

Moraga Commons Park **Site Specific Master Plan**



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Prepared for:
Town of Moraga Parks and Recreation Department



DRAFT October 31, 2016

Moraga Commons Park Site Specific Master Plan

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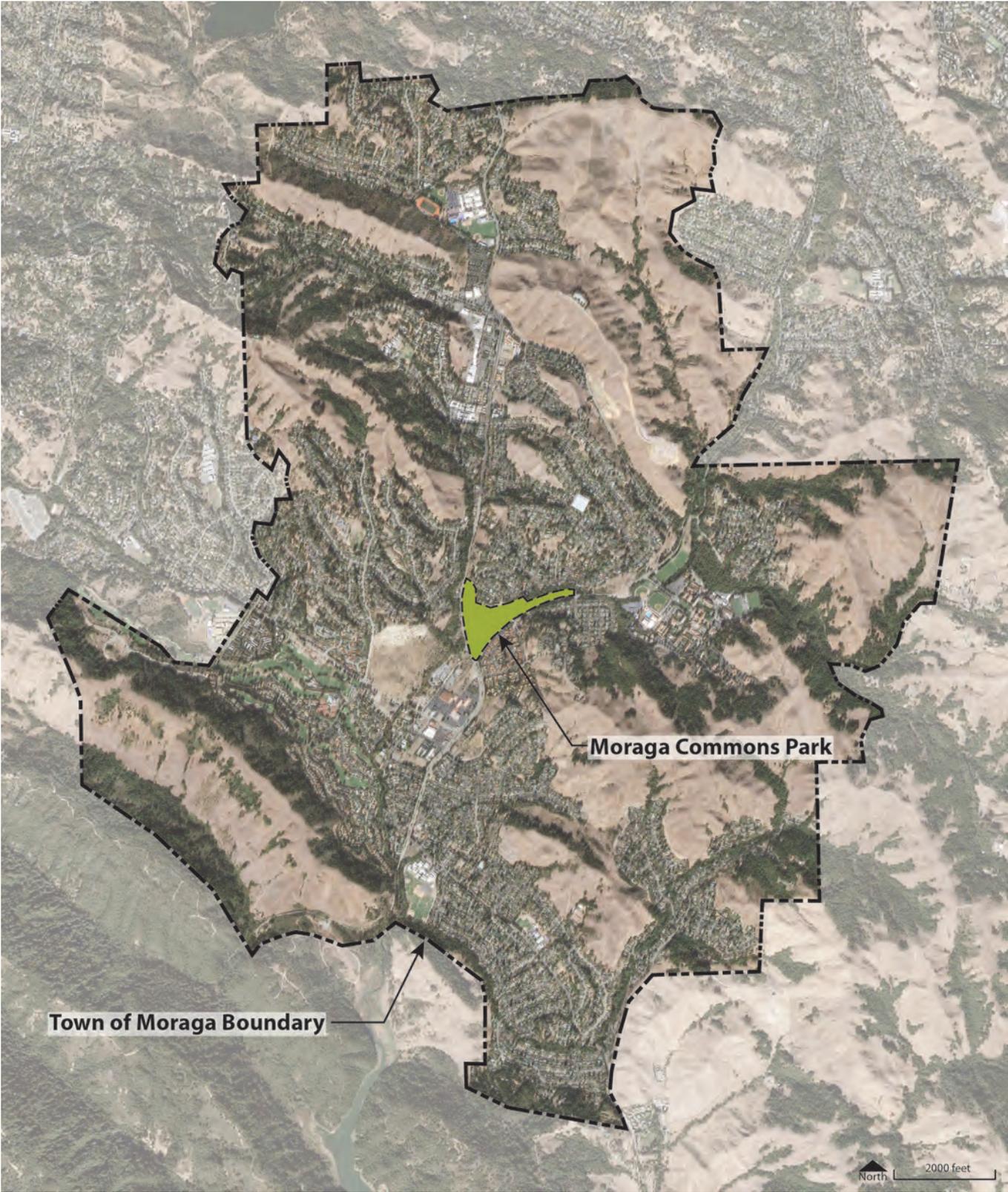
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I. Introduction and Existing Facilities



Moraga Commons Park Location Map

Introduction

Moraga Commons is the town's primary and central community park. It is located at the geographic center of Moraga and is also the focus of community events and activities. The park was created on land that had been set aside by Caltrans for a freeway interchange. Fortunately, the freeway plans never materialized, and under the leadership of Mayor Barry Gross, the town acquired the land in 1978, and the park was dedicated in 1982.

The park is visually beautiful and contains a variety of recreational facilities. Laguna Creek passes through the park's southeast edge as does the Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail. Flatter land along the Moraga Road corridor on the park's west side includes a large turf area, picnic area, sand volleyball, basketball, skate park, pavilion, bocce courts, and parking. The balance of the park is the hill area which includes a viewing area for the bandshell, the disc golf course, and trails. The park also contains a building on long-term lease to the Mulberry Tree Preschool (the preschool predates the development of the park).

The park was created with minimal changes to the existing terrain, locating and adapting uses to fit the land. The bandshell was built in 1985 and now hosts the summer concert series. The park also hosts the annual 4th of July celebration and the Pear & Wine Festival.

Although the entire park is listed as 40 acres, when you deduct the area taken up by the creek, the Lafayette Moraga Regional Trail, and the Mulberry Tree Preschool, the usable park land is approximately 18 acres. Of the 18 acres, approximately 5 acres is relatively flat land (less than 5% slopes).

A consistent theme throughout the planning process was that the park is beautiful and a great asset for Moraga. There was a desire to not over-program the park with too many uses. There was also emphasis placed on preserving the park's existing un-programmed open spaces that can provide flexibility and support passive park uses.



Existing Facilities

Existing facilities at Commons Park include the following:

- 1) An amphitheater and bandshell (1985, expanded 2012) equipped with limited kitchen and serving facilities, sound equipment and utilities. The amphitheater consists of a large sloping turf area above the bandshell.
- 2) Two bocce ball courts.
- 3) Two horseshoe pits.
- 4) A nine-hole disc golf course.
- 5) In-ground, concrete skate park (2003).
- 6) Two competition level sand volleyball courts.
- 7) Two half-court basketball courts.
- 8) Two separate and distinct play areas; ages 2-5 (renovated 2006) and 5-12 (renovated 2009) play equipment.
- 9) Small water spray feature (2009).
- 10) Giant chess board.
- 11) Picnic areas – a non-reservable picnic area near the St. Mary's Road parking lot, and a smaller reservable picnic area near the upper playground.
- 12) Restroom facilities at the St. Mary's parking area and behind the bandshell.
- 13) Sloping turf areas.
- 14) Two main parking lots with 62 spaces: St. Mary's Road parking 35 spaces, and Moraga Road parking 27 spaces (2011), plus 10 spaces at the Mulberry Tree Preschool, and 7 spaces at the Lafayette-Moraga Trail access point on St. Mary's Road (total 79 parking spaces).
- 15) Lafayette Moraga Regional Trail - East Bay Regional Park District trail.
- 16) Par Course amenities along the Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail.
- 17) A creek corridor that is a steep-sided, densely-vegetated ravine.
- 18) Veterans Memorial.
- 19) The Mulberry Tree Preschool occupies the building on St. Mary's Road under a long-term lease agreement.
- 20) Matt Biondi Fountain.
- 21) Bike rack.



BACKSIDE 11X17 MAP



Existing parking



View of the amphitheater lawn and the bandshell.



Park entry at the intersection of Moraga Road and St. Mary's Road.



The park's "front lawn" provides unprogrammed, flexible space for a variety of park uses.



Upper playground (ages 5-12).



Picnic area with bark mulch surface. Accessible tables will need an accessible surface.



Main parking area off St. Mary's Road.



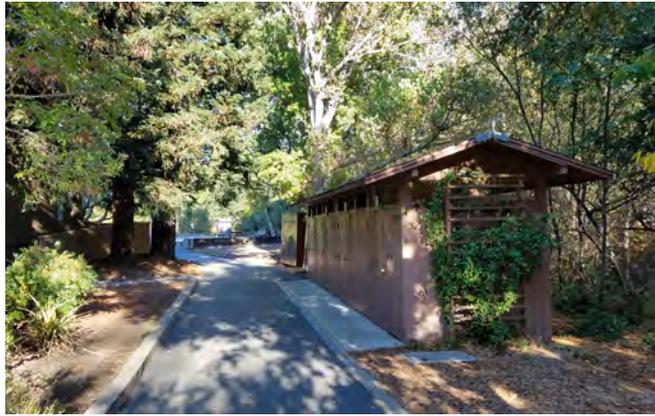
Restrooms adjacent to main parking area need accessibility improvements.



Path between upper and lower playgrounds could be regraded to provide an accessible path of travel.



The bandshell hosts the weekly summer concert series and other community events.



