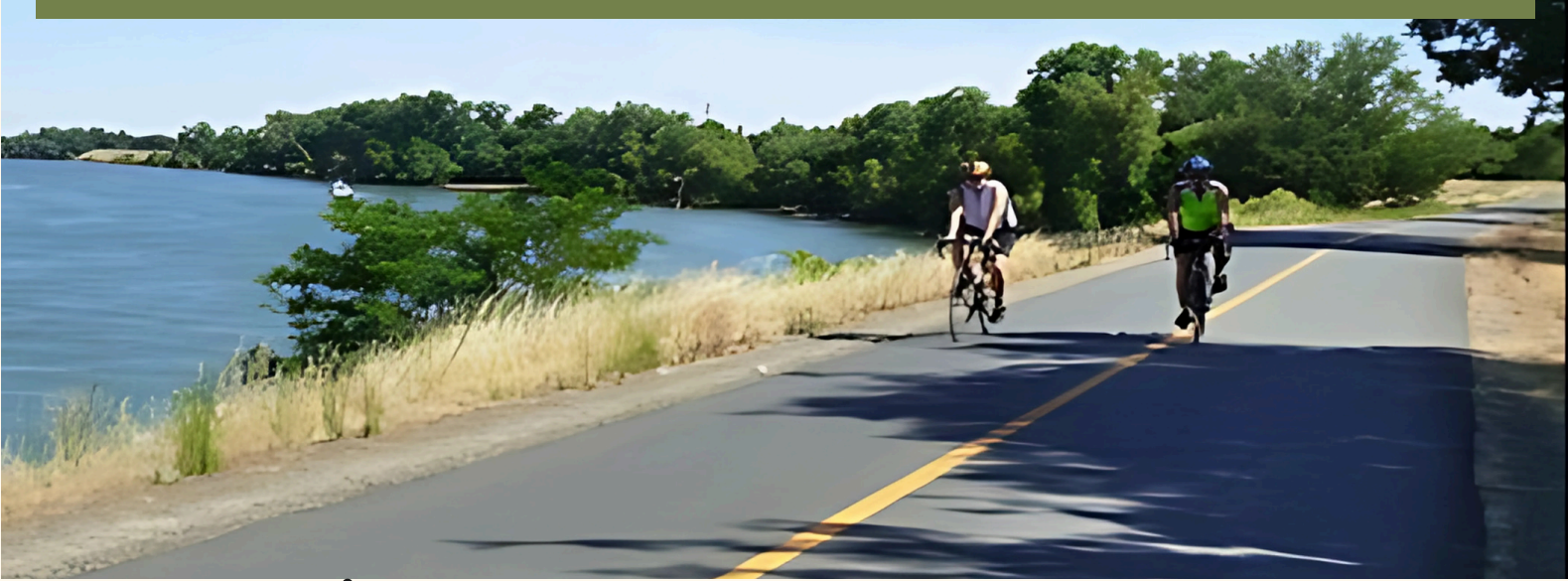


**SACRAMENTO RIVER
PARKWAY
PROJECT**

**DRAFT PARKWAY
SAFETY PLAN**



INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND



Introduction & Background

The City of Sacramento is proposing to construct a segment of the Sacramento River Parkway multi-use trail, along the top of the east levee of the Sacramento River, within the Pocket-Greenhaven neighborhood. The vision for a continuous levee-top trail along the Sacramento River was approved by City Council in 1975 with the Sacramento River Parkway Plan, then confirmed with an update in 1996, and again the American River and Sacramento River Parkway Implementation Plan in 2012.

The project limits are between Garcia Bend Park and Zacharias Park, and will include neighborhood access ramps for bicyclists and pedestrians to get to the trail.

Along the southern part of the community, newer residential developments were built providing public access easements along the top of the levee. The City constructed a multi-use trail south of Garcia Bend Park in 2000, extending to the Freeport Regional Water Facility.

Towards the northern parts of the community, older homes were built with private ownership extending to the river. These properties provide easements on the levees for flood control and maintenance purposes, but typically did not provide public access easements.

To construct the project's levee-top trail, right-of-way (ROW) acquisition for public access easements will be required. Many of the older homes with private ownership along the proposed trail alignment are built closer to the levee, and residents are concerned about potential safety challenges associated with introducing public access behind their homes. This Safety Plan has been developed to document the approach to maintaining public safety along the new trail.

PARKWAY SAFETY PLAN OVERVIEW

What is a Safety Plan?

