





An aerial photograph of a river valley. The river flows through a rocky bed, surrounded by steep, hilly terrain. The hills are covered in a mix of green trees and dry, yellowish-brown grass. A large, dark rock formation is visible on the left side of the river. In the foreground, a dirt road and a railway track run parallel to the river. A large green circle is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the title text.

THE GREAT REDWOOD TRAIL

Virtual Workshop
April 4, 2023



AGENDA

1. Introductions 
2. Project Overview & Trail Vision
3. Trail Best Practices
4. Trail Experience 
5. Economic Development & Trail Towns 
6. Questions & Discussion 



**Activities &
Discussion**



PROJECT TEAM



Louisa Morris
California State
Coastal Conservancy



Simone Nageon de Lestang
California State
Coastal Conservancy



Jeff Knowles
Alta Planning + Design



Donny Donoghue
Alta Planning + Design

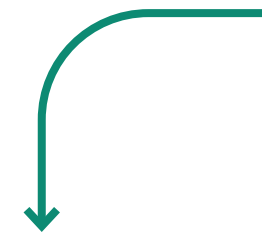
NEED TO LEAVE EARLY?

► Visit the project website, includes:

- ◆ Project information & FAQ
- ◆ Online survey
- ◆ Interactive webmap
- ◆ Events schedule
- ◆ Comment box



Check out the website to stay involved and provide additional input!



GreatRedwoodTrailPlan.org





WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES

ZOOM POLLS

We will have polls throughout the presentation.

MENTIMETER

We will use a website called mentimeter to do interactive exercises throughout the presentation. You will be able to engage on your computer or smartphone.

Q&A

Submit questions using the Q&A feature within zoom. The team will respond to questions at the end of the presentation.



**HOW DO YOU FEEL
ABOUT THE GREAT
REDWOOD TRAIL?**



TRAIL VISION

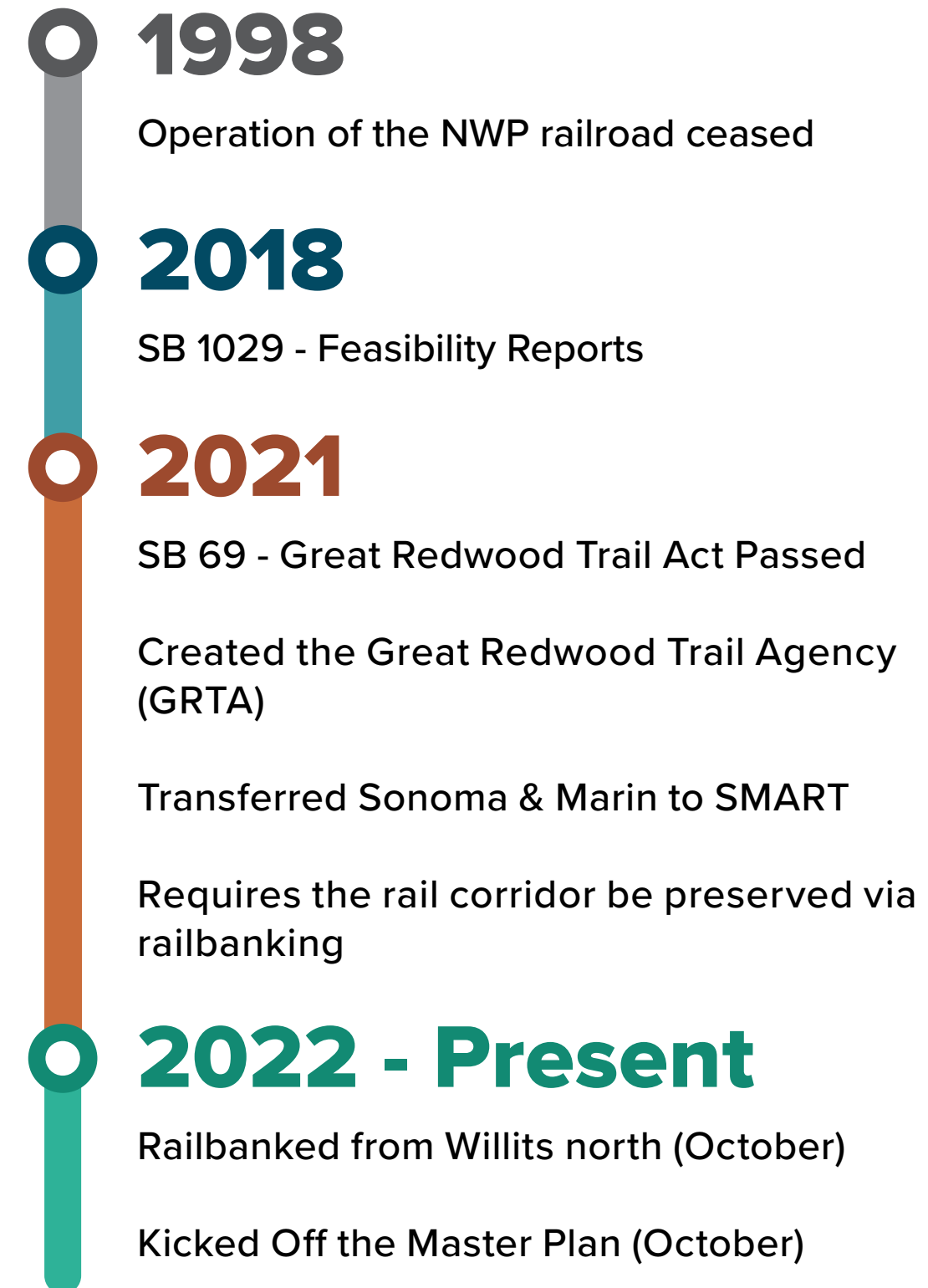
WHAT IS THE GREAT REDWOOD TRAIL?