Restrooms behind the bandshell.



Chess board.



Splash pad.



Upper picnic area (reservable).



Bocce ball courts.



Horseshoe pit and possible site for additional bocce courts.



Moraga Road parking area and trail.



Basketball courts.



Sand volleyball.



Lamorinda skate park.



Trail in the northwest area of the park along Moraga Road.



Turf area looking towards the bandshell.



Upper park hillside includes the disc golf course.



Disc golf course basket.



Disc golf course 6th hole that continues into the "Back 40" area.



"Back 40" area with electric transmission tower and disc golf course 6th hole basket.



Path through the "Back 40" area.



Pedestrian bridge over the creek to the "Back 40" area.



Pedestrian bridge over the creek.



Densely vegetated creek corridor.



Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail.



Lafayette_Moraga Regional Trail parking area off of St. Mary's Road.



II. Planning Process

Site Specific Master Plan Process

The purpose of this site specific master plan is to fine tune the park to best meet current and future community needs. The park is generally well-designed and well-loved, so the plan is not proposing any wholesale changes. In fact, one of the most common comments heard is that the park is great as it is and it should not be changed. The desired design objectives for Moraga Commons Park include the following:

- 1) Maximize community use of the park.
- 2) Support the park's function as a major community gathering space.
- 3) Create areas of use for specific activities.
- 4) Facilitate the park's use to support community special events, especially performances and festivals.
- 5) Integrate a specific use for the "Back 40" area and adjacent acreage along St. Mary's Road.
- 6) Provide educational access to the creek where possible.

Stakeholder Participation

A number of stakeholder meetings were conducted to gain an understanding of park issues, community desires, and vision for the future of Commons Park. Meetings were held with the Moraga Park Foundation, the Moraga Bocce Ball Club, and the Moraga Junior Women's Club. A presentation on the master plan process and public hearing was held with the Moraga Park and Recreation Commission, and two community workshops were held.

- Moraga Park Foundation – July 12, 2016
- Moraga Bocce Ball Club – July 13, 2016
- Moraga Junior Women's Club – July 18, 2016
- Park and Recreation Commission – July 19, 2016
- Community Workshop #1 – September 8, 2016
- Community Workshop #2 – October 4, 2016
- Park and Recreation Commission – October 25, 2016



Community workshop #1.

Stakeholder Meetings

Four stakeholder meetings were held with the Moraga Park Foundation, the Moraga Bocce Ball Club, the Moraga Junior Women's Club, and the Moraga Park and Recreation Commission. The purpose of the meetings was to understand differing perspectives on issues, un-met recreation needs, and their vision for the future of the park.

Community Workshops

Two community workshops were held with approximately 40 community members participating. The focus of the workshops was to have a more in-depth discussion of the park issues, recreational needs, vision for the future, and a focus on the "Back 40" area of the park. A brief presentation provided background for the discussion, followed by small group discussion. Representatives from each group then reported back the ideas and opinions recorded during their discussions.

The presentation illustrated the opportunities and constraints at Commons Park. Scaled representations of various proposed recreation features were shown in relation to a scaled map of the park to give a realistic view of what ideas could fit in the park, and what ideas the park does not have physical space for. The park's constraints of steep terrain, riparian corridor, and electric transmission line were also illustrated to enable a realistic assessment of what is possible at the park.



Park background was presneted prior to the ommunity workshops.

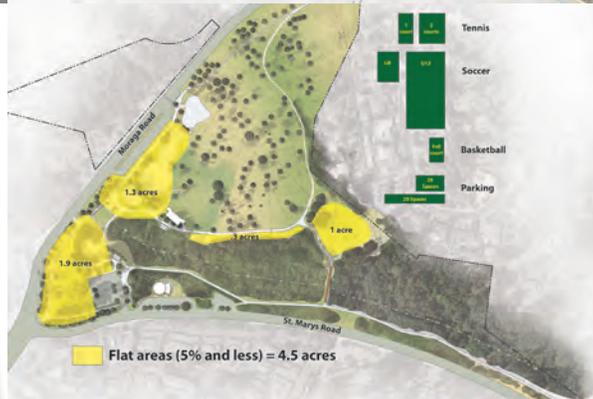


Small group breakout discussions were held followed by reports back to the full group.

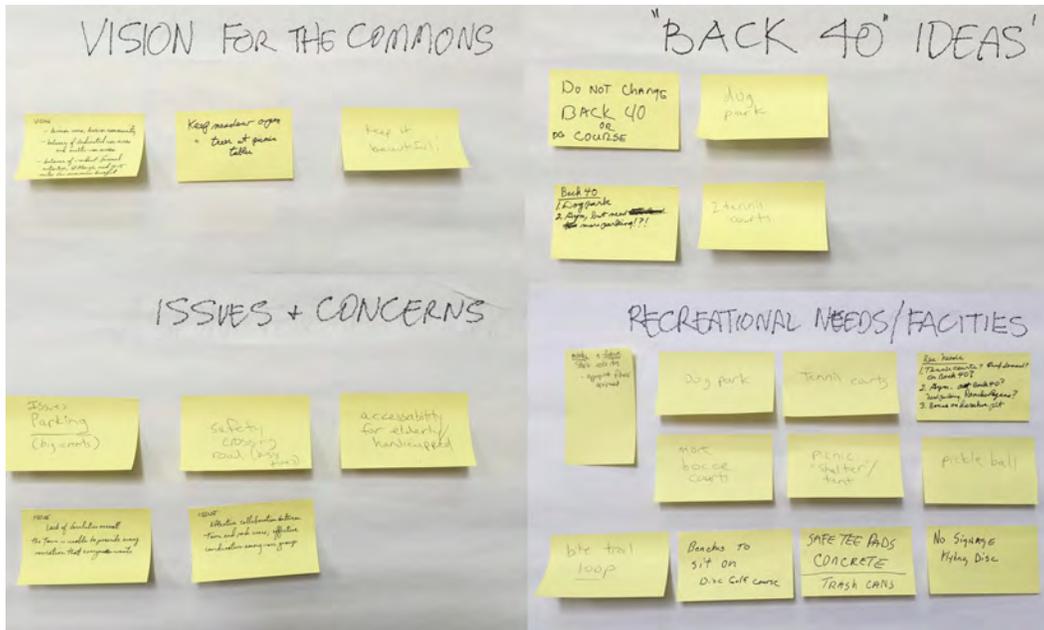
Moraga Commons Site Specific Master Plan
Community Workshop
September 8, 2016



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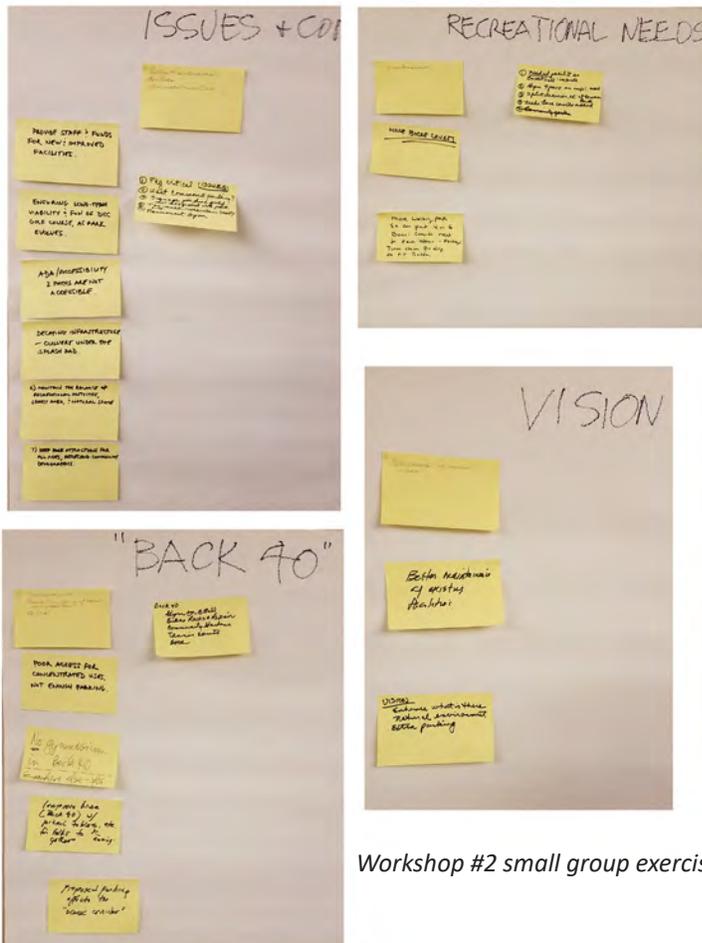
Community workshop presentation.



Workshop #1 small group exercise notes.

