Rails to Trails

This trail was built on an old railroad line. But the trains never ran here.

In 1968, Sante Fe Railroad built a rail spur with the expectation that industry would want to locate in the area and use rail transportation. But the U.S. Postal Service moved in instead, and the railroad tracks were abandoned.

This beautiful and intriguing section of the San Francisco Bay Trail follows the same route of the old rail spur and uses the same timber trestle bridges.

Who says people can’t make a difference?
In 1959, a resident named Kay Kerr watched in horror as the wooded hill on Point Isabel was bulldozed into the Bay and the harbor filled in. By 1961, Kay and her friends Esther Gulick and Sylvia McLaughlin organized the Save San Francisco Bay Association. Their efforts helped awaken public interest and led to the formation of the Bay Conservation and Development Commission, the government agency that regulates land uses in all Bay Area Wetlands.

Founders of Save San Francisco Bay Association: Kay Kerr (top), Esther Gulick (middle), Sylvia McLaughlin (bottom).