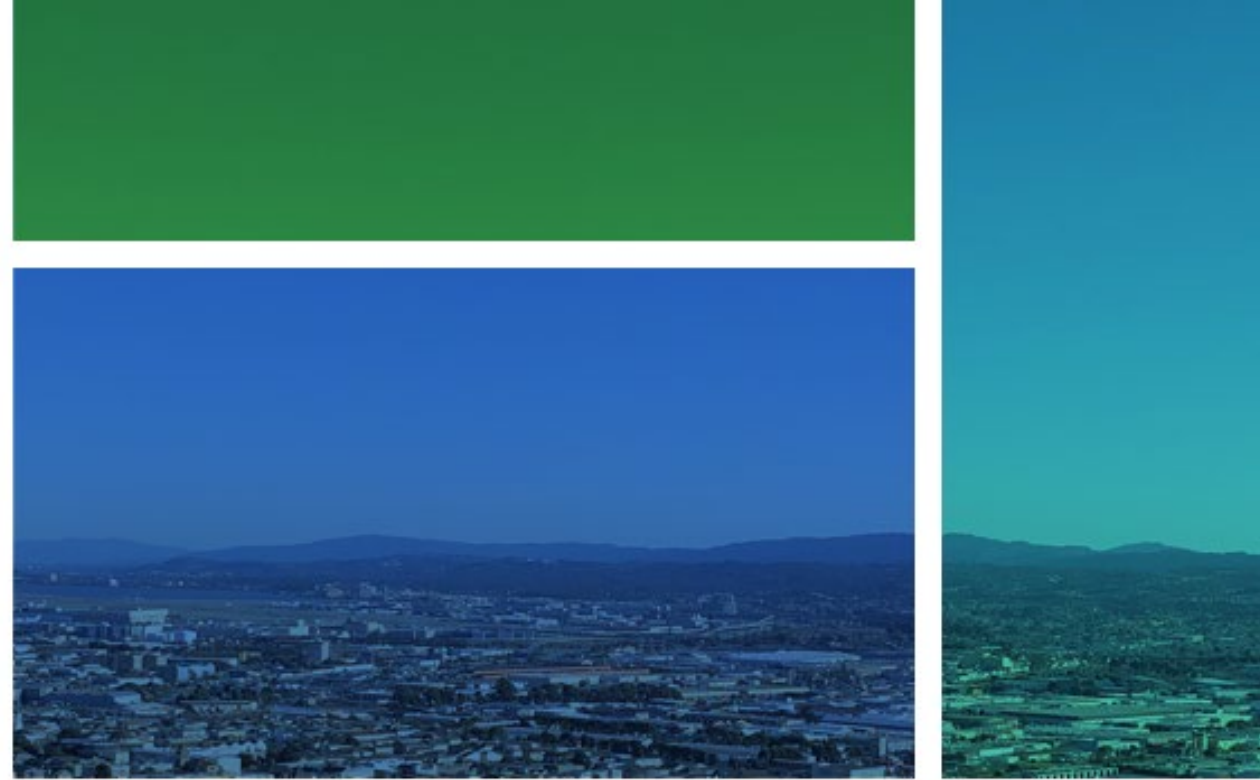
- Purpose of the Master Plan
- Context
- Key Focus Areas
- Existing Condition Studies
- Preliminary Results
- Next Steps



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# Purpose

- **Guide** future development of the trail system to enhance public access and visitor experiences.
- **Protect** sensitive biological and cultural resources.
- **Minimize** wildfire hazards through appropriate vegetation management.



CITY OF  
**South San Francisco**

URBAN FOREST MASTER PLAN

### PARKS + RECREATION MASTER PLAN

City of South San Francisco

California

Adopted July 22, 2015



# Context

- Align with existing plans and policies
- Incorporate existing information



# Focus Areas

- **Habitat restoration** for endangered butterflies
- **Trail improvements** to enhance visitor experience and safety
- **Reduce wildfire fuels**
- **Improve awareness** for and appreciation for Sign Hill



# Existing Conditions

## STUDIES

- Cultural Resource Assessment
- Biological Resource Assessment
- Fire Fuels Evaluation
- Trails and Visitation Assessment
- Community Outreach

## METHODS

- Data review
- Database research
- On-site data collection
- Online public survey and in-person events