- ▶ 316 mile rail-trail from San Francisco Bay to Humboldt Bay along a historic rail corridor
- ▶ Connect Marin, Sonoma, Mendocino, Trinity, and Humboldt Counties
- ▶ Scenic landscapes include:
 - ◆ Old growth redwood forests
 - ◆ Oak woodlands
 - ◆ Vineyards and wineries
 - ◆ Scenic Rivers
 - ◆ Eel River Canyon
 - ◆ Humboldt Bay
- ▶ Network of trails that meet local needs



TRAIL VISION

HOW DID WE GET HERE?



TRAIL VISION

WHAT IS A RAIL TRAIL?

- ▶ Multi-use public paths created from former railroad corridors
- ▶ Model used across the world
- ▶ Over 25,000 miles in the US with over 1,000 miles in CA
- ▶ Rail trails support:
 - ◆ Recreation & Tourism
 - ◆ Economic development in towns and rural areas
 - ◆ Commuting
 - ◆ Environmental restoration



TRAIL VISION

A NETWORK OF TRAILS

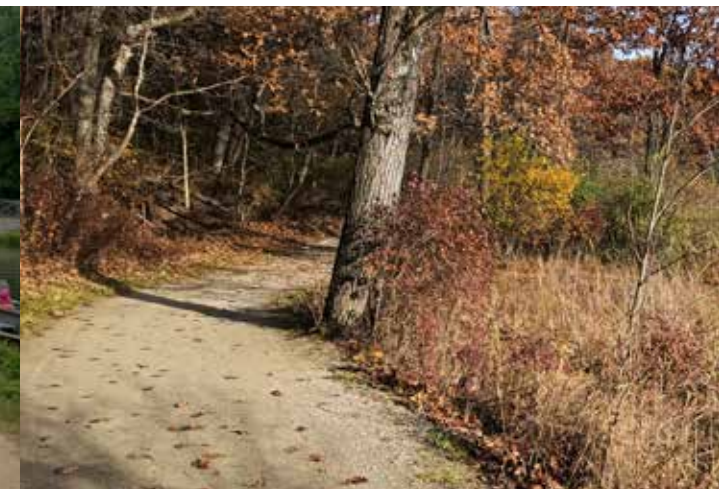
- ▶ No “one-size-fits-all” approach, the trail will vary based on context and environmental conditions
- ▶ Three general types of trail include:
 - ◆ **Backcountry Trail:** single-track trail constructed with bare earth material found on-site
 - ◆ **Crushed Stone Multi-use Trail:** compacted stone, with enough width for pedestrians, cyclists, and equestrians
 - ◆ **Paved Multi-use Trail:** concrete or asphalt, with enough width for areas of high user demand



Backcountry Trail



Crushed Stone Multi-use Trail



Paved Multi-use Trail



TRAIL VISION

WHAT IS A MASTER PLAN?

- ▶ A high-level roadmap for Mendocino, Trinity, and Humboldt Counties that will provide guidance on:
 - ◆ Operations & maintenance
 - ◆ Trail design
 - ◆ Cultural & natural resource protection
 - ◆ Habitat restoration
 - ◆ Project prioritization
 - ◆ Funding sources

TRAIL VISION

WHAT IS A MASTER PLAN?

