



# **Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority**

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## **Sacramento Update**

September 17, 2024

Michael Boccadoro &  
Beth Olhasso



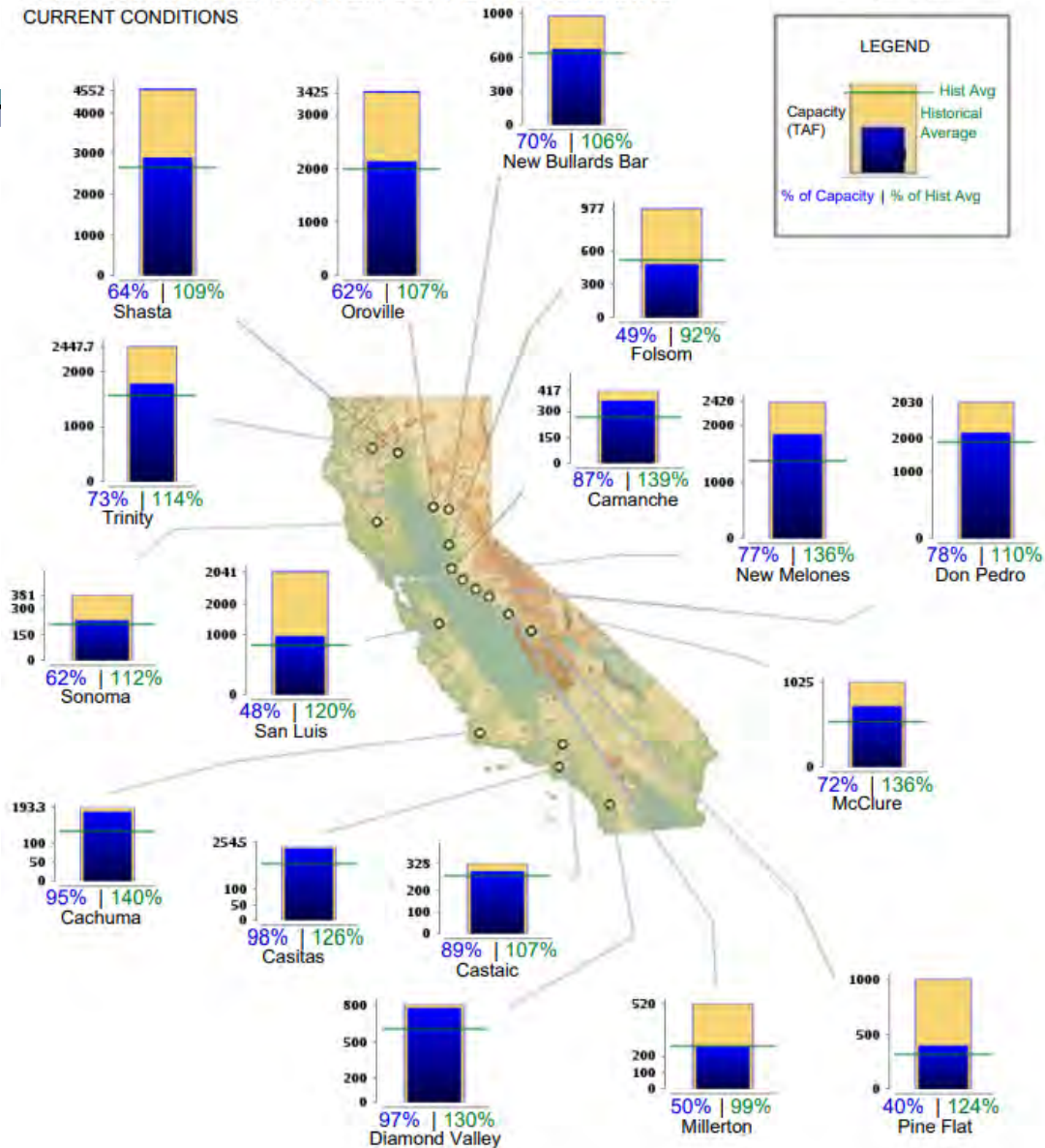
**West Coast Advisors**  
*Strategic Public Affairs*