SIGN HILL MASTER PLAN

# Preliminary Findings & Recommendations



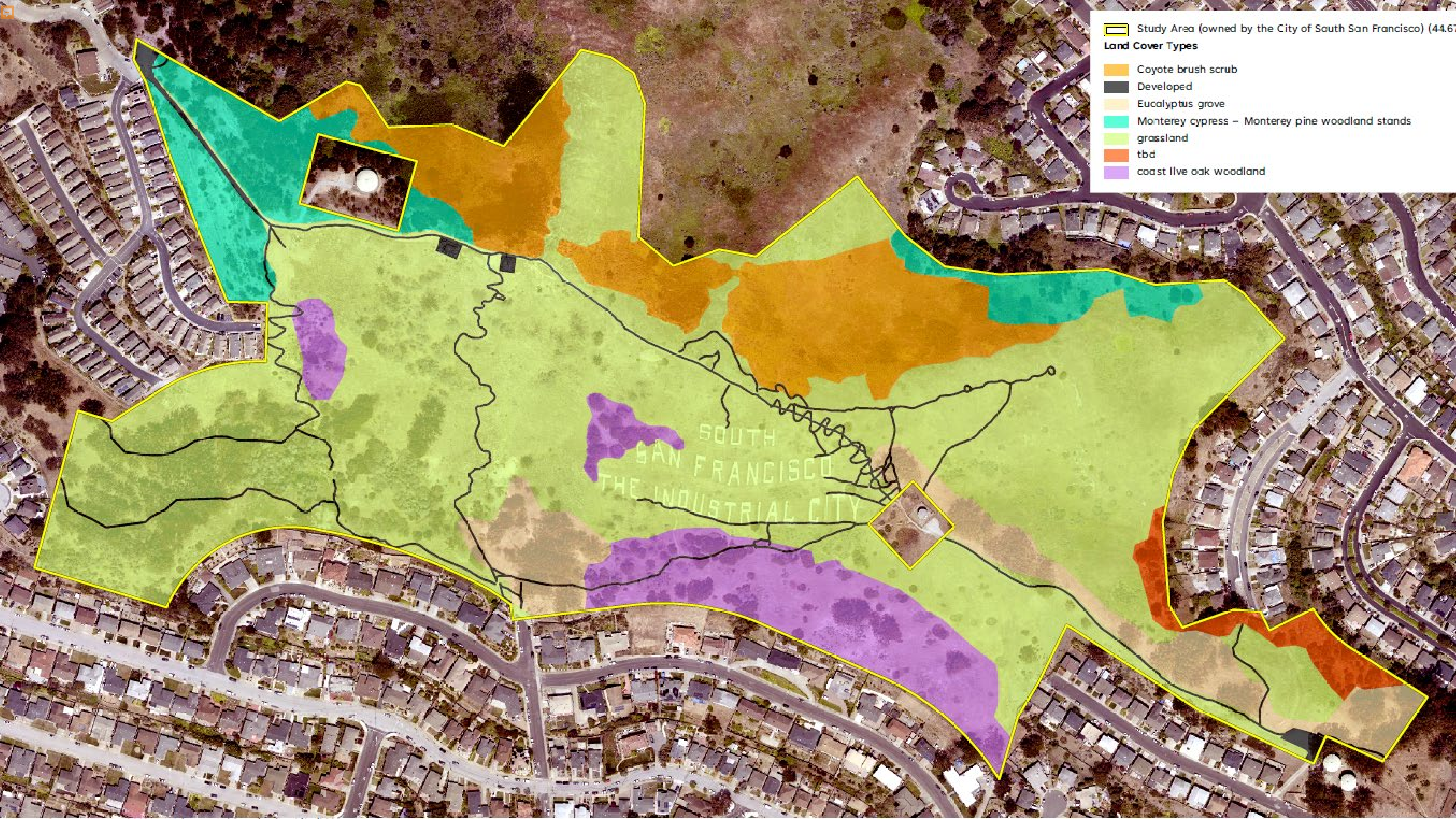


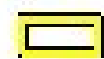
## Preliminary Findings & Recommendations

# Cultural Resources


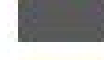

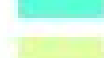



- Tom Origer & Associates
- No history of structures
- Low sensitivity for buried resources

**Architectural historian is needed to evaluate future work proposed for sign letters.**



 Study Area (owned by the City of South San Francisco) (44.67 acres)

