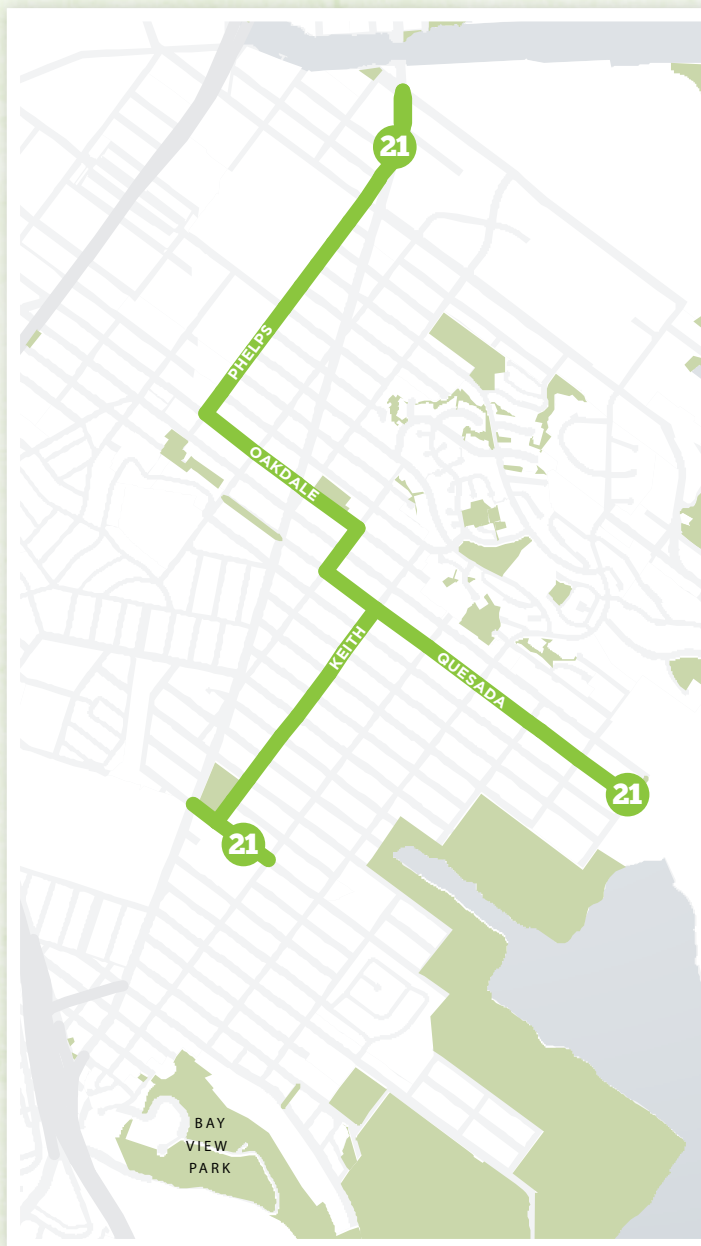


# BAY VIEW TO BAY TRAIL

## SPECIES: BLACK-TAILED JACKRABBIT



### BLACK-TAILED JACKRABBIT – *Lepus californicus*

The fast and the furious! (Life in the fast lane!) Black-tailed Jackrabbits (*Lepus californicus*) can run up to 50mph. They are one of the largest hares in North America, typically about two feet long. They are herbivores that sit at the base of bushes or clumps of tall grasses. These areas offer cover from the Golden Eagles, hawks and coyotes which hunt them. They have furry feet that help protect against the hot sand and gravel exposed to the blazing sun. They seem to love the food no other animals want. They eat a lot of shrubs, bushes, tough grasses and even black greasewood. For a snack, they love to chew on twigs and leaves.

#### RESIDENT OR MIGRATORY

Resident

#### KEY HABITAT FEATURES

Coastlines, on ocean beaches.

#### DIET

Diet is composed of shrubs and small trees (fall and winter), grasses and forbs (spring and summer). Forbs are herbaceous annuals, perennials or biennials that are not grasses.

#### ASSOCIATED PLANTS & ANIMALS

Deer Weed - *Acmispon glaber* , California Fescue - *Festuca californica* , Coyote Bush - *Baccharis pilularis* , Cobweb Thistle - *Cirsium occidentale* var. *occidentale*

#### NESTING INFORMATION

Do not prepare an elaborate nest. Do not dig burrows, instead use the high visibility of pasture lands to spot predators before they are spotted. Give birth in shallow excavations (called "forms") that are no more than a few centimeters deep. Females may line forms with hair prior to giving birth, but this is not always the case.

#### ROUTE HIGHLIGHTS

- » Islais Creek Park, Palou and Phelps Mini Park, Third Street Commercial District, Bayview Opera House, Joseph Lee Recreation Center, Bayview Playground, Martin Luther King Pool, Bay Trail



Credit: Wikimedia Commons