Key Points from the Stakeholder Meetings and Community Workshops:

- Park is beautiful as it is – don't change it.
- Need more parking – particularly for events.
- Accessibility improvements are needed.
- Provide adequate maintenance for existing facilities and paths.
- Serve all age groups – particularly seniors.
- Need additional bocce court(s).
- Disc golf course is a regionally-significant facility and several minimal improvements are needed.
- Preserve un-programmed open space for flexibility and passive uses.
- Better lighting in the bandshell area is needed for evening events.
- "Back 40" is under-utilized and Moraga has unmet recreation needs.
- Preserve the "Back 40" as it is.
- Prefer that the two age group playgrounds were located together.



Workshop #2 small group exercise notes.

Moraga Park and Recreation Commission Meeting #2

A key meeting in the process was held on October 25, 2016 at a regular meeting of the Moraga Park and Recreation Commission. A draft master plan was prepared prior to the meeting for review by the Commission. The primary task for the meeting was to work through several key decision points and to establish priorities for project identified in the draft master plan.

The key decision points included the following:

- Should additional bocce courts be built at the park, and at what location?
- Is the “Back 40” area under-utilized and if so, what recreational needs could be met there?

The Commission discussed the issues, recommended changes to the draft master plan, and recommended a revised master plan to the Moraga Town Council for approval. The Commission recommendations are documented in the recommendations section of this master plan.



III. Park Issues and Proposals

Park Issues and Proposals

Utilization of the “Back 40” Area

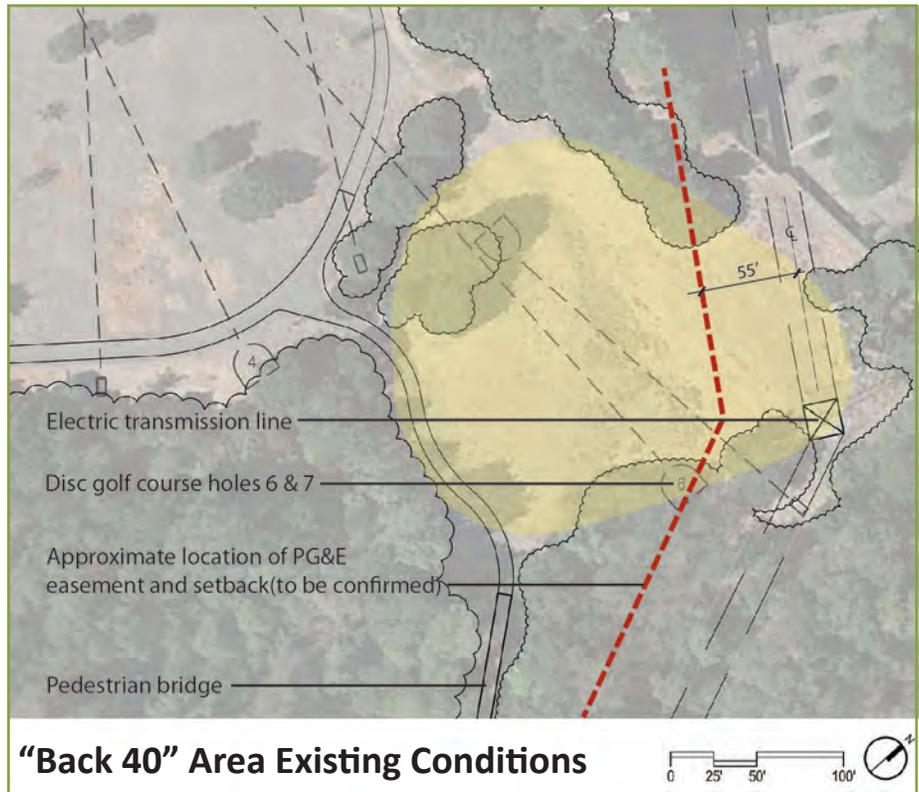
The area commonly referred to as the “Back 40” is a one-acre meadow in the eastern portion of the park. It is accessible via the paved path and from the pedestrian bridge across the Laguna Creek. The area is primarily open meadow and is the location for the 6th and 7th holes of the disc golf course. An electric transmission tower is located in the far corner of the area. The area has been subject to much discussion over the years with the perception that this area is under-utilized. A number of ideas for new uses have been proposed over the years, and there is also a contingency of people who prefer to preserve it as it is.

Redevelopment of the “Back 40” has some challenges:

- The area is not visible from St. Mary’s Road, Moraga Road, or much of the park.
- A lack of nearby parking. It is possible to add some parking along St. Mary’s Road, but anything more than a few spaces could require removal (and replacement) of some existing redwood trees.
- The site is not flat and slopes approximately 5%. Uses needing a pad or flat surface would require grading, retaining walls (up to 4’ in height, depending on the size of the facility), and paths of travel for accessibility.
- PG&E holds an easement (to be confirmed) along the corridor of the electric transmission line that crosses the site. Such easements are typically 110’ wide. No structures permitted within the easement (55’ setback from the centerline of the transmission line). A 20’ wide access corridor is also required for maintenance access to the transmission line tower.
- Dislocation of the disc golf course holes would likely require redesign of the course to fit holes 6 and 7 within the “Back 40”, or redesign the entire course to fit elsewhere in the park.



The “Back 40” area in spring.



Utilization of the “Back 40” also presents some opportunities:

- The “Back 40” area could contribute to some of Moraga’s unmet recreation needs.
- A facility on the “Back 40” could provide a site for needed youth activities, including basketball, volleyball, and indoor soccer; summer camps, and senior and teen programs.
- It is land already under town ownership – no acquisition needed.

Through the master plan process, we have heard the long-standing perception that the “Back 40” area is under-utilized, however there has also not yet been a strongly supported proposal. Ideas put forward include an indoor gymnasium, tennis court, community garden, and dog park. There is a contingent of stakeholders, including disc golfers, that would prefer to see the “Back 40” remain as it is.

- **Indoor gymnasium:** This proposal would be for a multi-use indoor sport court that could host basketball, volleyball, soccer and other sports. The 8,000 to 10,000 square foot facility could also serve as a home for summer camp programs, teen programs, and senior programs. An indoor facility would allow evening use and use during inclement weather. The structure could range from a minimalist fabric structure, to a more permanent building. Additional facilities such as restrooms, showers, offices, and meeting rooms would be a challenge to fit on this site. This facility would require minimal relocation of the disc golf course holes 6 and 7

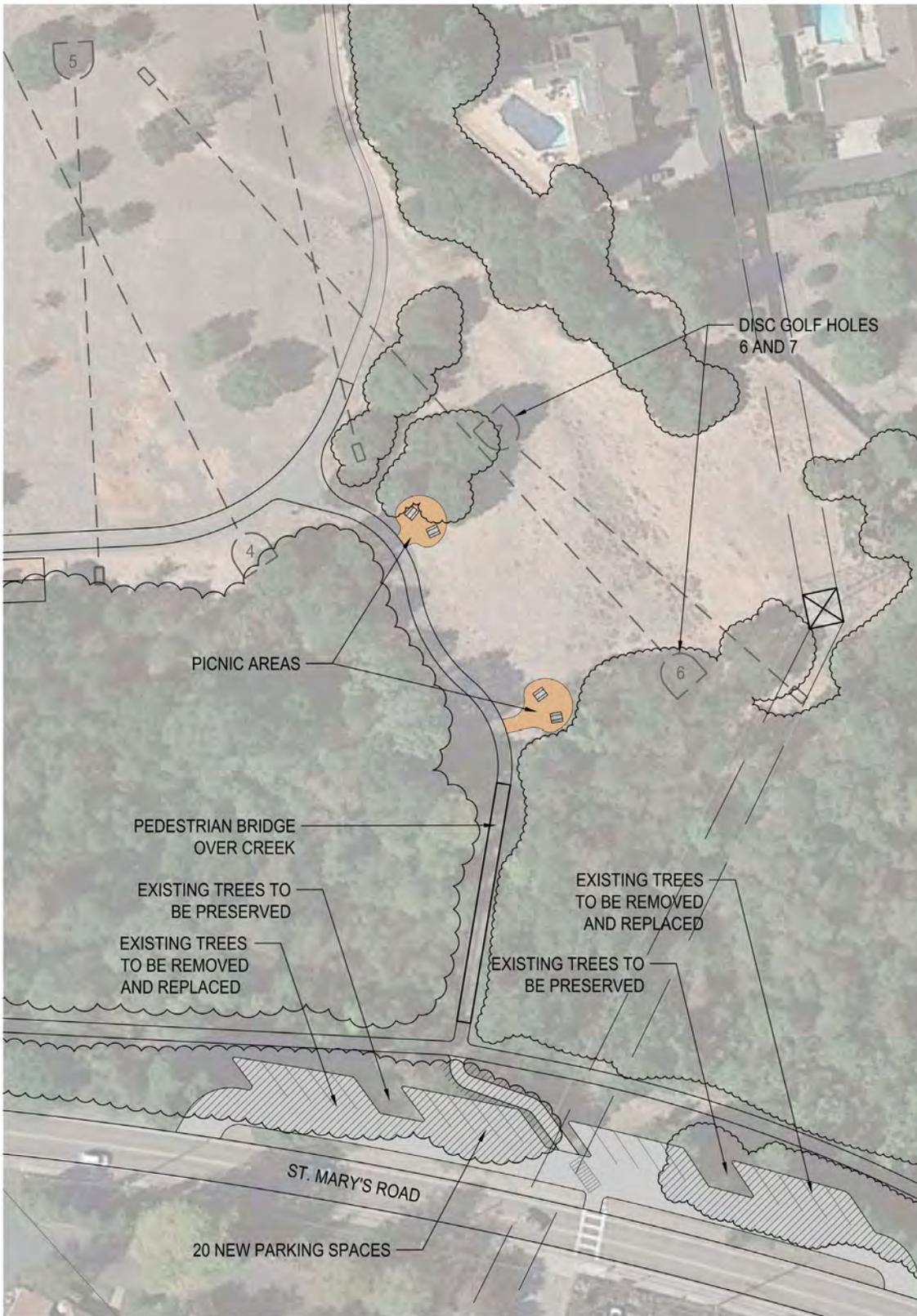
(see page 17). The 2007 town-wide Parks & Recreation Master Plan recommends a new 30,000 square foot multi-generational community center to meet the town's needs for indoor activity areas, meeting rooms, and gymnasiums. A facility such as this could contribute to that recommendation.

