

# NEWELL CREEK CANYON NATURAL AREA



Newell Creek Canyon is a veritable playground of geologic hazards. The subject of many a university master's thesis and a common location for classroom field trips to study landslides. This created many opportunities but with associated challenges for Metro to develop this geologist's dream into a public space that was safe from hazards, provided beautiful vistas, room for contemplation, and enjoyable user experiences, both on foot and by bike.

Fueled by the geologic challenges inherent in the Canyon, the Metro team rose to the task:

- Designing bridges to withstand unwelcome and uncomfortable earth movement,
- Routing paths to avoid rockfall hazards, and
- Managing stormwater to keep slopes stable.

The complexity of the canyon is part of its beauty and the team's ability to address the hazards turned the Newell Creek Canyon Natural Area from University study into a beautiful public space that will enhance the social fabric of the area for decades to come.

