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City debuts new Stevens Creek trail detour

Safer path cuts through hotel property

by Mark Noack

Rarely does an improvised fix mark such a celebration. On Friday morning, the Mountain View City Council and bike enthusiasts gathered at the Stevens Creek Trail to formally open a new detour around a collapsed section of the popular path.

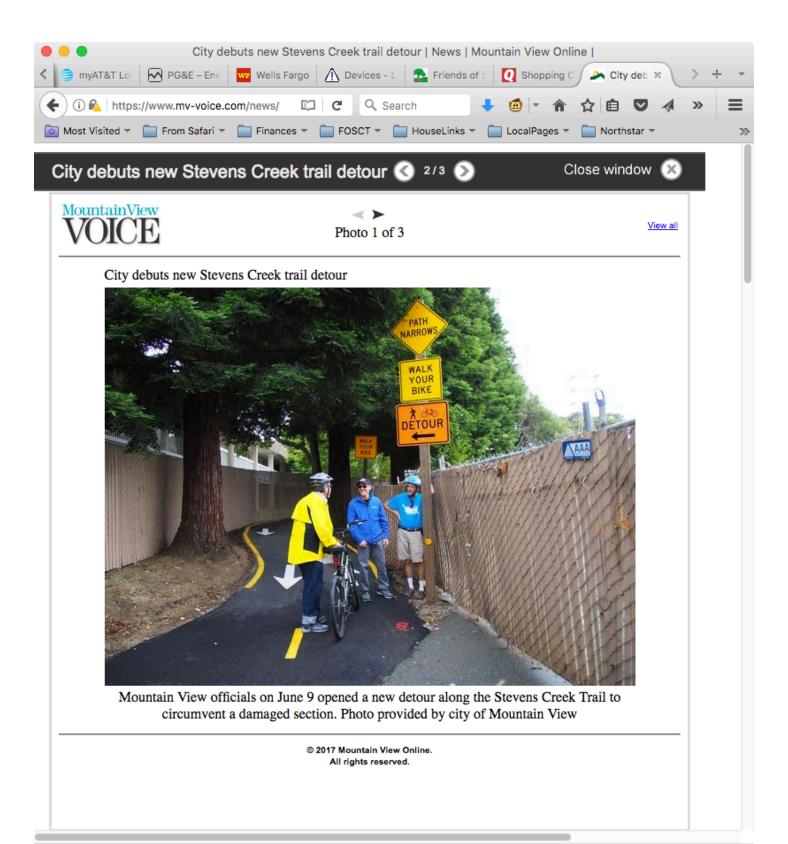
In January, a series of heavy storms caused the portion of the creek bank adjacent to the trail, between El Camino Real and Yuba Drive to collapse. Officials decided to close off the segment of the trail because it was considered too hazardous to remain in use.

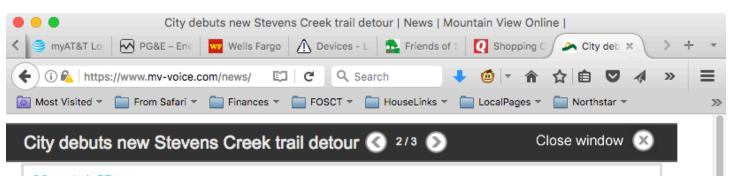
Ever since then, cyclists and commuters have been rerouted onto El Camino Real and Yuba Drive, a interim solution that officials admitted was far from ideal. Meanwhile, they worked on a better plan to redirect bicycles and pedestrians.

In April, city officials announced they had signed a deal with the Extended Stay Hotel to use a strip of property to temporarily build a new bypass around the damaged section.

Responsibility for fixing the permanent creekside trail falls to the Santa Clara Valley Water District. The water utility is still working on those plans.

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Mountain View officials on June 9 opened a new detour along the Stevens Creek Trail to circumvent a damaged section. Photo provided by city of Mountain View

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