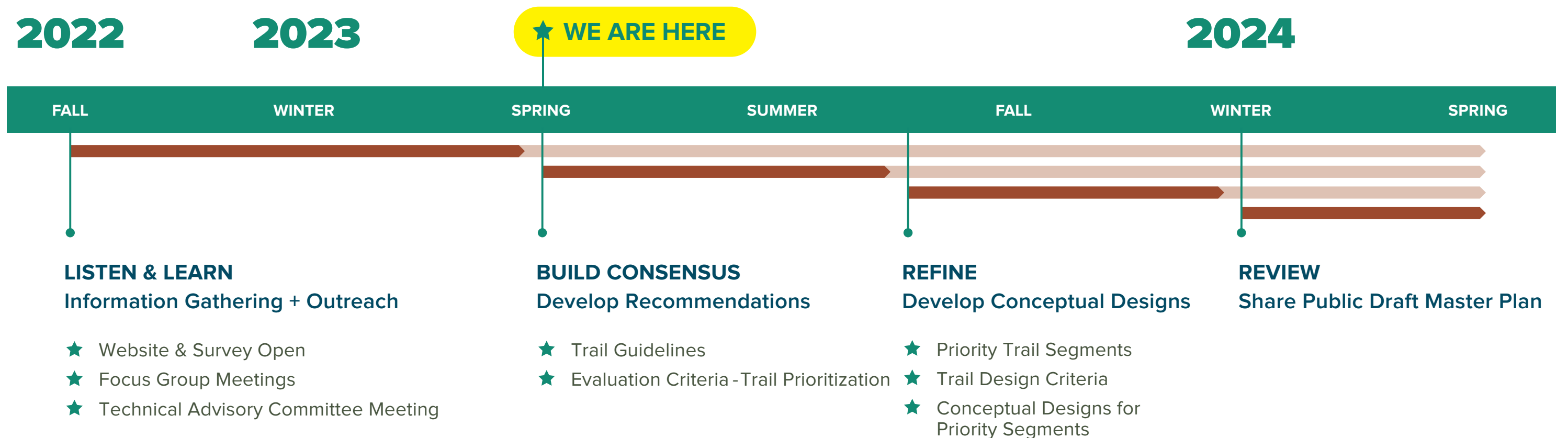
- ▶ The project team is consulting a wide range of people including:
 - ◆ Tribes
 - ◆ First Responders
 - ◆ Business Owners
 - ◆ Local Leaders
 - ◆ Farming & Ranching Community
 - ◆ Forestry and Parks Professionals
 - ◆ Adjacent landowners
 - ◆ Trail Users
- ▶ The Master Plan will also be informed by:
 - ◆ In-person and virtual community meetings
 - ◆ Tabling at events in your community
 - ◆ Survey and mapped input from project website



Fortuna Workshop on March 22nd

TRAIL VISION

MASTER PLAN SCHEDULE



TRAIL BEST PRACTICES



BE GOOD NEIGHBORS

- ▶ Research has shown that trail users stay on designated trails
- ▶ The master plan will identify management strategies for:
 - ◆ Cleanliness and safety
 - ◆ Desirable activities
 - ◆ Signage and landscape buffers
 - ◆ Patrols and emergency response



RESPECT OUR WORKING FARMS & VINEYARDS
EXPECT AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES & KEEP CLEAR
STAY WITHIN TRAIL BOUNDARIES (PETS, TOO)
PREVENT SPREAD OF NON-NATIVE SPECIES
EELIMINATE ALL TRACE & TRASH (FROM PETS, TOO)
CHECK YOUR NOISE LEVELS
TAKE RESPONSIBILITY AND REPORT PROBLEMS

AGRESPECT.ORG

Case Study

AG RESPECT PROGRAM

Education about agricultural uses and respect for adjacent spaces on the Napa Vine Trail

TRAIL BEST PRACTICES



SUPPORT FIREFIGHTING ACCESS AND EMERGENCY ACCESS

- ▶ The trail can support emergency response by:
 - ◆ Serving as a firebreak
 - ◆ Providing emergency vehicle access to remote areas
 - ◆ Building partnerships to address fire and safety issues
 - ◆ Restricting and managing campfires



Case Study

SONOMA COUNTY TRAILS

In Sonoma County, trails have been used as fire breaks to protect neighboring communities from major fires.

TRAIL BEST PRACTICES



PROTECT AND RESTORE THE ENVIRONMENT

- ▶ The trail design can address negative impacts from rail use and abandonment, including:
 - ◆ Restoring natural ecosystems and fish and wildlife habitats
 - ◆ Restoring creeks and fish passage
 - ◆ Protecting Native American cultural heritage sites
 - ◆ Removing abandoned rail equipment
 - ◆ Restoring bridge and tunnel structures



Case Study

ELK RIVER RESTORATION & TRAIL

114 acres of Elk River estuary restoration while constructing one of the most recent sections of the Great Redwood Trail.

TRAIL BEST PRACTICES



CREATE AN INVITING TRAIL EXPERIENCE

Operations & Maintenance

- ▶ Well-maintained trails reduce crime and create safe recreation experiences
- ▶ The operations and management plan will include:
 - ◆ Routine maintenance for trailheads and restrooms
 - ◆ Trail rules and regulations
 - ◆ Nuisance abatement procedures



Case Study

LA RIVER RANGERS PROGRAM

Program employs trained staff and youth to patrol trails to provide safety monitoring and cleanup along the LA River Greenway.