- **Community garden:** This idea received some support and the area is about the right size to provide a good number of plots (average 80 sf to 120 sf per plot). The lack of adjacent parking is a limiting factor and materials would need to be wheeled in. The south-facing slope provides good orientation.
- **Off-leash dog park:** This proposal received modest support and there is a need for a dedicated off-leash dog area. Rancho Laguna Park currently allows off-leash dog use during designated hours. An off-leash dog park would likely conflict with the disc golf holes and require their relocation.
- **Tennis court(s):** A single tennis court is feasible on the site. Two courts would require extensive grading and retaining walls.
- **Leave as is:** Several participants expressed desire to keep the "Back 40" area as is to preserve its natural character and habitat value. The value of the existing disc golf holes should also not be underestimated. Holes 6 and 7 are unique and contrast with the other course holes.
- **Parking for the "Back 40":** There are few opportunities to bring parking to the "Back 40" area due to the lack of space and the need to cross the creek. The best opportunity is for approximately 20 spaces to be located near the pedestrian bridge along St. Mary's Road. Parking at this location would likely require the removal (and replacement) of several young redwood trees planted in that corridor. The parking spaces could be arranged to minimize tree removal by preserving some of the trees between parking spaces. It is approximately a 300' walk from the proposed parking area to the "Back 40" site. A topographic survey is needed for the site to design the parking and determine how many trees would need to be removed and replaced.

Recommendations for the "Back 40" Area

The open nature of the "Back 40" is an asset to the park and should be preserved as should the two disc golf holes. Access to the area could be improved with the addition of a few picnic tables and some tending of the meadow to reduce hazards and ticks.

The gymnasium idea is a need for the community, but it could be better included as part of a more comprehensive community center elsewhere in town. The significant cost and issues with a gymnasium at this site outweigh the benefits of this compromised facility. The gymnasium proposal is recommended by the Park & Recreation Commission to be deferred for future consideration.



Plan for “Back 40” Area and Possible Additional Parking

Disc Golf Course

The nine-hole disc golf course covers a good portion of the park's hillside and stretches into the "Back 40" area. The sport is growing in popularity and this course is regionally significant in that it is one of the few courses designed for moderate to experienced players. A decision on the future use of the "Back 40" area could impact the disc golf course and require reconfiguring some of the holes. Several needs and improvements for the course were identified:

- Improved tee pads, preferably in concrete
- Benches at key locations along the course
- Trash receptacles
- Caution signs where the course crosses other park uses.

Depending on what is eventually proposed for the "Back 40" area, holes 6 and 7 may need to be relocated. It may be possible to relocate the holes within the "Back 40" area, or these holes may need to be fit within other areas of the park, which may require course reconfiguration. Disc golf holes can likely be located within the PG&E easement (to be confirmed with PG&E).

Disc Golf Course Recommendations

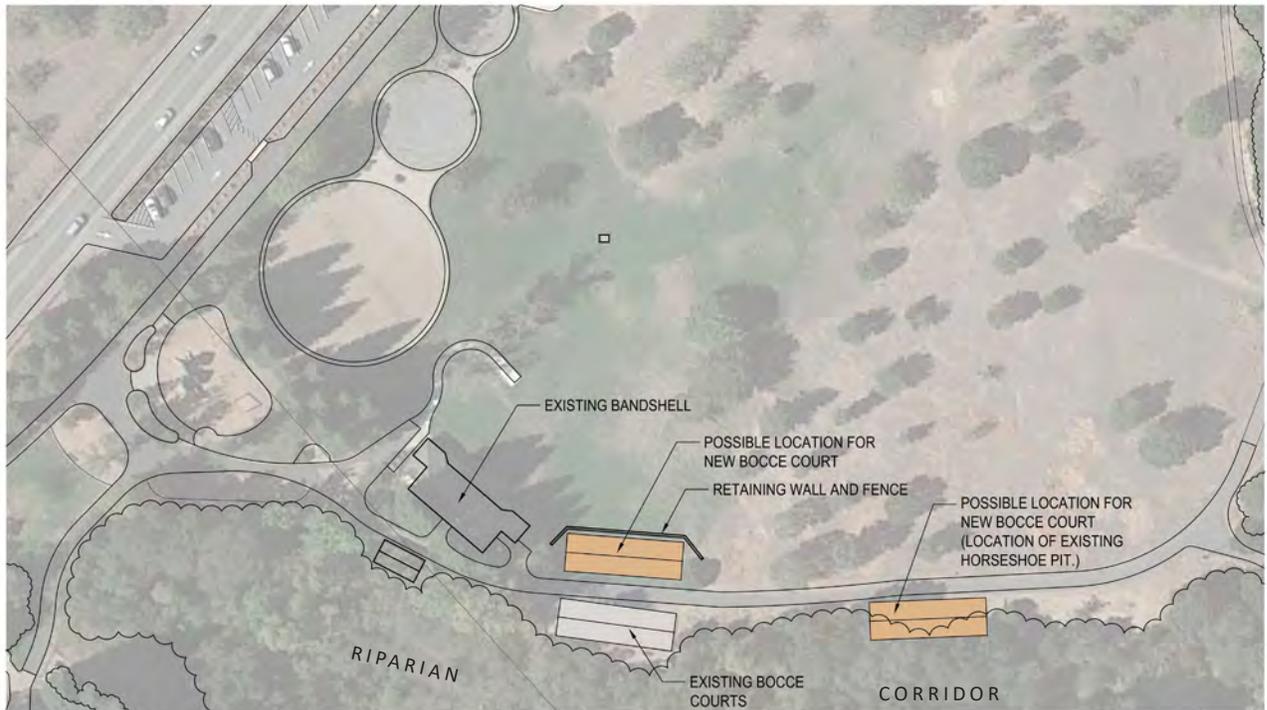
The disc golf course is an important feature of the park and it attracts people from around the Bay Area. The course should have improvements to ensure safety, minimize damage to park trees and shrubs, and minimize impacts to the riparian corridor. Tee and basket locations should be adjusted to meet these goals. Other recommended improvements include new tee pads (preferably concrete), benches and trash receptacles at key locations, and improved signage for player etiquette and to caution other park users of the potential hazard of flying discs. The 6th and 7th holes could remain in the "Back 40" area if possible, and be adjusted to be compatible with other uses.

Bocce Courts

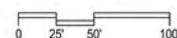
The two existing bocce courts are well used during the playing season and are particularly popular with seniors. At peak times there are not enough courts to meet demand. One or two additional courts may be possible in the area east of the existing courts. The social aspect of the sport makes the location of new courts nearby the existing courts desirable. The site of the existing horseshoe pits (described as under-utilized) may be able to fit two additional courts. A complicating factor for additional bocce courts is the proximity to the riparian corridor, and a consultation with the state Department of Fish & Wildlife will be needed. A detailed topographic survey is needed to further plan and design additional bocce courts.

Bocce Court Recommendations

The additional of two more bocce courts is a high priority recommendation to meet current and future demands. Having four courts will also make the facility better suited for tournaments. The social aspect of the sport makes it desirable to have all courts in close proximity. A siting study (with a topographic survey) should be conducted and include the idea of locating two new courts across the path from the existing bocce courts, on the site of the existing horseshoe pit, or other nearby location. If sited across the path, one existing tree may need to be removed and grading may require a retaining wall and protective fence for safety. If sited on the same side of the path, the design should be studied to minimize any impacts on the riparian corridor.