# Drought/Water Supply Update

## CALIFORNIA MAJOR WATER SUPPLY RESERVOIRS

Midnight - September 12, 2024


CURRENT CONDITIONS



# Legislative Update- Bills

- 
- Two-Year Session Ended August 31
  - Water Supply Bills
    - SB 366 (Caballero) CA Water Plan: long-term supply targets
    - AB 460 (Bauer-Kahan) Water Rights
    - SB 1390 (Caballero) Flood Flow Diversion
  - PFAS
    - SB 903 (Skinner) CASA & NRDC ban all non-essential uses of PFAS by 2034
  - Connection & Capacity Fees:
    - SB 1210 (Skinner)
    - SB 937 (Weiner)
    - AB 1820 (Schiavo)

# Legislative Update- Cont.

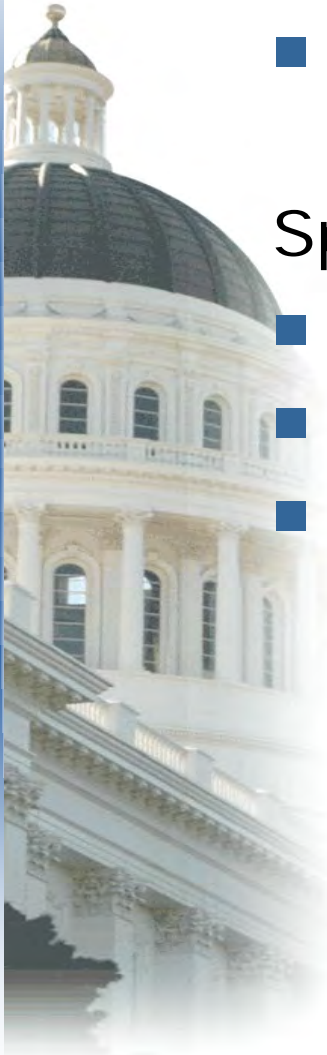
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- Water Use Efficiency
    - SB 1110 (Ashby) Urban Water Use Efficiency
    - SB 1330 (Archuleta) Urban Water Use Efficiency
    - AB 3120 (Heart) Urban Water Use Efficiency
  
  - Groundwater
    - AB 2079 (Bennett) Groundwater Wells

# Legislative Update- Budget


- Passed June 30- closes \$45B shortfall

## Specifics for SAWPA

- \$74.4m for recycled water(\$100M reverted)
- \$24M for PFAS support.
- Watershed Climate Resilience: Maintains \$133M, but reduced 2024-25 & 2025-26 allocations by \$298M.



# Other Regulatory Updates

- 
- Urban Water Use Efficiency Regulations
    - Finalized July 3
    - Delay implementation of standards by 5 years
  - Agreements to Support Healthy Rivers & Landscapes (Voluntary Agreements)-DWR, USBR & water agency partners responded to SWRCB questions.
  - SWRCB adopted Hexavalent Chromium MCL: 10 parts per billion
  - MWELo: Third draft released in August- Sept 9 comment period.
  - DPR regulations go into effect 10/1

**Thank You**



**Questions?**



SANTA ANA WATERSHED  
PROJECT AUTHORITY

# Santa Ana River Trail and Parkway Update

Commission Meeting  
Item No. 7.A  
Ian Achimore  
Senior Watershed Manager  
September 17, 2024



# Recommendation

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- Receive and file.

# Original Purpose of Santa Ana River Trail and Parkway (SARTP) Partnership

- In 1976, the Secretary of Interior deemed portions of the trail in Orange and San Bernardino counties as the “Santa Ana River National Recreational Trail”
- In 2000, the Santa Ana River Symposium backed by the Wildlands Conservancy, National Park Service, and San Bernardino County was held
- In 2006, a MOU was executed to facilitate planning, project implementation, reporting and accountability between SAWPA, the three counties along the Santa Ana River, and the Wildlands Conservancy
- Through the MOU, a policy advisory group (PAG) of elected officials was created, as well as a technical advisory committee of staff.
  - The MOU has been extended two times and expired per direction from PAG in 2018.