TRAIL BEST PRACTICES



CREATE AN INVITING TRAIL EXPERIENCE

Crime Prevention Through Trail Design

- ▶ The greatest deterrent to crime is creating a trail that is actively used
- ▶ Strategies include:
 - ◆ Well-lit and highly visible trailheads and access points
 - ◆ Design elements, such as benches, interpretive panels, and public art
 - ◆ Regular programming, including community events and races
 - ◆ Overlapping uses, including visitor-serving businesses on the trail



Case Study

CV LINK

Highly visible access points with lighting, wayfinding, and amenities with anti-graffiti coating for easy maintenance.

TRAIL BEST PRACTICES



CREATE AN INVITING TRAIL EXPERIENCE

Patrols & Enforcement

- ▶ The master plan will include enforcement strategies such as:
 - ◆ Coordinating with law enforcement
 - ◆ Exploring patrol options
 - ◆ Creating a standard mile marker system to allow for quick emergency response



Case Study

APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONSERVANCY “RIDGERUNNERS”

Volunteers and staff patrol the trail, providing assistance and reporting issues.

TRAIL BEST PRACTICES



PROACTIVE APPROACH TO HOMELESSNESS

- ▶ Most critical for sections of the trail in developed communities
- ▶ Solutions may include:
 - ◆ Working closely with homelessness outreach programs and agencies
 - ◆ Designing standards for the trail that minimize unauthorized camping
 - ◆ Providing active programming and events
 - ◆ Regular patrols and trail managers to contact when necessary



Case Study

SAN JOSE DOWNTOWN STREETS TEAM

City of San Jose worked with the police and Conservation Corps to provide a coordinated patrol and cleanup of trails.

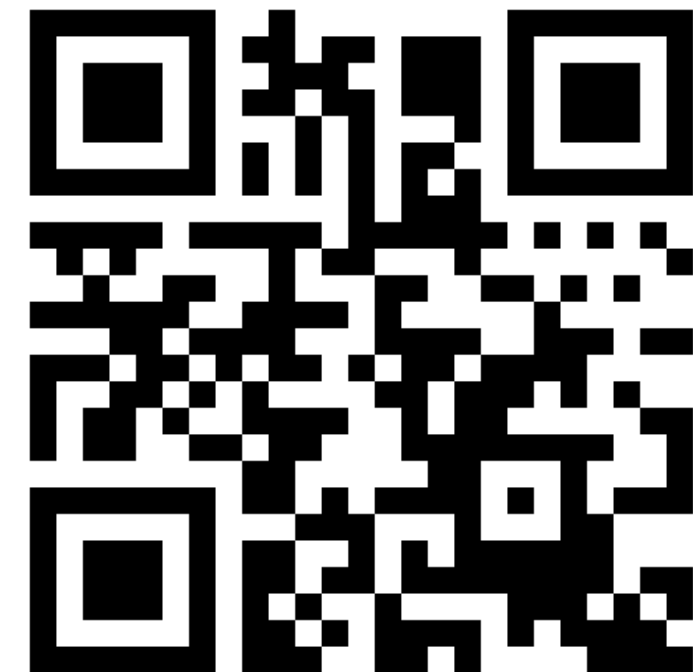


BEST PRACTICES DISCUSSION

- ▶ What are you most concerned about?
- ▶ What ideas or solutions are you most excited about?

Mentimeter Exercise

To participate, please please go to **bit.ly/GRTVote** or use the QR code below on your smartphone or computer.





WHAT TRAIL FEATURES ARE MOST IMPORTANT TO YOU?

Campgrounds



River Access & Boat Launches



Public Art



Rest Area & Overlooks



Restrooms



Educational Elements



Shade



Landscape & Ecology



TRAIL EXPERIENCE

HOW DO YOU WANT THE GREAT REDWOOD TRAIL TO LOOK AND FEEL?