The Sacramento River Parkway Safety Plan outlines a framework to promote public safety along the trail. This plan:

- Defines the **roles and responsibilities** of public agencies, law enforcement, and other stakeholders in maintaining safety along the trail corridor. Page 3
- Identifies the relevant codes, ordinances, and enforcement mechanisms for **preventing and removing unauthorized activity from the Parkway, on public and private property**. Page 5
- Highlights **safety strategies for the Sacramento River Parkway** that will be incorporated into the project design. Page 6
- Identifies **optional strategies for residents** that adjacent homeowners may choose to implement, to further support a safe and respectful environment between private property and the public trail. Page 9

For the purposes of this document, “unauthorized activity” includes not only illegal activities that would be enforceable anywhere in the city, but also specific activities associated with the use of the proposed trail and adjacent property, including trespassing and loitering after park hours.

The levee-top trail runs through areas in which the surrounding parcel is public-property (typically owned by the City of Sacramento), and on planned public access easements through parcels which are privately owned to the river’s edge. The mechanism of how these activities are enforced will depend on whether they occur on public or private property.

SACRAMENTO RIVER
PARKWAY

TRAIL RULES

- NO MOTORIZED VEHICLES
- NO ALCOHOL OR DRUGS
- NO SMOKING OR FIRES
- STAY ON TRAIL, RESPECT PRIVATE PROPERTY
- DO NOT ALTER OR REMOVE PLANTS OR WILDLIFE
- TRAIL HOURS DAWN TO DUSK
- USE TRAIL AT OWN RISK

Report Unauthorized Activities to
(916) 808-1349

COMMUNITY PARTNERS IN TRAIL SAFETY

The following entities play an important public safety role on the trail:

Park Rangers

The Sacramento River Parkway trail will be designated as a “parkway”, and the City’s Park Rangers will be responsible for patrol of the trail. Park Rangers enforce city ordinances, state codes and, in partnership with the Sacramento Police Department, respond to emergency and non-emergency calls for service.

Sacramento Police Department

While the Park Rangers have jurisdiction over the Parkway, the Sacramento Police Department (SacPD) provides support to the Park Rangers and will respond to more significant incidents on the trail.

Incident Management Team

The City of Sacramento’s Incident Management Team (IMT) coordinates resources to address homelessness, bringing together the Department of Community Response, SacPD, SacFire, and other departments. The IMT responds to 311 calls and manages coordinated encampment responses.

Department of Youth, Parks & Community Enrichment

The Department of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment (YPCE) oversees the city’s parks and parkways. YPCE will develop the rules and regulations for activities along the parkway including signage to promote safety along the trail systems.

Public Works Department

The Parking Division will be responsible for enforcing any parking restrictions at the access points, as recommended to discourage overnight Parkway usage.

Community Members

Trail users and residents can play a critical role in observing and reporting problems on the trail, including the support from volunteer civilian bike patrols (utilized on other trails in Sacramento). Signage and tools for can help facilitate this by making it easy and convenient.



PREVENTING AND REMOVING UNAUTHORIZED ACTIVITY FROM THE PARKWAY

Public Safety Enforcement on Public Property

The new multi-use trail will be designated as a “Parkway,” establishing enforceable hours of use and allowing both Park Rangers and the Sacramento Police Department to enforce ordinances on public property and within easements.

Parkway Classification

City Code 12.72.010 – “Parks” means and includes all parks, parkways, medians, pedestrian malls, plazas, greenbelts, gardens, lakes, and any other property owned or controlled by the city, including structures thereon and off-street parking areas that are used in connection therewith, that are operated or maintained for passive or active recreational purposes. The term “park” also includes any property owned or controlled by the city as open space, including undeveloped sites for future parks.

Parks Ordinances that Apply to The Parkway:

- Hours (Sacramento City Code (SCC) 12.72.090)
*Parkway will be closed from dusk to dawn**
- Restrictions on Alcohol (SCC 12.72.060E)
- Restrictions on Smoking (SCC 12.72.135)
- Possessions of weapons (SCC 12.72.060L)
- Littering/Dumping (SCC 12.72.060S)
- Starting/Maintaining Fires (SCC 12.72.060T)
- No Motorized Vehicles (SCC 12.72.060V)
- No Camping (SCC 12.72.060W)

Park signage will direct users to stay on the trail.

*After hours restrictions do not apply to people in transit – commuting bicyclists may use the trail during dark hours, so long as they have appropriate bicycle lighting.



How to Request Assistance

Who can call for enforcement or assistance?

Anyone, including residents, trail users, or the general public.

Who should you call?