- In 2014, Senate Bill 1390 created the Santa Ana River Conservancy (SARCON) which is taking an active role in SARTP completion.
- SARCON (administered by the California Coastal Conservancy), is charged with developing a SARTP implementation plan and creating an Advisory Group comprised of local leaders that have decision-making authority.
- SARTP Implementation Plan was released in 2018 with feedback from SAWPA, member agencies, counties, cities, non-profits and state/federal agencies.

# New Purpose of SARTP Partnership



# About the Advisory Group

- The Advisory Group, which meets quarterly and has no limit to the amount of members, provides two major functions:
  - Provides local decision-making authority and expertise to guide the Coastal Conservancy as the State agency implements the SARTP Plan and funds various projects that have been highlighted in the SARTP Plan.
  - Provides feedback and information to the Legislature on SARTP funding or assistance as well as existing projects underway.

SARTP Plan Cover



# Advisory Group Members (Approved April 2024)

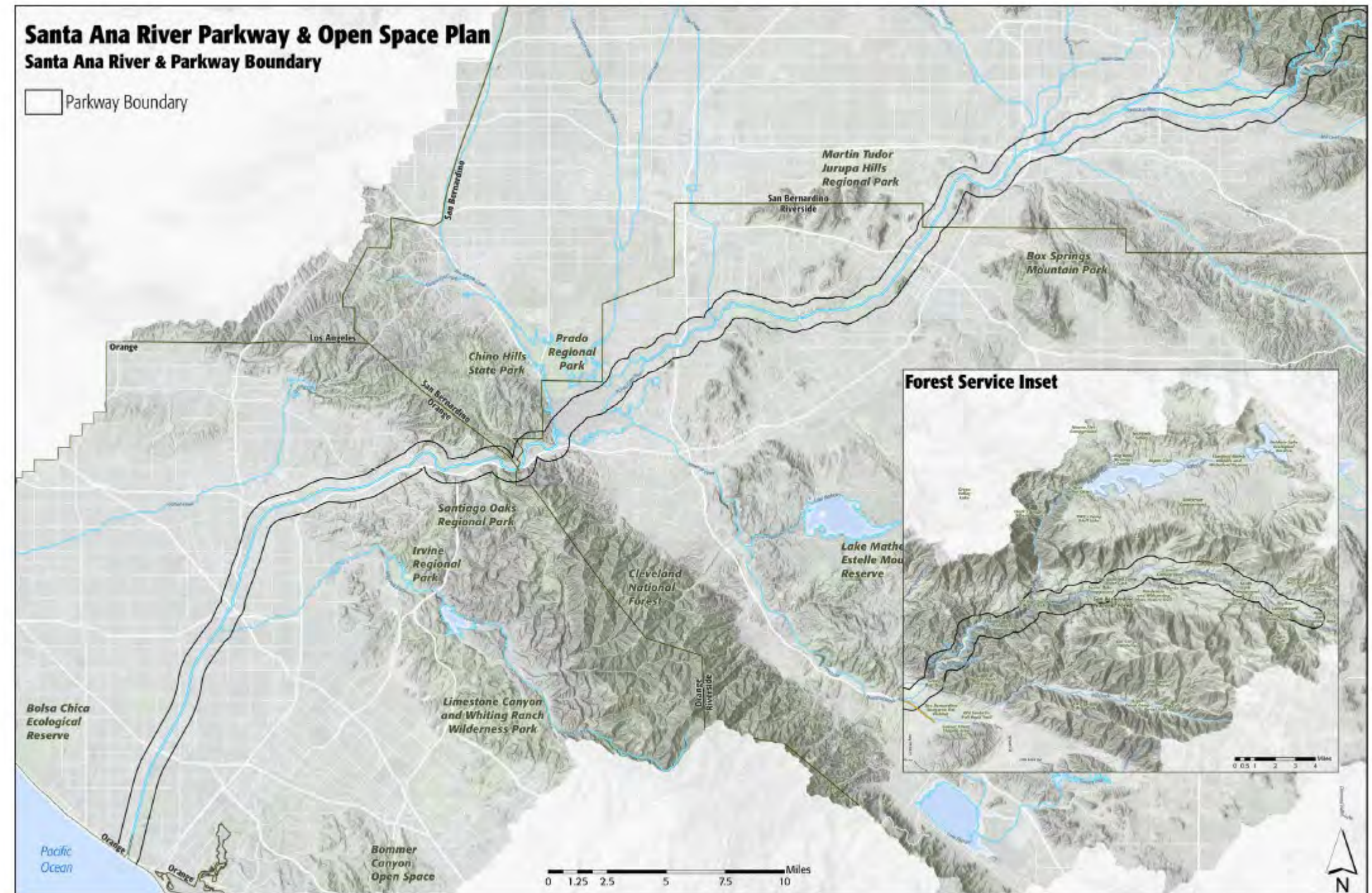