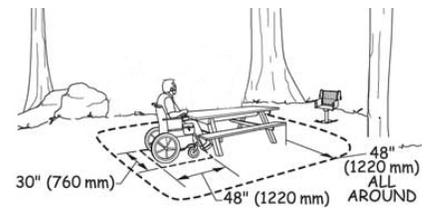
Possible Locations of New Bocce Courts



Accessibility Improvements

Accessibility in the Commons Park is generally good; however there are some important improvements that should be made.

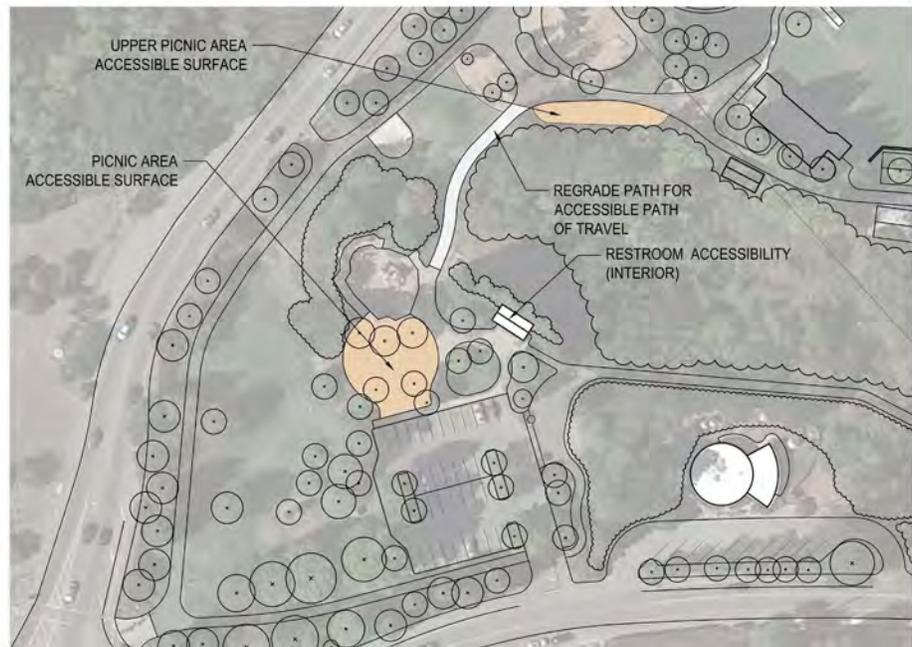
- **Picnic Area Improvements.** The existing picnic areas are in need of accessible picnic tables and grills. At least 20% of (but not less than 2 picnic tables should be an accessible design, be located on an accessible surface, and have an accessible path of travel to parking and transit. The accessible surface could be stabilized decomposed granite, or other ADA-compliant surface.
- **Main Restroom Improvements.** The main restrooms adjacent to the St. Mary's parking area do not meet current standards for accessibility. An architectural study is needed to better understand options for interior architectural improvements to meet accessibility guidelines.
- **Path of Travel between Playgrounds.** The path of travel between the age 2-5 playground and the age 5-12 playground likely does not meet accessibility guidelines for an accessible path of travel (generally less than 5% along the path of travel, and less than 2% cross slope). It may be possible to regrade the path to meet accessible guidelines. A topographic survey is needed to plan and design this improvement. Other pathways in the park should be reviewed to assess accessibility compliance.



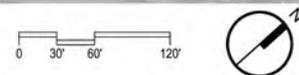
Accessible surface at picnic tables.

Accessibility Recommendations

The accessibility improvements noted above should be a high priority to protect the town from legal challenges. Other park areas should be surveyed to assess compliance with accessibility guidelines.



Accessibility Improvements



All-Access Playground

A new 5,500 sf all-access playground, designed for children of all abilities, is currently being planned for a site adjacent to the existing age 2-5 playground. The project is being partially funded by the Moraga Rotary Club.

All-Access Playground Recommendations

A design study for the playground is currently being prepared. The design should ensure that the playground is well integrated into the overall park design and that the new playground should minimize encroachment on the park's "front lawn" area.

Parking

The main issue for parking at the park is during community events. There is no way to meet event parking needs within the park, so other options could be considered such as a community shuttle to bring people to and from events.

The best opportunity for additional parking within the park is in the land between St. Mary's Road and the Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail across from the library. Approximately 20 spaces may be accommodated here in a single-loaded angled parking design similar to the parking area on Moraga Road. This would, however, require the removal and replacement of trees. The parking design could be arranged to preserve some trees by interspersing them between parking spaces. A detailed topographic survey is needed to design the parking and determine the number of trees to be removed, replaced and preserved. Replacement trees can be planted on-site or at an off-site location to mitigate for the trees removed.

Parking Recommendations

Additional parking will come with a cost and potentially with controversy, so the need and cost/benefit should be carefully considered. If additional parking is determined as a need, a design study should be conducted to determine how many spaces can fit, how many trees can be preserved, and how many would need to be removed and replaced.



IV. Master Plan, Recommendations, and Priorities



- Preserve bandshell lawn for event and passive uses
- Consider redevelopment 2 half-court basketball courts into one full court
- Safety lighting improvements at bandshell and pathways for evening events
- Upper picnic area accessibility improvements
- Path of travel accessibility improvements
- Disc golf course improvements:
 - New tee pads
 - Benches
 - Caution signs
- 2 Additional bocce courts:
 - Best location to be studied
 - Minimize impacts to creek corridor
- "Back 40" area:
 - Consider adding picnic tables
 - Meadow improvements
 - Preserve disc golf course holes 6 & 7 (adjust locations as needed)
 - Reassess in future as conditions and needs change
- Restroom accessibility improvements
- Picnic area accessibility improvements
- Proposed all-access playground
- Preserve un-programmed open space
- Possible location for new parking:
 - Approximately 20 spaces
 - Requires removal and replacement of trees

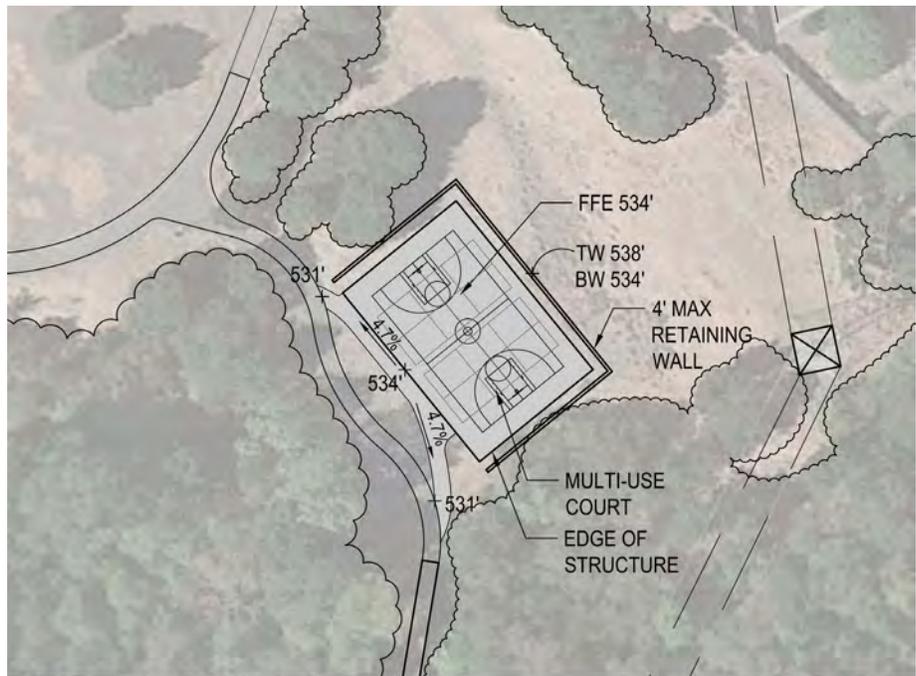
BACKSIDE 11X17 MAP

Other Master Plan Recommendations

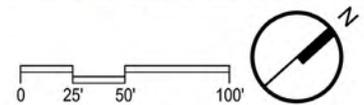
- Improved pathway and bandshell lighting for evening events. (The park closes at sundown, so this improvement would require a change to the municipal code if improvements were intended to keep the park open past sundown.)
- Preserve existing park open spaces including the “front lawn” area and the bandshell lawn for flexible event use and for passive uses.
- If full court basketball is desired, consider combining two half courts into one full court.
- A topographic survey of the park or key areas is needed for more detailed planning and design of potential projects.
- Plan ahead and budget for future park facilities maintenance and repair needs.
- Redevelop both age group playgrounds adjacent to each other for families with children of both age groups. For future consideration when playground equipment is due for replacement.
- Improve signage at parking area entries.
- New fitness stations, parkour course, and/or senior exercise equipment along Lafayette-Moraga Trail.
- Cyclist gathering point along trail with water, tools, air.
- Shade structure for picnic area.
- Kid’s bike loop within or near the playground area.