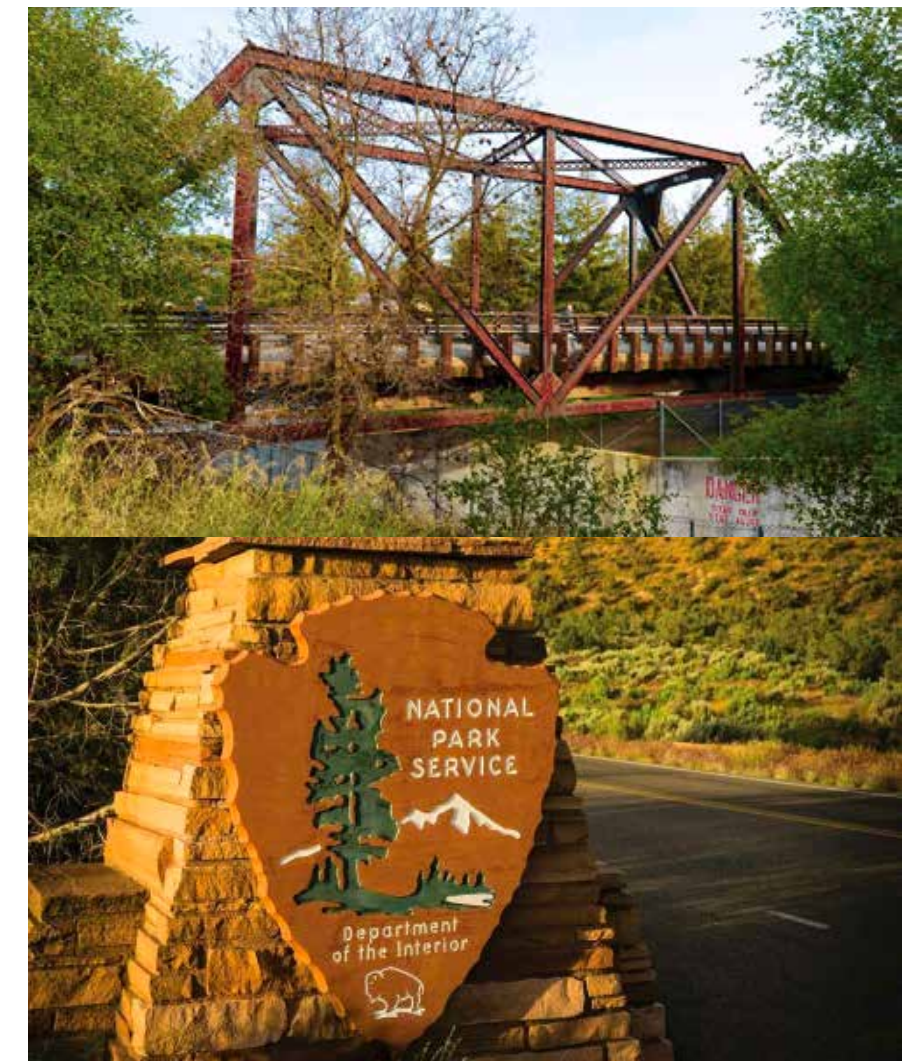
Vibrant Culture



Green & Blue Ribbon



Passage Through Time



TRAIL EXPERIENCE

HOW DO YOU WANT THE GREAT REDWOOD TRAIL TO LOOK AND FEEL?

Vibrant Culture

- ▶ Embrace the culture and character of each community along the trail
- ▶ Bold public art and space for local events



TRAIL EXPERIENCE

HOW DO YOU WANT THE GREAT REDWOOD TRAIL TO LOOK AND FEEL?

Green & Blue Ribbon

- ▶ Connect the corridor by celebrating local ecology and hydrology
- ▶ Use natural materials and native landscapes