Advisory Group (AG) Member	Title	Representing
Patricia Lock Dawson, Chair of AG	Mayor	City of Riverside
T. Milford Harrison, Vice Chair of AG	Commissioner	SAWPA
Ray Hiemstra, Secretary of AG	Associated Director	Orange County Coastkeeper
Don Chaffe	Supervisor, 4 <sup>th</sup> District	County of Orange
Dawn Rowe	Supervisor, 3 <sup>rd</sup> District	County of San Bernardino
Karen Spiegel	Supervisor, 2 <sup>nd</sup> District	County of Riverside
Jim Steiner	Councilmember	Corona City
Erin Edwards*	Councilmember	Riverside City
Denise Davis	Councilmember	Redlands City
Stephen Faessel	Councilmember	Anaheim City
Rod Butler	City Manager	Jurupa Valley City
Beahta Davis	Director	San Bernardino Regional Parks
Pam Passow	Director	Orange County Parks
Kyla Brown	Director	Riverside Regional Parks
Frazier Haney	Executive Director	The Wildlands Conservancy
Nicole Padron	Co-Executive Director	Rivers and Lands Conservancy
Rebecca O'Conner	Co-Executive Director	Rivers and Lands Conservancy
Michael Wellborn	Board President	Friends of Harbors, Beaches and Parks