For non-emergencies, call 311 or use the app, or the SacPD non-emergency line (916) 808-5471.

For emergencies, call 911, or (916) 732-0100 if by cell phone.

PREVENTING AND REMOVING UNAUTHORIZED ACTIVITY FROM THE PARKWAY

Public Safety Enforcement on Private Property

In locations where the public trail goes through privately-owned right-of-way with a public access easement, the following mechanisms can be used to enforce and remove unauthorized behavior:

Illegal Camping

On February 25, 2020, City Council adopted the Protection of Critical Infrastructure and Wildfire Risk Ordinance (No. 2020-0009), which added Chapter 8.140 to the City Code. This code identifies levees (including the levee prism and a 25-foot offset) as critical infrastructure, on which it is unlawful and a public nuisance for any person to camp, occupy camp facilities, use camp paraphernalia, or store personal property.

How to Request Assistance

Who may call for enforcement?

- Anyone, including homeowners, renters, neighbors, or trail users.

What activities can be enforced under this ordinance?

- Camping, or establishment of camping paraphernalia. Violations may be enforced by the City upon 24 hours notice, but may be enforced immediately without prior notice, if the violation poses an imminent threat to public health or safety.

How to call for enforcement?

- Call 311 or use 311 app, or the SacPD non-emergency line (916) 808-5471.

Trespassing Concerns

Residents may request enforcement for nuisance behavior on private property, including loitering or entering private docks, on private property through the Trespass procedures. Applicable codes are City Code 9.16.140, or State Penal Code 602.

How to Request Assistance

Who Can Request Enforcement?

Homeowners and residents with private property extending to the river.

Enforcement Process:

1. Call SacPD's non-emergency line: (916) 808-5471.
2. An officer responds, verifies property ownership or agent status, confirms the trespasser's identity, and assists with a Notice of Trespass. (If a Notice is already on file, owner presence is not required.)
3. Officer orders the trespasser to leave.
4. If the trespasser refuses, the officer may issue a citation under City or State law.

SAFETY STRATEGIES FOR THE SACRAMENTO RIVER PARKWAY

The following section identifies strategies proposed to be incorporated as part of the development of the Sacramento River Parkway Project:

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

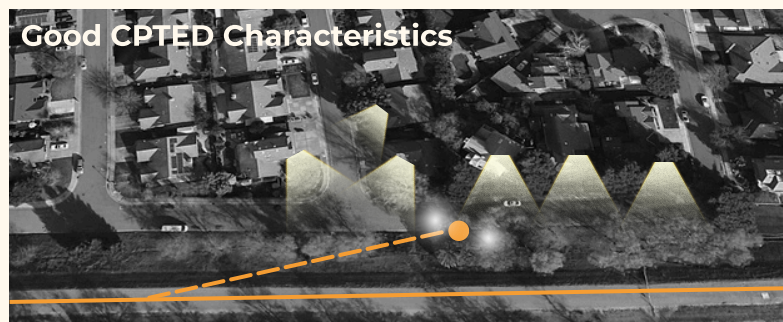
CPTED (pronounced “sep-ted”) identifies basic principles to deter crime through intentional design of public spaces, private spaces, or buildings. The alignments and designs of the neighborhood access ramps apply two of the key principles:

Natural Surveillance

Potential criminals are unlikely to attempt a crime if they are at risk of being observed, and users are likely to feel safer when they can see and be seen. The locations and designs of the neighborhood access ramps are intended to provide open lines of sight from trail users and from the adjacent street. The installation of lighting is not allowed on the levee trail, however, lighting will be provided at and adjacent to access points.

Activity Support

Criminal and unwanted behaviors can be discouraged in public spaces when those spaces are active with residents, visitors, and other legitimate users. Along the Sacramento River, potential criminal elements could previously use the levee to enter private property with minimal risk of being seen, but a well-used public trail may discourage illicit activity



This location has clear lines of sight from the trail and from the street. The presence of homes facing the trail give an impression of “eyes on the trail”.



This location has obstructed lines of sight from the street and from the trail

SAFETY STRATEGIES FOR THE SACRAMENTO RIVER PARKWAY PROJECT, cont.

Monitoring

Police Observation Device (POD) cameras were initiated by the Sacramento Police Department in 2014 at select intersections and have proven to be a successful investigative tool for officers and detectives. These cameras run 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and work as a crime deterrent. The recordings can be used to identify stolen vehicles, missing persons and felony warrants, and provide police with evidence of illicit behavior.