**Land Cover Types**

-  Coyote brush scrub
-  Developed
-  Eucalyptus grove
-  Monterey cypress – Monterey pine woodland stands
-  grassland
-  tbd
-  coast live oak woodland

## Preliminary Findings & Recommendations

# Biological Resources











## ENHANCE NATIVE GRASSLANDS

- Non-native tree removal and invasive plant management

## POTENTIAL FOR SENSITIVE PLANTS TO OCCUR

- Species-focused surveys prior to ground-disturbing work
- Larval host plant restoration area expansion



 Study Area (owned by the City of South San Francisco) (65.45 ac.)	 Access Road
 Private Land (26.30 ac.)	 Existing Trails
<b>Erosion</b>	 Maintenance Trail
 Erosion (High)	 Visitor Created Trails
 Erosion (Medium)	 Eucalyptus Loop (Legacy) Trail
 Erosion (Low)	

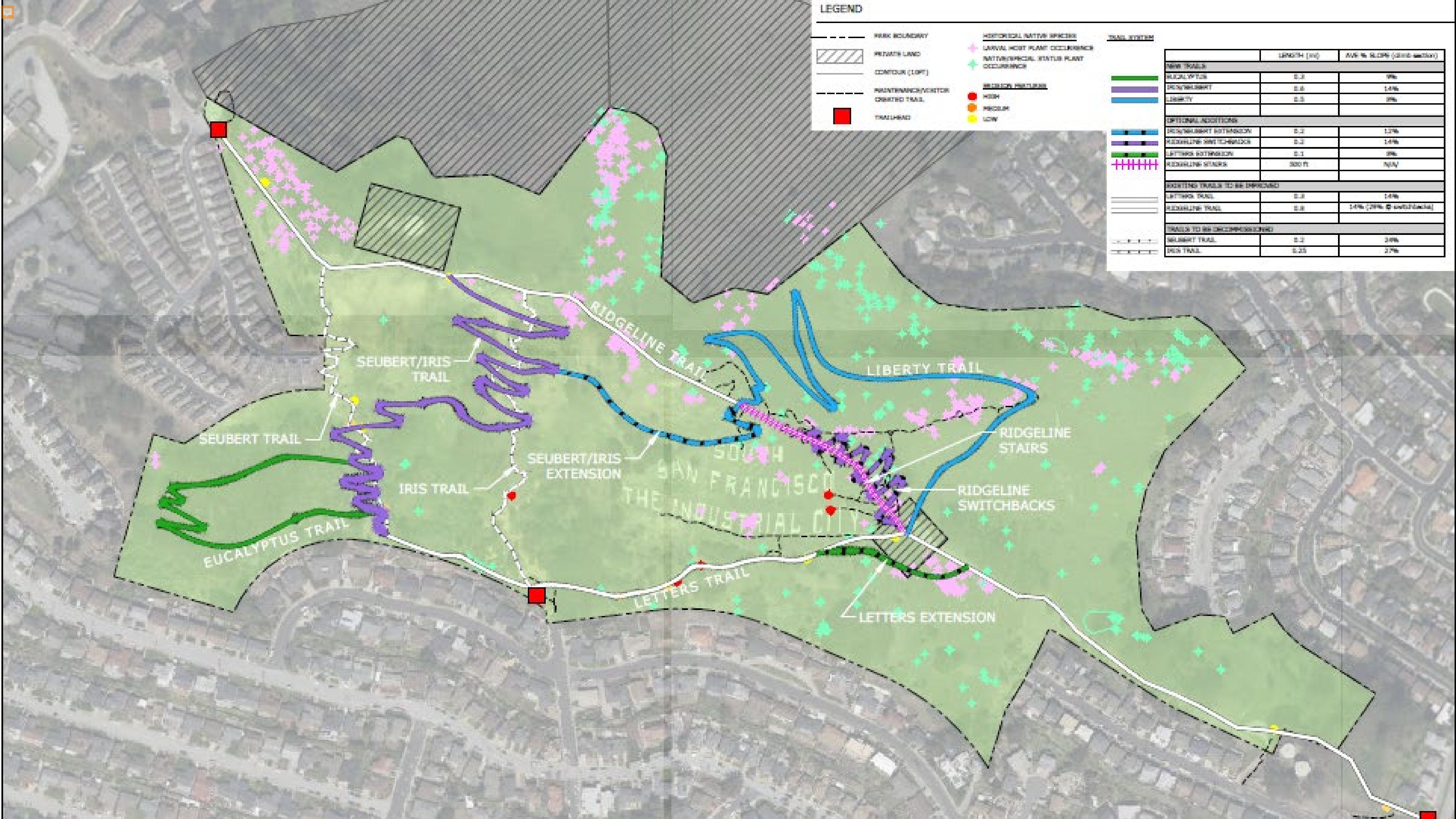
## Preliminary Findings & Recommendations