\*Not currently on City Council

# Trail and Parkway Boundary



Santa Ana River Parkway, defined as the lands within 0.5-mile of the main stem of the Santa Ana River, as shown in the Figure.



# SAWPA's Past Role

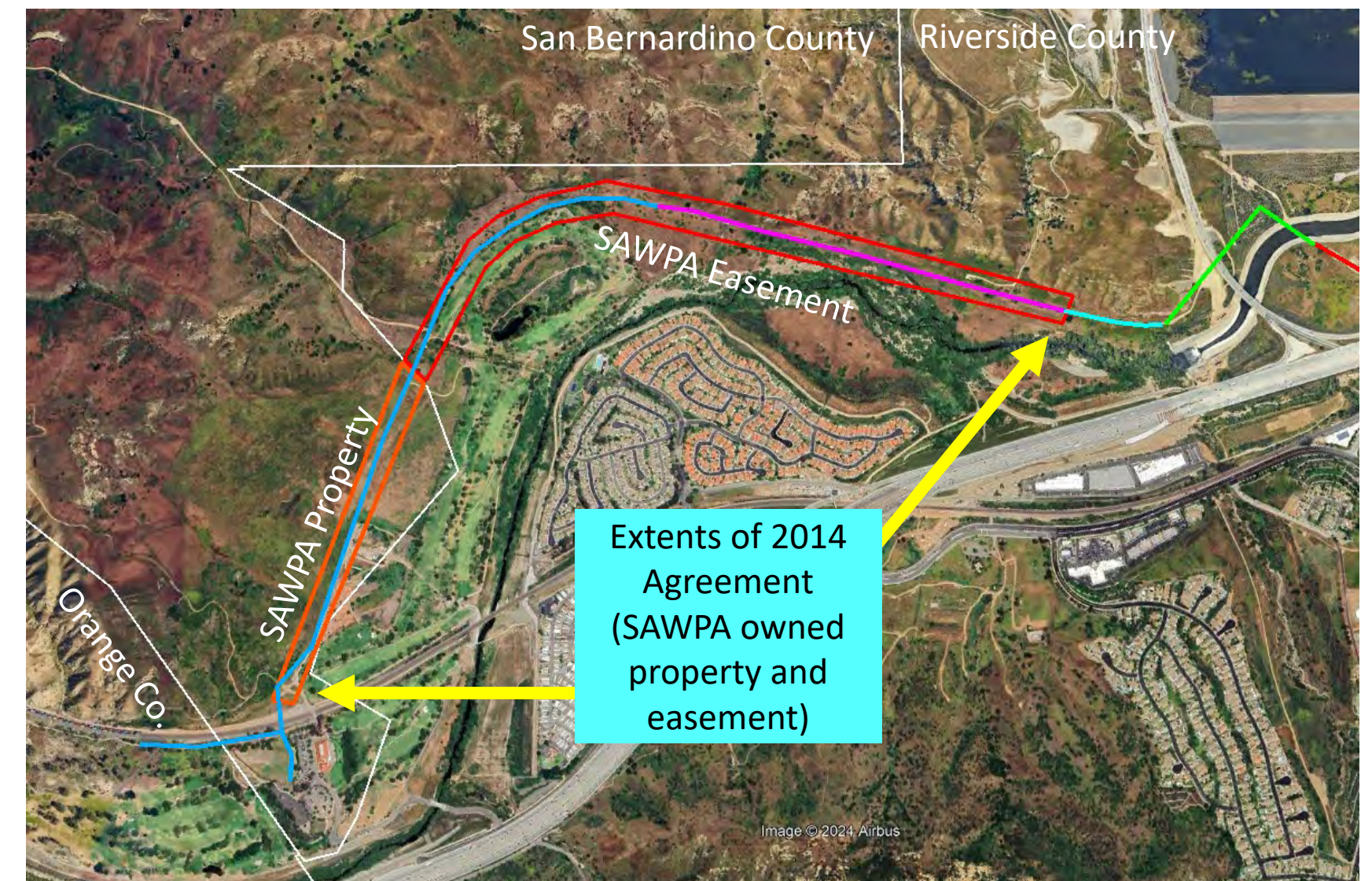
- In 2006, SAWPA hosted a website on the trail partnership.
- SAWPA worked on a recreational trails map for the entire length of the Santa Ana River.
- The staff-level workgroup coordinated on Proposition 50 grant funding in 2006. Ultimately, Riverside County Regional Parks submitted an application for a Proposition 50 grant. Grant funding was received.
- SAWPA hosted Santa Ana River Trail and Parkway staff-level workgroup meetings in 2012.



# SAWPA's Current Role

- SAWPA has a member on the Advisory Group to the Coastal Conservancy; the current member is Commissioner T. Milford Harrison of SBVMWD
- In 2014, a 25-year long operations and maintenance agreement was signed by SAWPA with RivCo Parks for the segments of the trail (see map).
- SAWPA coordinates with RivCo Parks on trail segment (shown in map as blue lines) construction.
- In 2024, the SAWPA PA 24 Committee approved staff preparing license agreements with AT&T and Southern California Edison to assist in their relocation of utilities within SAWPA property to assist with trail segment (shown in maps as blue lines) construction.