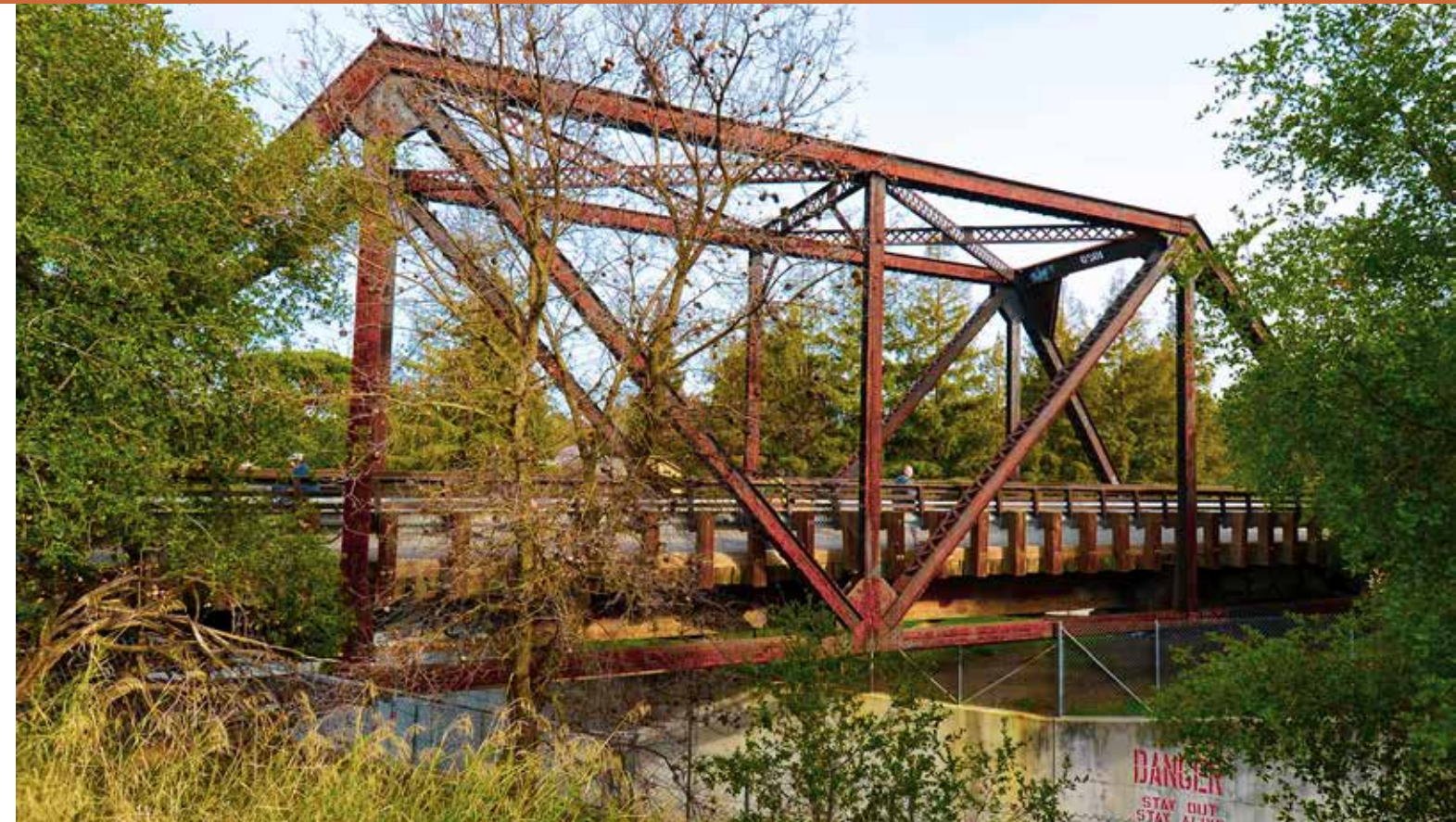


TRAIL EXPERIENCE

HOW DO YOU WANT THE GREAT REDWOOD TRAIL TO LOOK AND FEEL?

Passage Through Time

- ▶ Tell the history of the corridor through historic artifacts and materials
- ▶ Celebrate past peoples and industries of the corridor





HOW DO YOU WANT THE GREAT REDWOOD TRAIL TO LOOK AND FEEL?

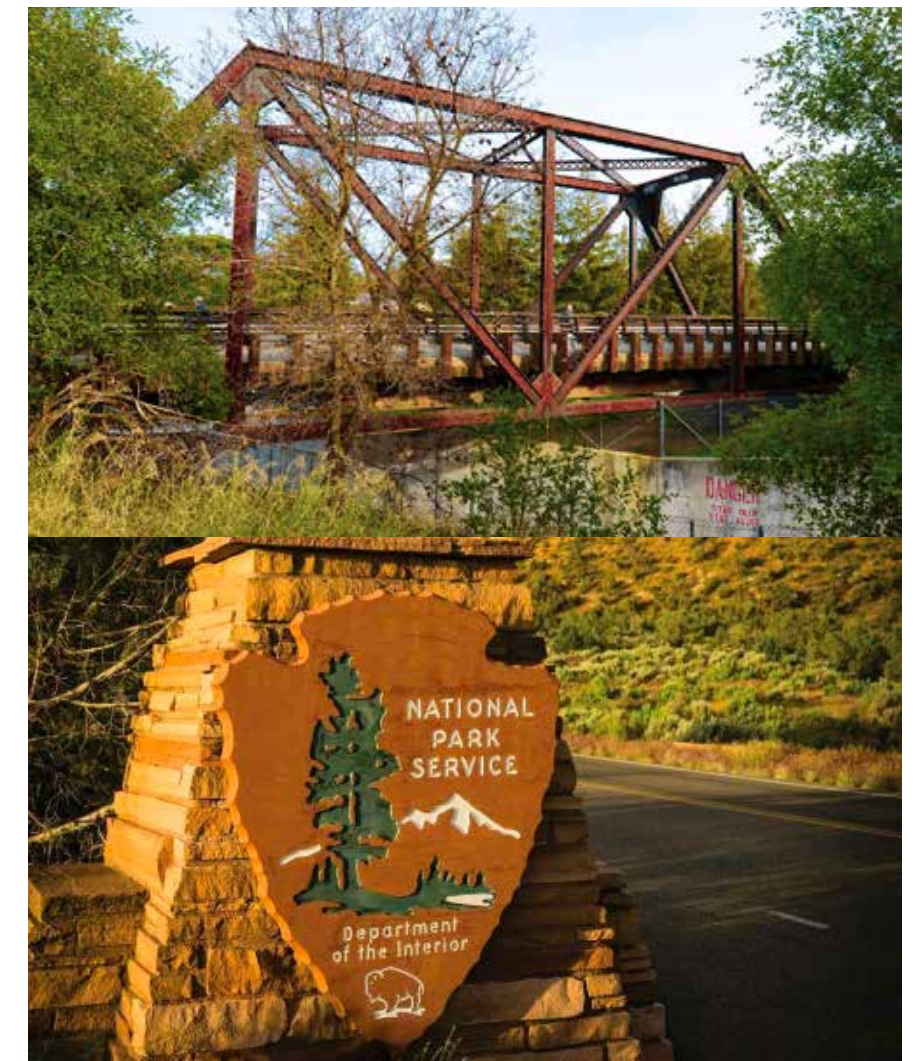
Vibrant Culture



Green & Blue Ribbon



Passage Through Time



TRAIL TOWNS

HOW WILL THE GREAT REDWOOD TRAIL CREATE ECONOMIC BENEFITS FOR MY COMMUNITY?