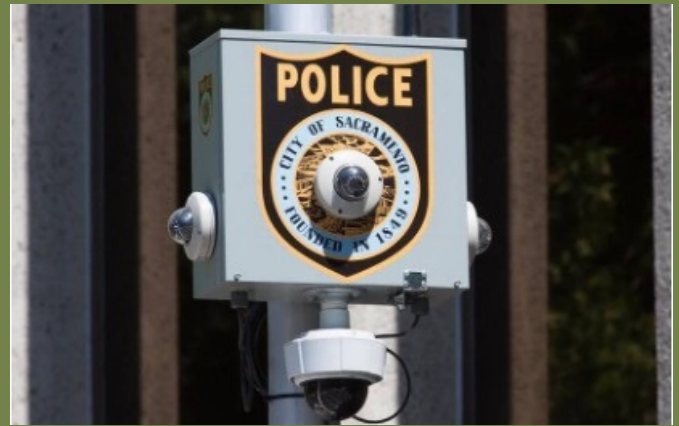
The number of PODs that will be installed will be determined during final design and are planned for implementation at access points and along the trail.

Parking Restrictions

The 1997 Sacramento River Parkway Plan Update identified “Major Access Points” with vehicle access and parking facilities at Garcia Bend Park and Zacharias Park. The “Neighborhood Access Points” to be constructed with this project at North Point Way, Audubon Circle, and Country River Way are intended to serve pedestrians and bicyclists and will not encourage parking. This will be mitigated as follows:

- Red Curbs at Access Points – This will keep views of the access ramps open for safety and prioritize use for local residents.
- Signage to direct visitors in cars to Garcia Bend Park for parking facilities.
- Time Restrictions and/or Resident On-Street Parking Permits – On-street parking can be limited to Parkway hours or even restricted for non-residents. This will be coordinated with the residents living near the access point, and may be revised after initial implementation, based on feedback from the community.

Note that in both cases, there is an opportunity to revise the approach once implemented, based on feedback from the community.



This is an example of a POD installed by the Sacramento Police Department.

Promoting Courteous Behavior

YPCE is in the process of developing signage for etiquette for multi-use trails, to establish a consistent message on how to share and use the space. This could include guidance on the appropriate side for walking, leash policies for dogs, and how to safely pass other bicyclists.

YPCE is also evaluating ordinances or regulations on speeds and/or capacity for e-bikes. Other signage will include the rules of the Parkway, with direction to stay on the trail.



Example of trail courtesy signs used by Sacramento County Regional Parks

SAFETY STRATEGIES FOR THE SACRAMENTO RIVER PARKWAY PROJECT, cont.

Civilian Trail Patrols

Visible civilian patrols can help deter unauthorized behaviors, and provide assistance to trail users in need. The National Ski Patrol includes a Bike Patrol program, which provides specialized safety training for patrollers. The City is in the process of developing agreements with the American River Bike Patrol to extend their patrols to city trails, including the Sacramento River Parkway. The Bike Patrol serves as trail ambassadors, providing assistance to trail users and promoting trail safety. Patrollers are certified in first aid and CPR, are equipped to assist with emergency bike repair, and serve as “eyes on the trail” with the ability to report illicit activity to the Park Rangers and SacPD.



Visual Cues for Limits of Public Space

Trail posts and signage are proposed along the top of the levee to define the boundary of the public trail and reinforce private property and habitat areas. The exact location and design of the posts will be developed through coordination with the flood control agencies.



Access for Public Safety Vehicles

Maintenance and emergency vehicles can currently access the levee at a number of locations along the Parkway, although these access points are not managed or maintained by the City. The new access points with this project are intended to accommodate emergency vehicles, minimizing first responder response time.



OPTIONAL STRATEGIES FOR RESIDENTS

The following section identifies optional strategies which homeowners and residents may choose to implement:

Supplemental Lighting on Fences

The City cannot obtain permitting to place lighting on the levee. Residents are, of course, allowed to maintain a fence, subject to special constraints as determined by flood control agencies. Motion sensing lighting and/or cameras can be placed on the fences to deter and detect unwanted activities.



Landscaping

Landscaping (and opaque fencing) is limited within a certain distance of the toe of levee in order to facilitate levee inspection. For some properties, it may be feasible to install landscaping for additional privacy.

Signage

Property owners may consider posting “no trespassing” signage in order to deter trespassing and facilitate enforcement. This allows officers to charge with Trespassing under California Penal Code 602(k). SacPD recommends signage to be no smaller than 8.5”x11”, with the words “No Trespassing, Private Property” at a minimum. Additional language may include “Stay On Trail. No Trespassing Off Trail Allowed.”

