

Uploaded: Thu, Jan 24, 2019, 1:42 pm

Police seek man suspected of groping women on Stevens Creek Trail

by Kevin Forestieri

Mountain View police are asking for the public to keep a look out for a man who reportedly groped women walking on Stevens Creek Trail twice this week.

The man is also suspected of stealing tobacco products at a Walgreens near the trail this week.

The first groping incident occurred on Monday morning around 9:30 a.m., police said. A 34-year-old Mountain View woman told police she was walking on the trail near Central Avenue when the man came up from behind and grabbed her before running away, heading northbound.

Police were later contacted by a second victim who said she was groped by a man with a similar description around 5:15 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 22. She told police she was traveling on the trail underneath Highway 85 when the man, riding a yellow bike, grabbed her from behind before riding away. A post on Nextdoor from the victim stated the man was riding a Google bike, and that he groped her backside.

The man is also believed to be the same suspect in a shoplifting case, also on Jan. 22. Police received reports that a man with no shirt had entered the Walgreens at 121 E. El Camino Real and took nearly \$100 tobacco products from the store, police said. Officers searched the area but could not find him.

The suspect is described as a black man in his 20s, 5-foot-6-inches tall with a thin build. During the first groping incident he was reportedly wearing a gray beanie and black pants, and in the second incident he was seen wearing a hat and black pants.

Police are asking anyone with information on the suspect to contact Det. Marco Garcia at marco.garcia@mountainview.gov.

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A still image of surveillance footage from Walgreens, where a man is suspected of shoplifting. The man is believed to be the same suspect in two groping incidents on Stevens Creek Trail. Photo courtesy of the Mountain View Police Department.