**Map of Prado/Green River Golf Course Segment of SARTP**





# Trail Segments Remaining to Be Constructed

Completion Date of Overall  
Trail To Be Determined

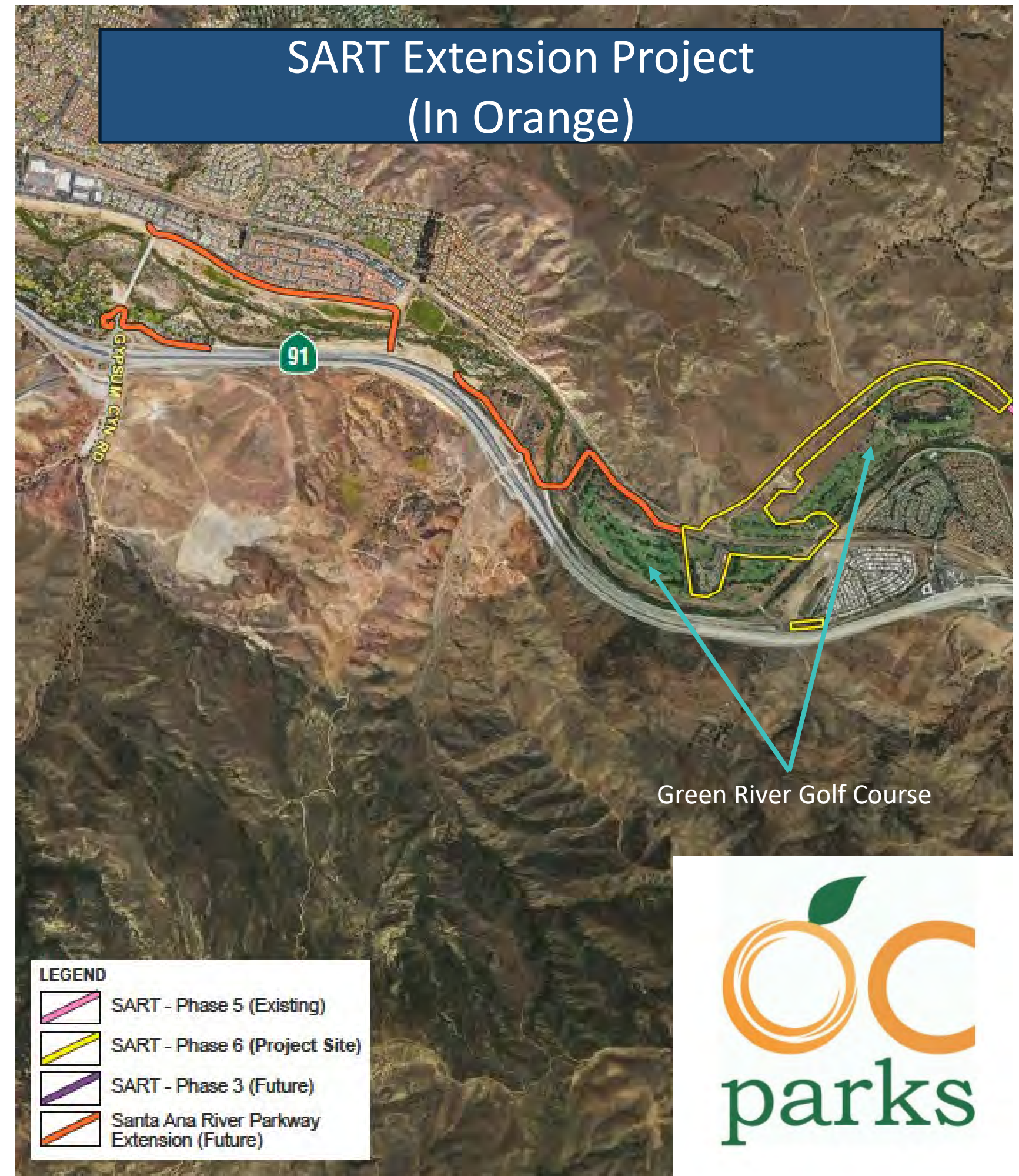
Orange County = 3 miles

Riverside County = 10  
miles

San Bernardino County =  
20 miles

# Trail Map – Orange County

- Several segments (known as the “SART Extension Project”) near Yorba Linda and the Green River Golf Course that have completed design in January 2022
- Grant application submitted by Orange County Parks on September 11, 2024, to Coastal Conservancy for \$250,000 to fund a phasing plan, updated cost estimate and regulatory permits Extension Project
- Construction schedule of Extension Project is TBD. County plans to apply for future funding for construction as well