# Trails

- Three key areas with high levels of erosion
- Visitor trail creation extensive but localized
- Letters Trail: Improve drainage features
- Iris Trail: Re-routing
- Ridge Trail: Drainage/erosion control
- Close selected visitor-created trails



- Study Area (owned by the City of South San Francisco) (65.45 ac.)
- Private Land (26.30 ac.)
- Trail Alignments**
  - Access Road
  - Existing Trails
  - Maintenance Trail
  - Visitor Created Trails
  - Eucalyptus Loop (Legacy) Trail
- Historical Native Species Occurrences**
  - Larval Host Plant Occurrences
  - Native Plant Species Occurrences
  - Special-Status Plant Occurrences
  - Special-Status Wildlife Occurrences
  - Native Plant Species Occurrences (Polygon)
- Historical Invasive Species Occurrences**
  - Patches (Eucalyptus and Acacia)
  - Legacy Invasive Species
- Erosion Features**
  - High
  - Medium
  - Low



**LEGEND**

- PARK BOUNDARY
- PRIVATE LAND
- CONTOUR (10FT)
- MAINTENANCE/VISITOR DESIGNATED TRAIL
- TRAILHEAD
- HISTORICAL NATIVE SPECIES
- LARVAL HOST PLANT OCCURRENCE
- NATIVE/SPECIAL STATUS PLANT OCCURRENCE
- HIGH
- MEDIUM
- LOW

**TRAIL SYSTEM**

- NEW TRAILS
- EUCALYPTUS
- PROSPERITY
- LIBERTY
- PROSPERITY EXTENSION
- RIDGELINE SWITCHBACKS
- LETTERS EXTENSION
- RIDGELINE STAIRS
- EXISTING TRAILS TO BE IMPROVED
- LETTERS TRAIL
- RIDGELINE TRAIL
- TRAILS TO BE DECOMMISSIONED
- SEUBERT TRAIL
- IRIS TRAIL

	LENGTH (mi)	Avg % Slope (dumb section)
<b>NEW TRAILS</b>		
EUCALYPTUS	0.2	9%
PROSPERITY	0.8	14%
LIBERTY	0.3	9%
<b>OPTIONAL ADDITIONS</b>		
PROSPERITY EXTENSION	0.2	13%
RIDGELINE SWITCHBACKS	0.2	14%
LETTERS EXTENSION	0.1	9%
RIDGELINE STAIRS	300 FT	N/A
<b>EXISTING TRAILS TO BE IMPROVED</b>		
LETTERS TRAIL	0.2	14%
RIDGELINE TRAIL	0.8	14% (29% @ wet/dry)
<b>TRAILS TO BE DECOMMISSIONED</b>		
SEUBERT TRAIL	0.2	24%
IRIS TRAIL	0.23	27%