Ideas Deferred for Future Consideration

- An indoor or covered recreation facility in the “Back 40” area was considered and deferred (for future consideration) as it is currently not the best use of resources, and for the desire to preserve the open nature of the “Back 40” area. As conditions and needs change in the future, this idea could be reconsidered. This would require parking along St. Mary’s Road.
- Community garden on the “Back 40” area is deferred for future consideration. This would require parking along St. Mary’s Road.



**Plan for Indoor Gymnasium/
Multi-use Facility (Deferred)**



Ideas Considered and Rejected

- A sports field for the “Back 40” area. This was rejected due to the amount of space available. The only type of sports field that may fit is a single U8 soccer field.
- Parking on the 1.3 acre parcel across Moraga Road. This idea was considered and rejected due to safety concerns crossing Moraga Road, potential future plans for expanding Moraga Road, and proximity to the riparian corridor.

Summary of Master Plan Recommended Projects and Priorities

Accessibility Improvements - High Priority

Picnic Area Accessibility: Estimated cost: \$10,000 per picnic area, \$20,000 total.

Both picnic areas need accessible path of travel and accessible surfaces for designated accessible tables. Accessible surfaces could be stabilized decomposed granite or other compliant surface material. Estimated cost: \$10,000 per picnic area, \$20,000 total.

Pathway between Upper and Lower Playgrounds: Estimated cost: \$40,000.

This project involves regrading the existing path to eliminate steep section by stretching out the length of the slope to achieve a grade less than 5%. Project may involve importing fill, retaining wall and raising the fence along edge of creek corridor, regrading lawn area and adjusting irrigation system.

Restroom Accessibility: Estimated cost: To be determined (architectural study needed)

The main restroom by the St. Mary's parking area does not meet accessibility guidelines. An architectural study is needed to determine the most cost effective way to achieve compliance. Options may include converting multi-stall restrooms to single-occupancy.

Additional Bocce Courts - High Priority

Estimated cost: \$40,000 per court, \$80,000 total. Siting study and design: \$10,000.

Two additional bocce courts are needed to meet current and future needs. Siting study should be conducted when a topographic survey is available.

Lighting Improvements for Bandshell and Pathways for Evening Events - High Priority

Estimated cost: To be determined.

Project includes safety lighting for events that end after sundown. Scope of improvements needs study.

All-Access Playground - High Priority (as previously determined by P&R Commission and Town Council)

Estimated cost: \$400,000 to \$500,000.

Project includes design and construction of new playground for children of all abilities.

"Back 40" Area Improvements - Medium Priority

Estimated cost: \$30,000

Project includes adding several picnic tables on graded pads with decomposed granite surface, meadow improvements.

Disc Golf Course Improvements - Medium Priority

Estimated cost: \$20,000 to \$30,000.

Includes adjustments to tee and basket locations, concrete tee pads, benches at key locations, and caution signs.

Topographic Survey of Park for Planning and Design of Projects - Medium Priority

Estimated cost: \$25,000 to \$30,000.

Topographic survey is needed to facilitate more detailed planning and design of improvement projects.

Additional Parking - St. Mary's Road - Medium Priority

Estimated cost: \$250,000 to \$350,000

Design and construction of approximately 20 additional parking spaces along St. Mary's Road opposite the library.

Combining 2 Half-Courts into 1 Full-Court Basketball - Medium Priority

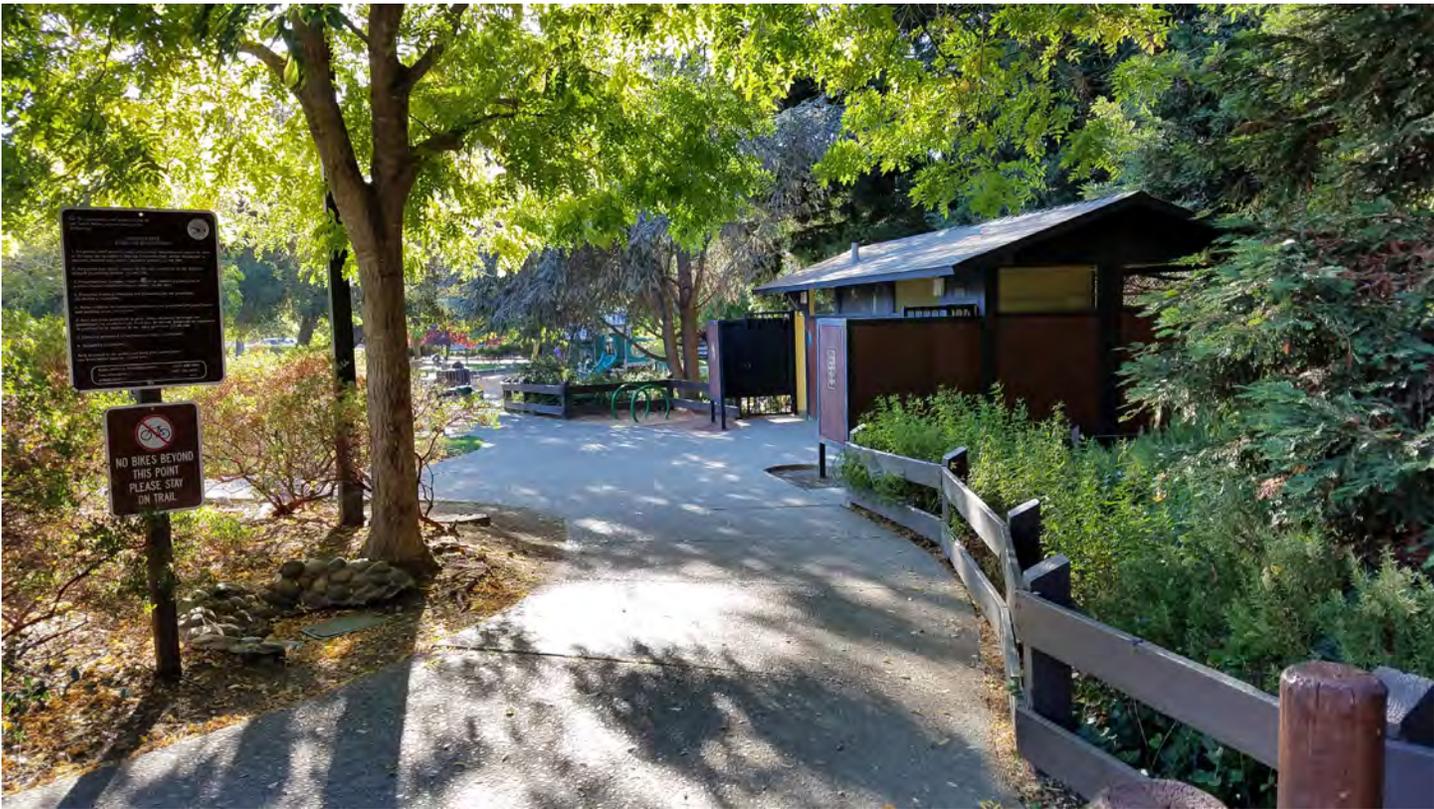
Estimated cost: \$60,000.

Project replaces the existing two half-court basketball courts with one full-court basketball court.

Park Pathway Improvements - Medium Priority

Estimated cost: To be determined.

Project involves paving improvements to existing pathways to address aging paving. Scope of improvements is to be determined.



V. Appendices

Appendices

- Notes from Community Workshop #1
- Notes from Community Workshop #2

Moraga Commons Site Specific Master Plan Community Workshop #1

September 8, 2016

6:30 PM, Hacienda de las Flores

- I. **Welcome and introductions**
- II. **Master Plan process and brief presentation on Commons**
- III. **Issues and Visioning**

Small group breakout and answers to four questions:

What are the current issues and concerns in the Commons?

- lack of parking for events
- Safety crossing roads during events
- Too small of an area for many more uses
- More collaboration and coordination between town and user groups
- Picnic areas need to be more ADA compliant
- Better general accessibility throughout park

Any recreational needs/facilities not being met and could be at Commons Park?

- senior recreation opportunities, activities, facilities, and equipment
- Outdoor fitness equipment for seniors
- Dog park
- Tennis court(s)
- More bocce courts
- Picnic shelter (shade & shelter)
- Pickle ball (also good for seniors)
- Trash cans for disc golf course
- Better and safer tees (concrete pads) for disc golf course - existing pavers are buckling
- Benches for disc golf course
- Warning/awareness signs for disc golf course
- Indoor gymnasium
- Kids bike loop
- Nature interpretive exhibits

What is your vision for the future of the Commons?