- ▶ The Great Redwood Trail will be a transformational economic engine in Northern California
- ▶ For the completed trail, the following are expected annually:
 - ◆ 6.1 to 9.2 million trips
 - ◆ 33% of trips on the trail from visitors outside the region
 - ◆ \$102,568,000 in total benefits

RECREATION AND TOURISM BENEFITS

\$62,693,000 annual revenue

Revenue from 2.1 to 3.1 million trips by non-local visitors that will go towards lodging, restaurants, rentals, and retail.



HEALTH BENEFITS

\$38,455,000 annual savings

Health care cost savings from increased exercise, reduced rates of illness, and improved community health.



TRANSPORTATION BENEFITS

\$2,420,000 annual savings

Cost savings from reduced car travel and more walking and biking trips for errands, school, and leisure.

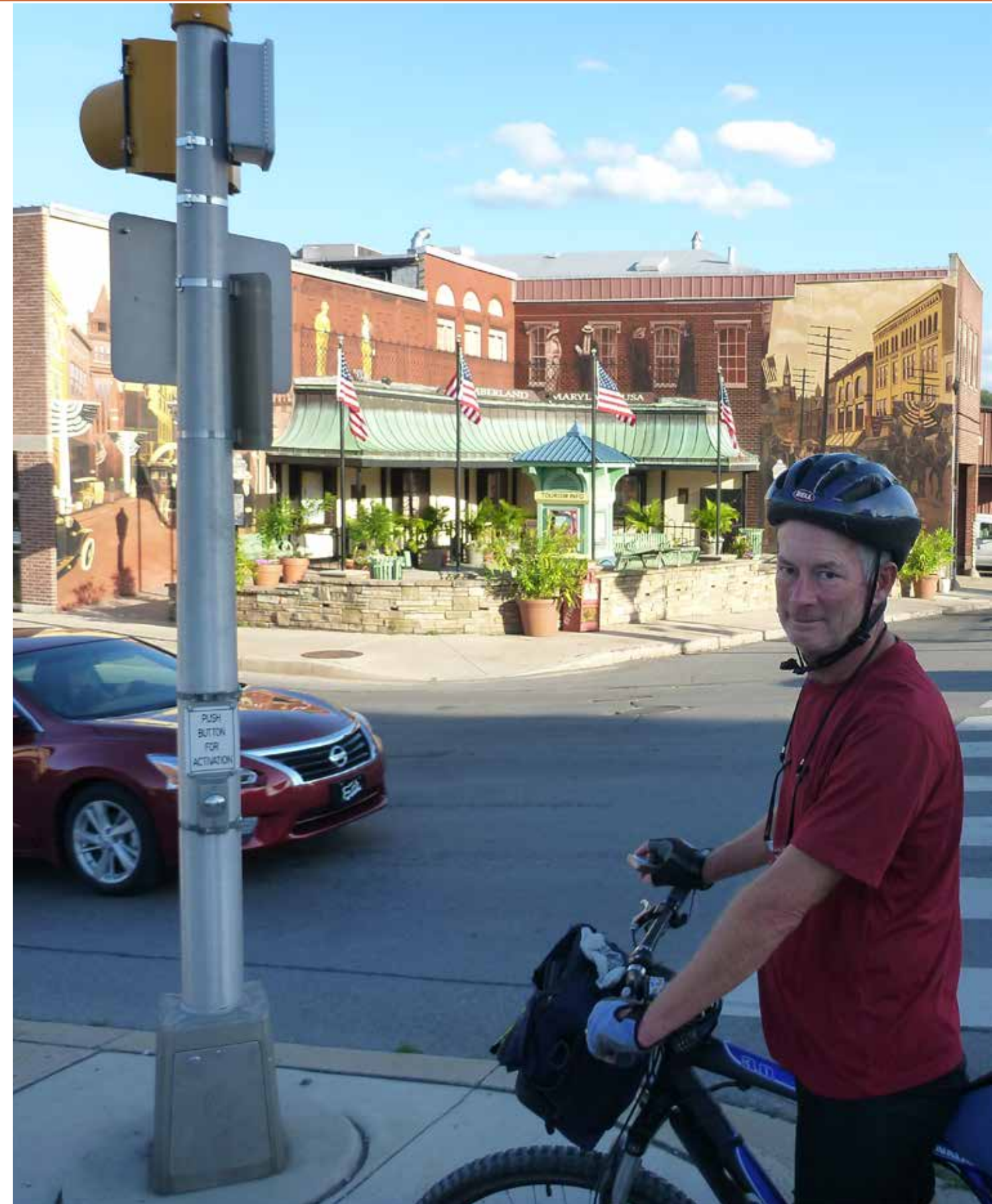


\$102,568,000 total annually

TRAIL TOWNS

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

- ▶ Expansion of existing businesses near the trail
- ▶ New businesses to cater to trail users including:
 - ◆ Restaurants, cafes and coffee shops
 - ◆ Retail shops and outfitters
 - ◆ Hotels, B&Bs
 - ◆ Equipment