SEUBERT TRAIL

SEUBERT/IRIS TRAIL

EUCALYPTUS TRAIL

IRIS TRAIL

SEUBERT/IRIS EXTENSION

RIDGELINE TRAIL

SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO THE INDUSTRIAL CITY

LETTERS TRAIL

LETTERS EXTENSION

LIBERTY TRAIL

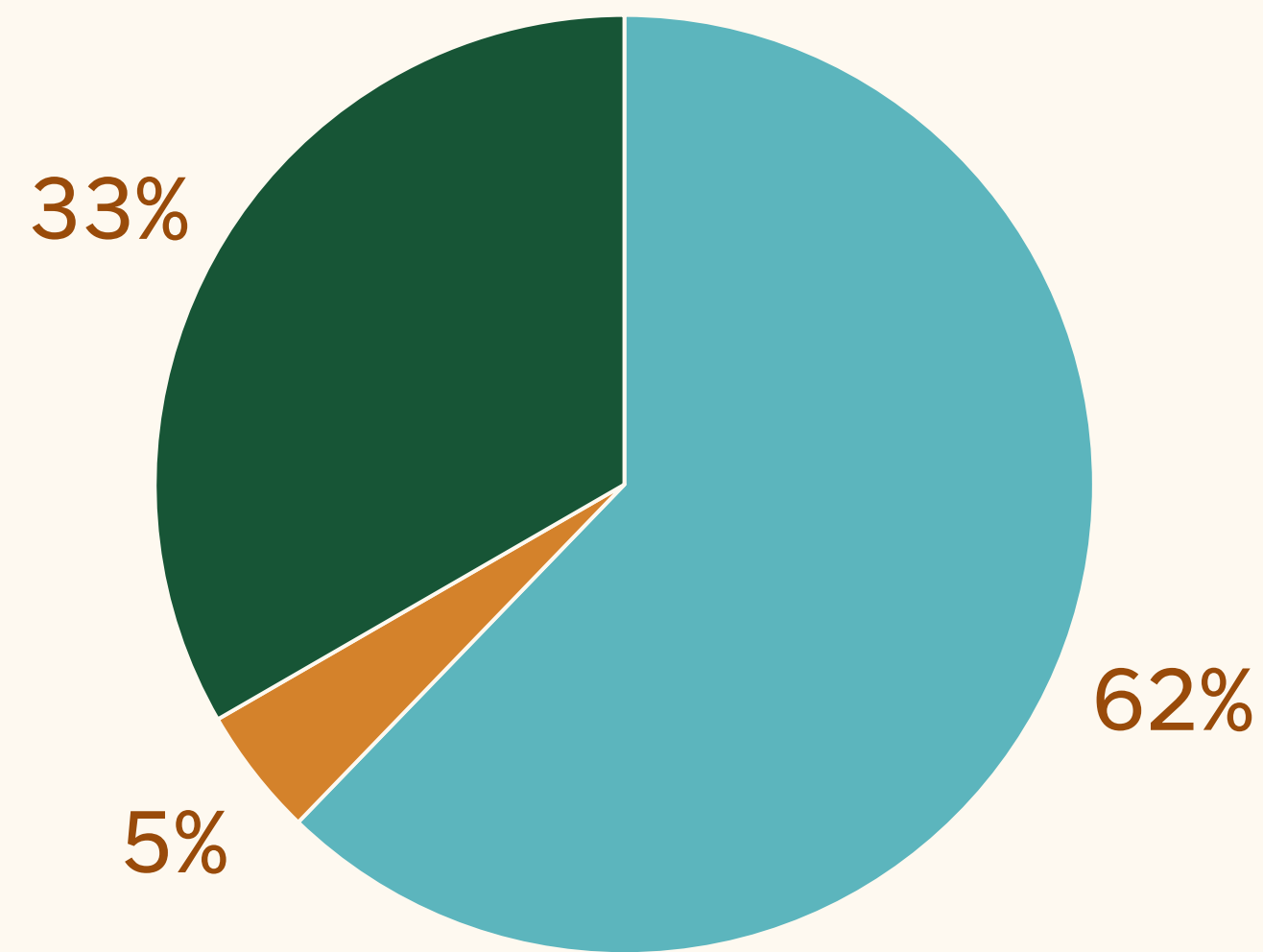
RIDGELINE STAIRS

RIDGELINE SWITCHBACKS

# Preliminary Findings & Recommendations

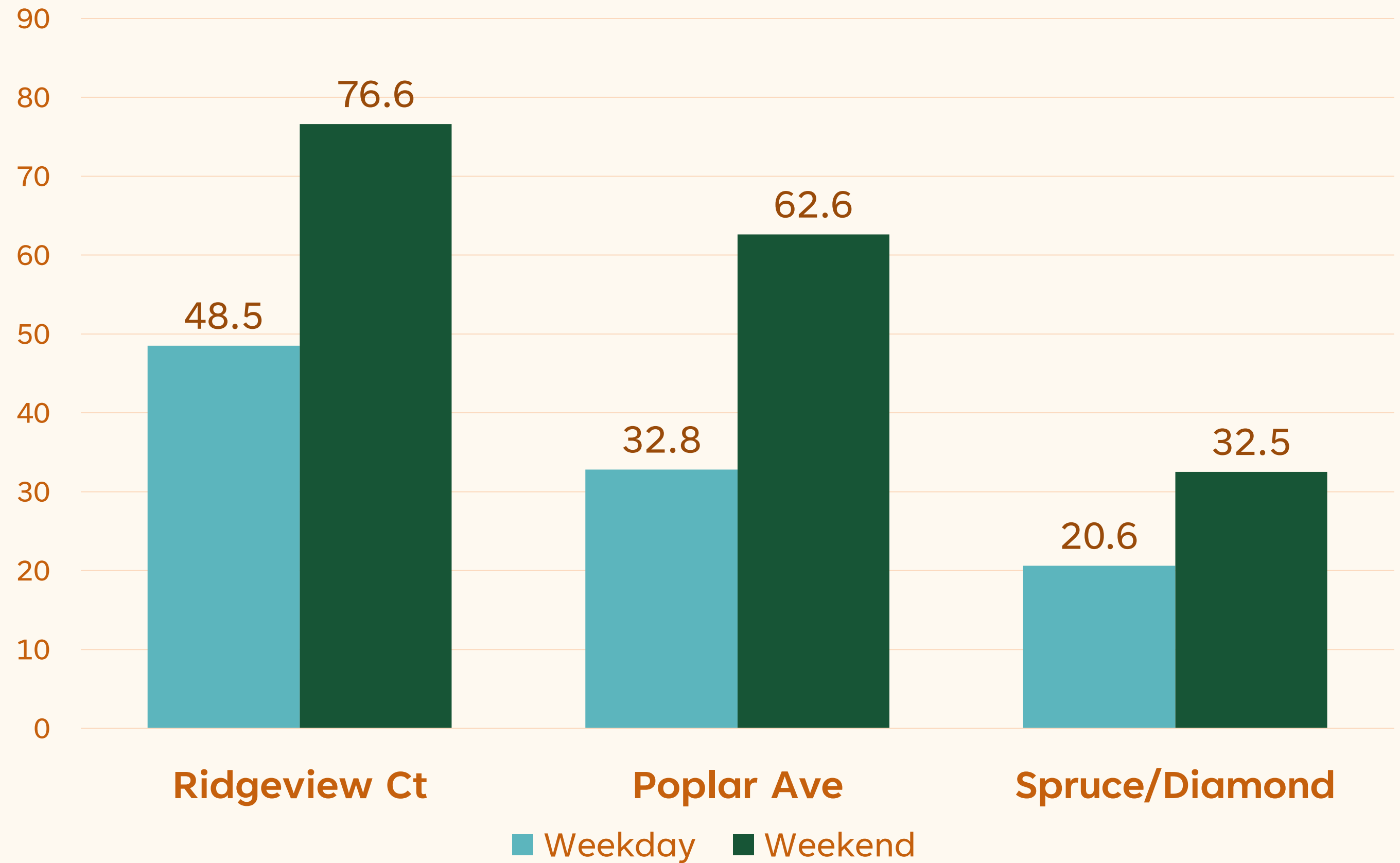
## Visitors

- 100-170 visits per day



■ Hiking ■ Running ■ Dog walking

### Average Daily Visitation by Trailhead





# Community Outreach

English and Spanish Language Materials



Learn more at



## Promotion (began March 15)

- Social Media posts to City channels
- Flyer mailed to community

## Online Survey (March 15–April 7)

- Survey received 428 responses