- existing is a good mix of activities – diverse variety of uses for people of all ages
- balance of dedicated use areas and open/flexible multi-use areas
- Keep meadow near Matt Biondi fountain open, flexible space
- Preserve tree-shaded picnic area
- Keep high density uses near parking areas
- Beautiful as it is - don't change it

- Stick with what we have and make it better
- Primarily resident-focused activities

Ideas for use of the "Back 40" area - or leave as is?

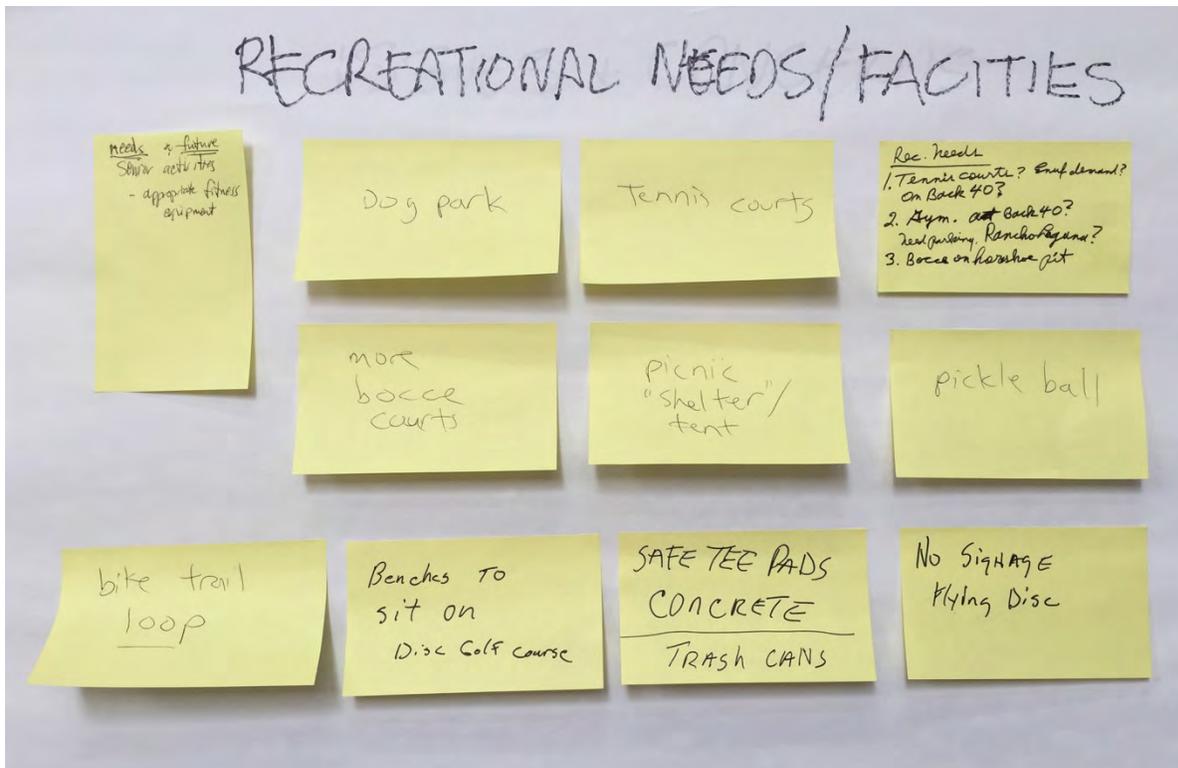
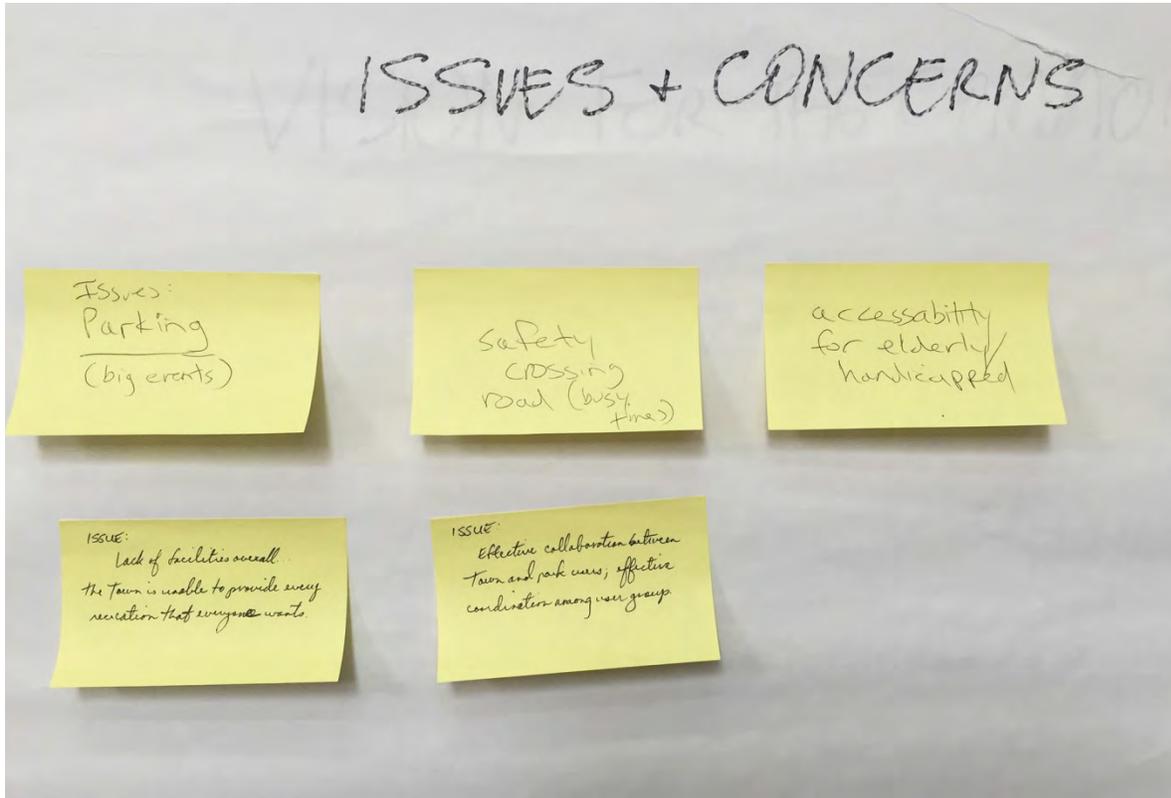
- don't change it
- Tennis court(s)
- Dog park (small)
- Indoor gymnasium with multi-use/sports court(s) – needs parking

IV. Next steps

- Plan refinements
- Second community workshop: Tuesday, October 4, 2016, 6:30 PM, Hacienda de las Flores







VISION FOR THE COMMONS

VISION

- diverse uses, diverse community
- balance of dedicated use areas and multi-use areas
- balance of resident, focused activities, St. Mary's, and 14-15 miles for economic benefit

Keep meadow open
" trees at picnic tables

Keep it beautiful!

"BACK 40" IDEAS

Do NOT change
BACK 40
OR
DOG COURSE

dog park

Back 40
1. Dog park
2. Light, but need ~~more~~ more parking!?!

2 tennis courts

Moraga Commons Site Specific Master Plan
Community Workshop #1

Agenda

Thursday, September 8, 2016, 6:30 PM
Hacienda de las Flores

- I. Welcome, Introductions, Review of meeting agenda**
- II. Master Plan process**
 - What we have heard so far
 - Planning background for Moraga Commons
- III. Issues and Visioning**
 - Small group breakouts to discuss the following questions (15 minutes):
 - o What are current issues and concerns in the Commons?
 - o Any recreational needs/facilities not being met and could be at Commons Park?
 - o What is your vision for the future of the Commons?
 - o Ideas for use of the "Back 40" area - or leave it as is?
 - Reconvene and small group report back (30 min.)
 - Review of small group reports (5 min.)
- IV. Next steps and final thoughts**
 - **Second community workshop:**
Monday, September 26, 2016, 6:30 PM, Hacienda de las Flores

Project Contacts:

Jay Ingram – Moraga Parks and Recreation Director: jingram@moraga.ca.us

Douglas Nelson – RHAA Landscape Architects: doug@rhaa.com

Mike Mitchell – RHAA Landscape Architects: mike@rhaa.com

Moraga Commons Site Specific Master Plan Community Workshop #2

October 4, 2016

6:30 PM, Casa de las Flores

+/- 35 Community member present

- I. **Welcome and introductions**
- II. **Master Plan process and brief presentation on Commons**
- III. **Issues and Visioning**

Small group breakout (4 groups) and answers to four questions:

What are the current issues and concerns in the Commons?