TRAIL TOWNS

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

- ▶ Attract existing businesses
- ▶ Development and revitalization of depressed areas
- ▶ Agritourism such as:
 - ◆ Cannabis or vineyard farm tours
 - ◆ Farm stays
- ▶ Private campgrounds from adjacent landowners



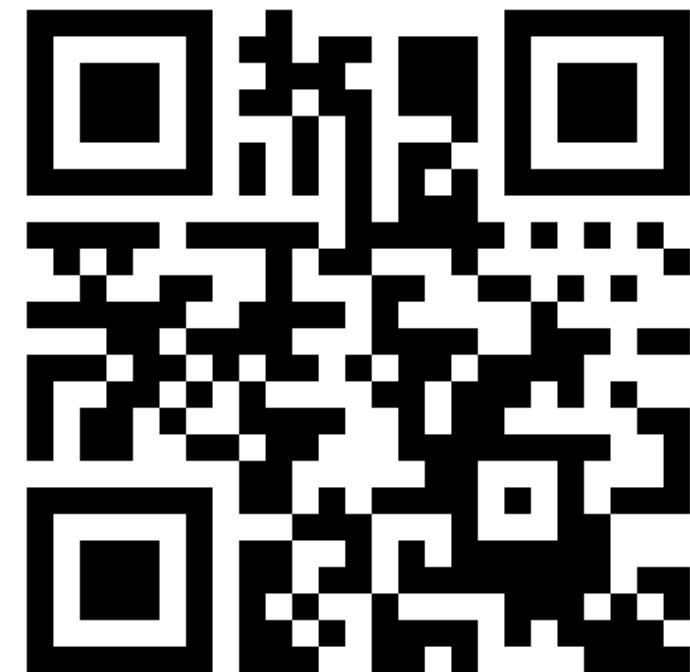


TRAIL TOWN DISCUSSION

- ▶ Where are you from, and what makes your community a special place to visit?
- ▶ What type of businesses would benefit from the trail?

Mentimeter Exercise

To participate, please please go to **bit.ly/GRTVote** or use the QR code below on your smartphone or computer.





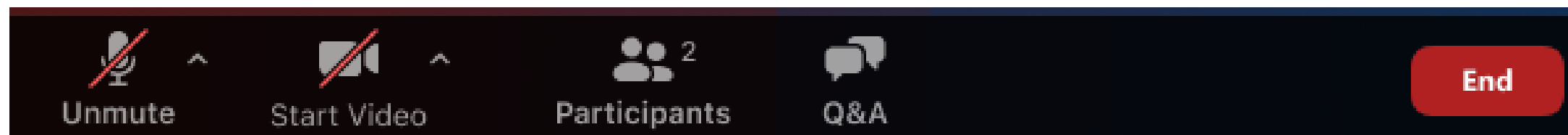
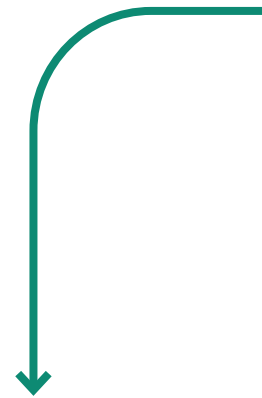
**HOW DO YOU FEEL
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DISCUSSION

Q&A

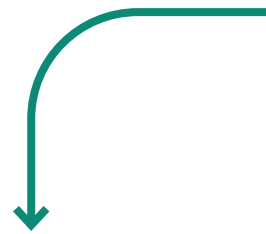
Use the Q&A button
on your Zoom
screen to submit a
question!



DISCUSSION

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

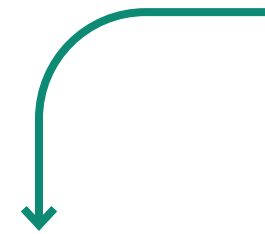
Check out the website
to stay involved and
provide additional input!



GreatRedwoodTrailPlan.org



Use the comment form
on the project website or
leave us a voicemail at:
(707) 440-9445



Contact Us

Name *

Email *

Question, comment, or feedback *

SUBMIT

A scenic landscape featuring a river flowing through a valley, surrounded by hills and a large rock formation. A green circle is overlaid on the image, containing the text "THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!".

**THANK
YOU FOR
ATTENDING!**