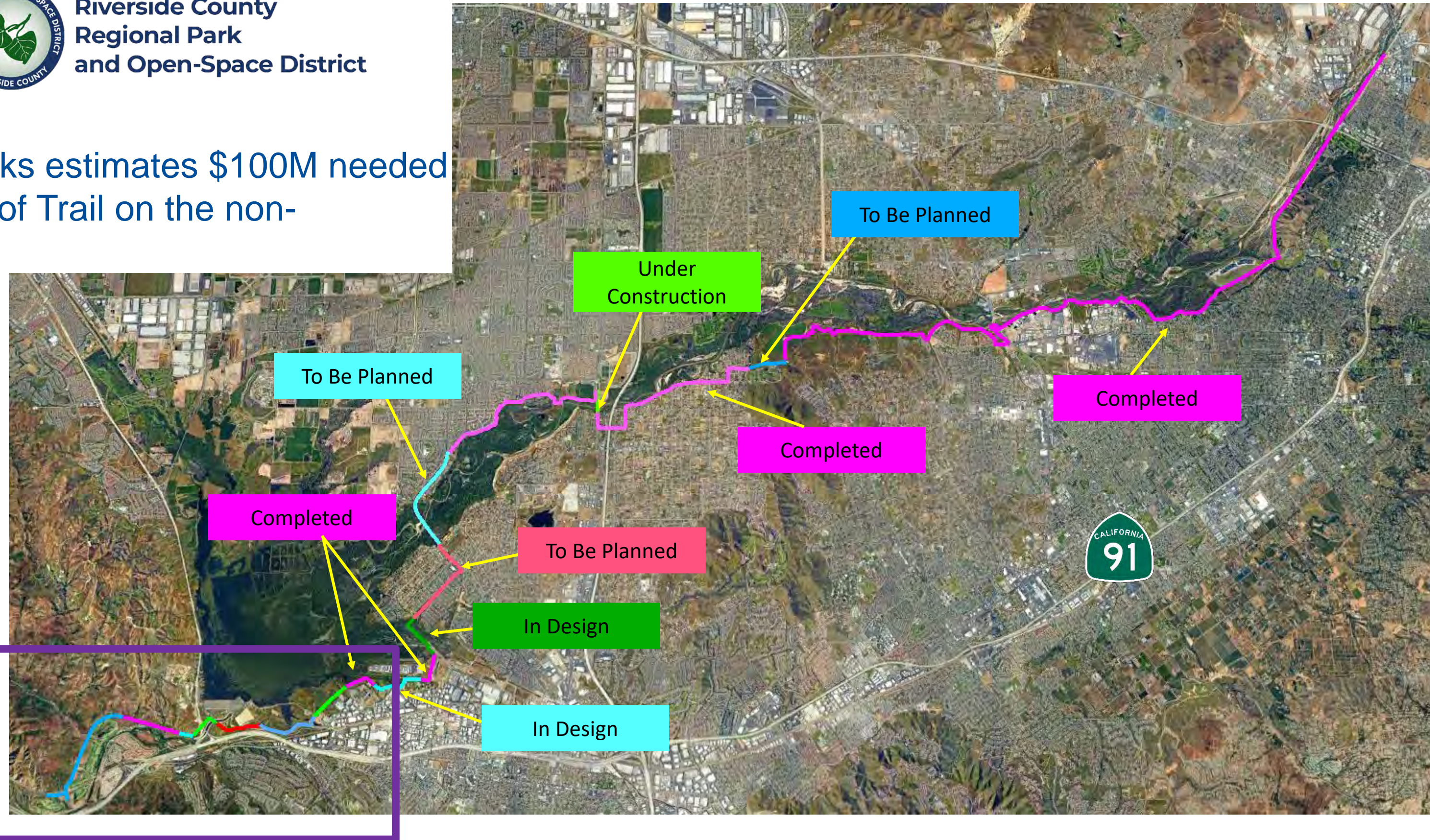


# Trail Map – Riverside County



Riverside County  
Regional Park  
and Open-Space District

Riverside County Parks estimates \$100M needed to finish construction of Trail on the non-completed segments.