## Pop-Up Event at Sign Hill (April 1)

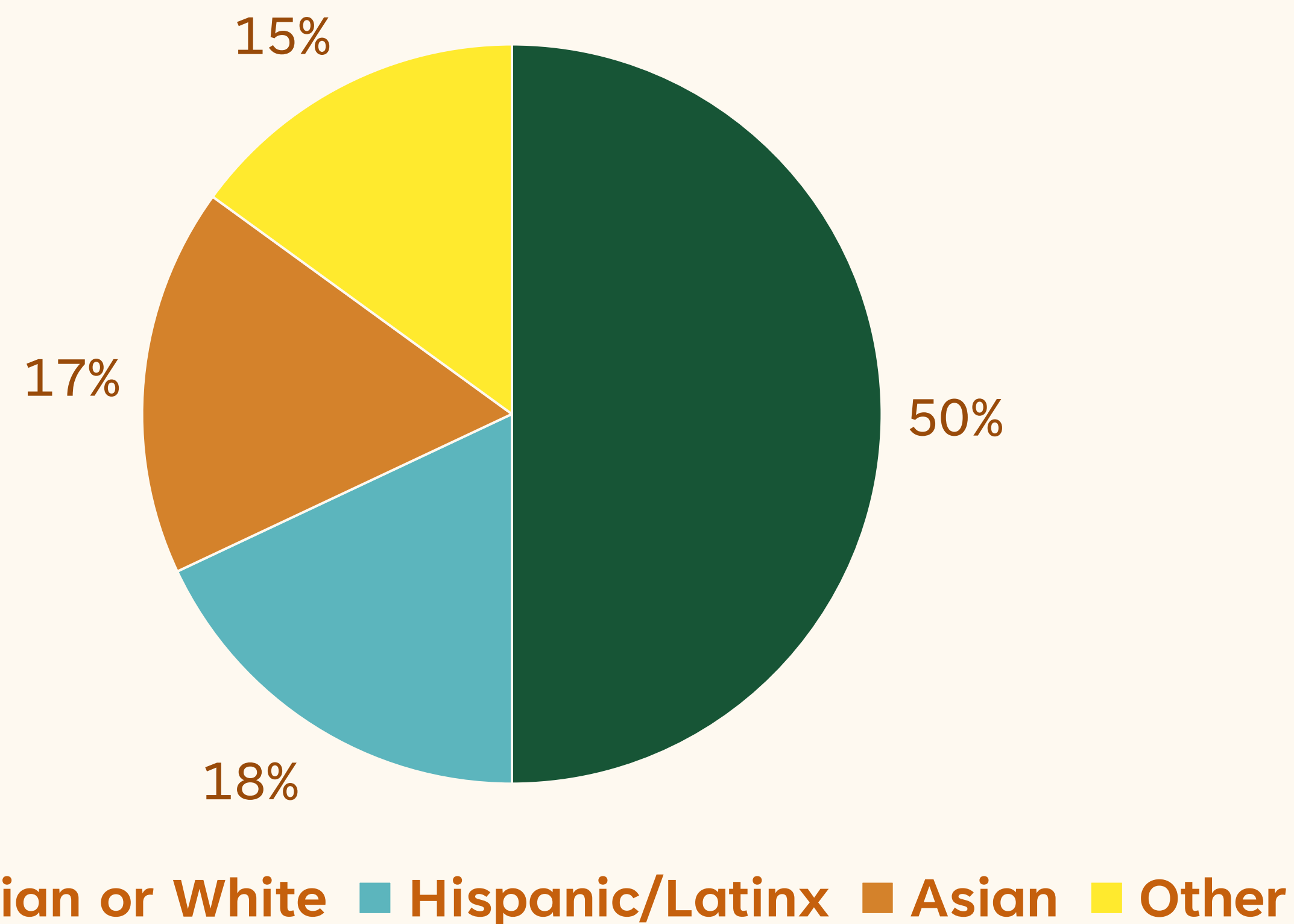
- Approx. 30 participants



## Preliminary Findings & Recommendations

- Primarily locals
- 87% visited Sign Hill before
- 87% adults over 35

# Community Outreach



## TOP COMMUNITY PREFERENCES FOR SIGN HILL

CURRENT FEATURES LIKED	IMPROVEMENT FEATURES DESIRED	MOST IMPORTANT CHARACTERISTICS
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Views and scenery</li><li>2. Walking Trails</li><li>3. Native flora and fauna</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Trail enhancements</li><li>2. Signage to identify habitats and plant/animal species</li><li>3. More seating areas</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Natural beauty</li><li>2. Sustainability &amp; conservation</li><li>3. Opportunities for exercise</li></ol>

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## Preliminary Findings & Recommendations

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# Community, Park and Recreation Commission Feedback

- Improving wayfinding
- Interpretive signage and programs (stewardship ethic)
- Safety improvements and signage
- Add benches along steep sections of trails
- Improve trail accessibility



# Next Steps

- **Refine** trail reroute alternatives and prioritize restoration locations.
- **Prepare** draft Open Space Management Plan.
- **Host town hall event** for community input.
- **Prepare** final Open Space Management Plan.
- **Present** final plan to Parks & Recreation Commission and City Council for adoption.



# Thank You!

QUESTIONS / COMMENTS?

SOUTH  
SAN FRANCISCO  
THE INDUSTRIAL CITY