More Detail on  
These Segments  
Next Slide

# Santa Ana River Trail – Prado Area



Riverside County  
Regional Park  
and Open-Space District



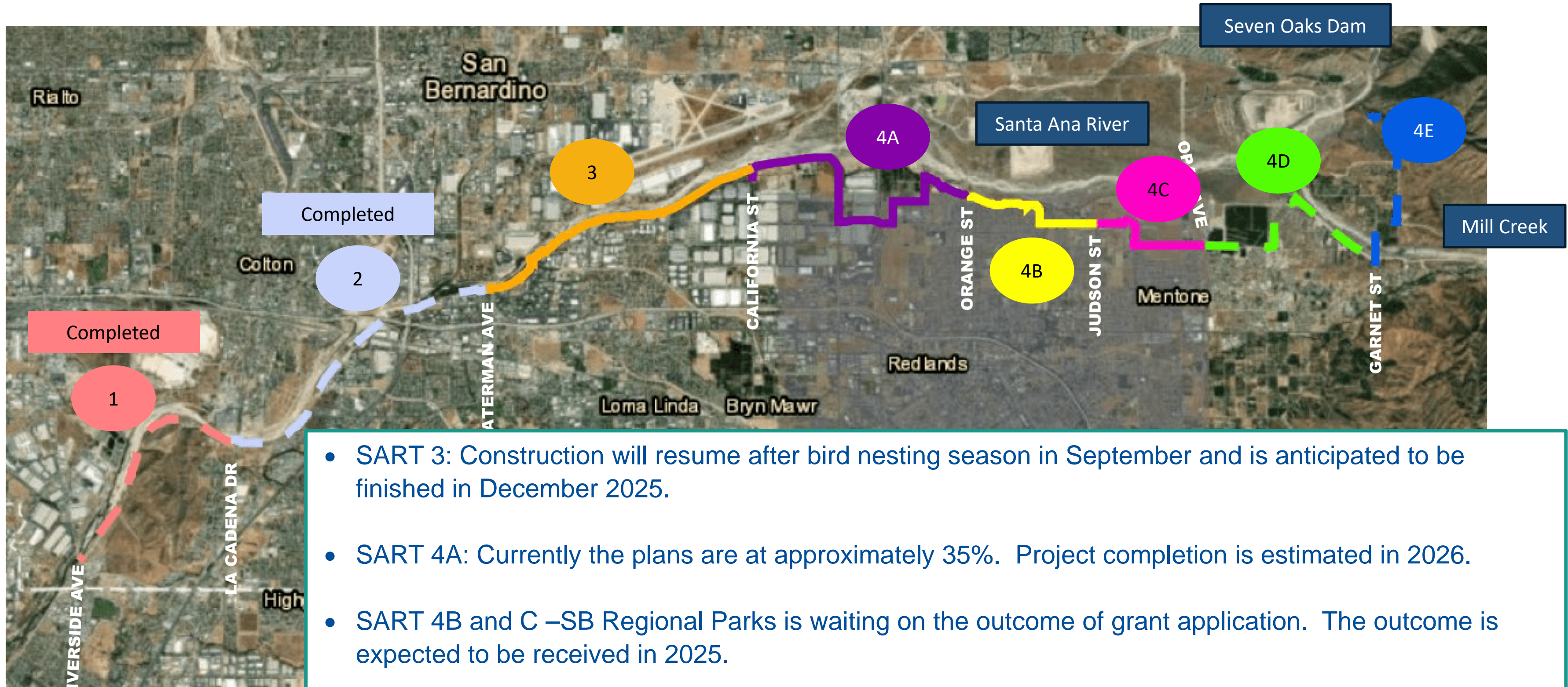
# Santa Ana River Trail – San Bernardino County

- SART 3 (3.8 miles): Construction will resume after bird nesting season in September and is anticipated to be finished in December 2025.
- SART 4A: (3.9 miles) Currently the plans are at approximately 35%. Project completion is estimated in 2026.
- SART 4B and C – (3.3 miles) SB Regional Parks is waiting on the outcome of its Active Transportation Program grant application. The outcome is expected to be received in 2025.
- SART 4D and E – No work has been started.



Santa Ana River Trail  
Groundbreaking Ceremony  
(January 31, 2024)

# Trail Map – San Bernardino County



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- SART 4A: Currently the plans are at approximately 35%. Project completion is estimated in 2026.
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# Potential Future Role for SAWPA

- Review large SARTP projects before the Advisory Group to see if there are opportunities to expand the multi-benefit aspects of the projects.
  - Often the focus of SARTP projects is public access, but SAWPA's expertise in water resources can be helpful.
- Assist with outreach to the Federal/State legislatures on SARTP funding needs.
- Assist with grant application for project implementation.
- Assist counties with coordination with property owners who are water agencies on trail construction.
- Lead development of a SARTP website. A website could provide construction updates.

**Questions?**



# Thank You

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