- Keep the disc golf course viable with whatever happens at the back 40
- Enable full usage of park with ADA accessibility improvements
- Infrastructure needs replacement (creek culvert)
- New facilities should have adequate maintenance commitment
- Preserve a variety of spaces including both programmed (active) and unprogrammed (passive) spaces, social spaces, quiet spaces
- Serve all town demographics and age groups including seniors
- Better maintenance path improvements
- Eliminate poison oak
- Need more parking
- Not enough existing gyms in community

Any recreational needs/facilities not being met and could be at Commons Park?

- More bocce courts +++++
- Move path and fit more bocce courts together
- Tree swing
- Basketball court for youth program

Ideas for use of the "Back 40" area - or leave as is?

- Tree swing
- Leave as is
- No fabric building/gymnasium - better gymnasium could be built elsewhere
- Neighbors would not want gym
- No gym, but one is needed elsewhere in town
- Keep it as it is with minor improvements - picnic table and shade (tree or structure)
- Better landscape maintenance to minimize safety hazards (ie. gopher holes)
- Parking as proposed is not good – safety issues, impacts to habitat
- Gym for basketball programs (50 all-stars)
- No gym

- Tennis court(s)
- Community garden
- More feasible to use "Back 40" for gym than to have to purchase land for a new facility
- Bike repair space

What is your vision for the future of the Commons?

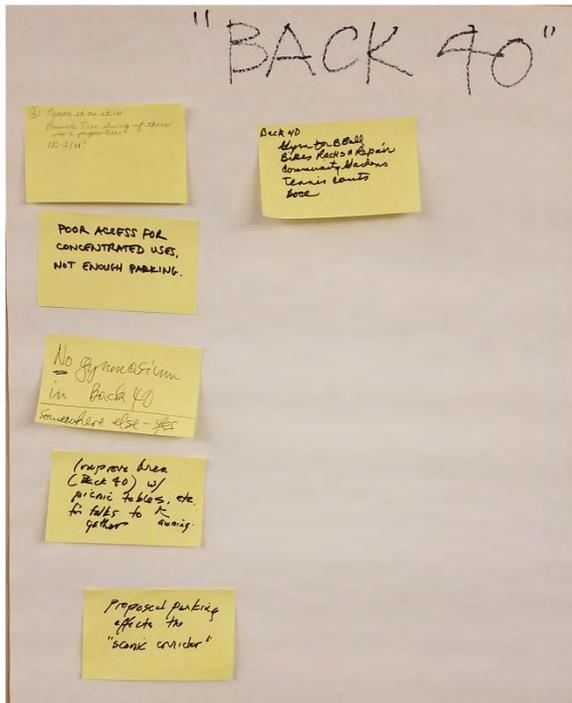
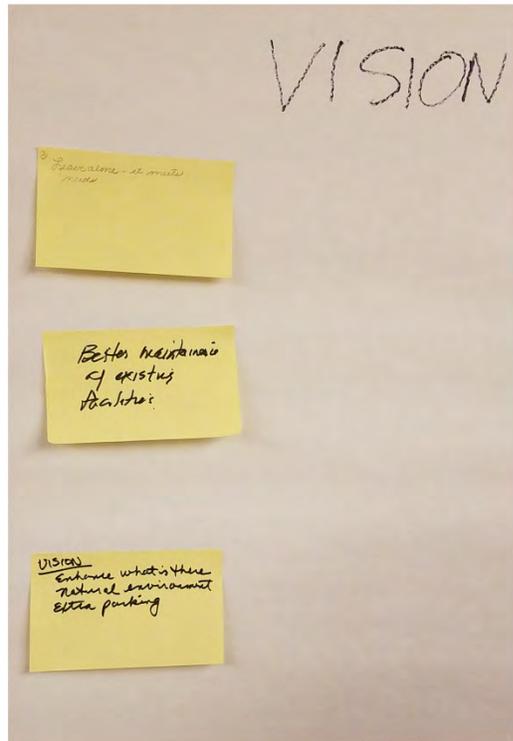
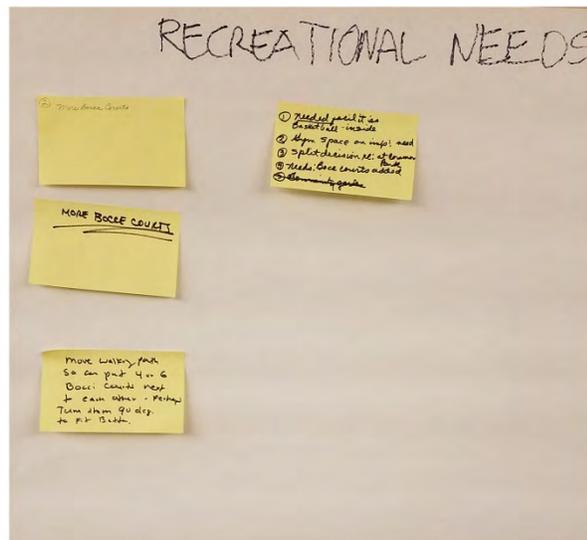
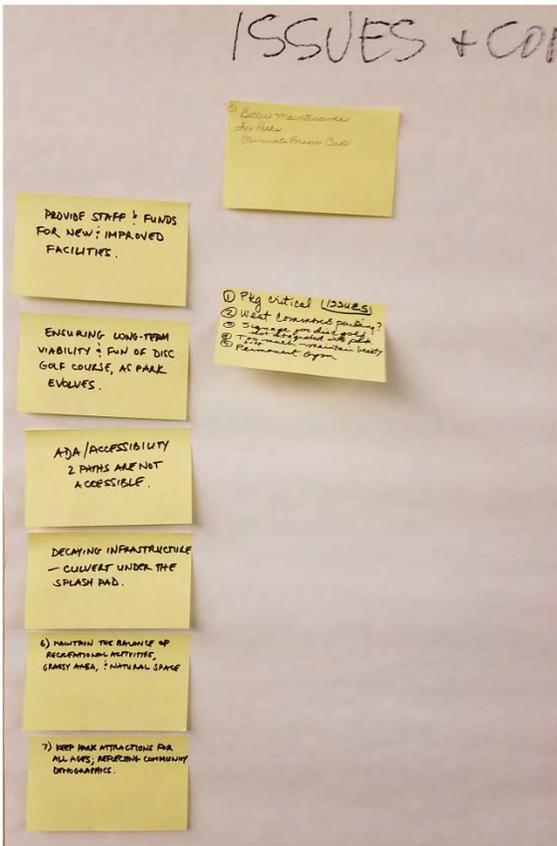
- Leave the park as it is
- Do not over-develop park
- Better maintenance of existing facilities
- Enhancing what is already in park
- Preserve unprogrammed space
- Make plans that are feasible in the short term
- More opportunities for public art
- More bike paths to the park to reduce reliance on cars

IV. Next steps

- Draft plan development
- Moraga Park and Recreation Commission – October 18.
- Moraga Town Council – November 9 (to be confirmed)

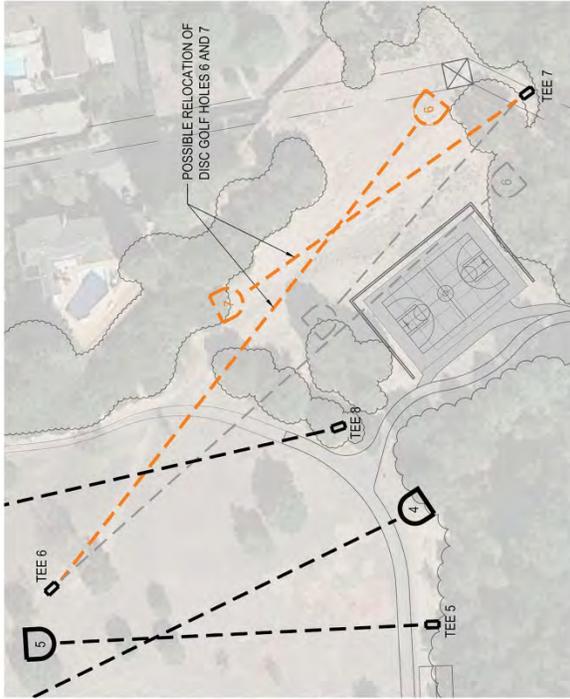




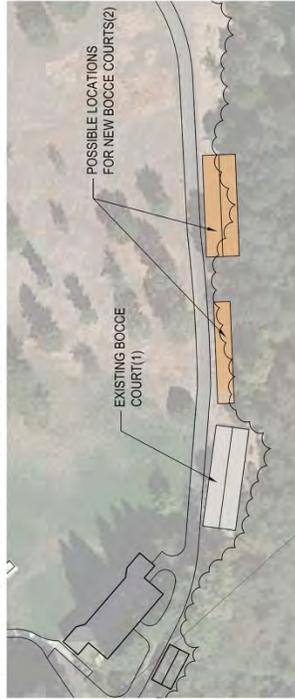




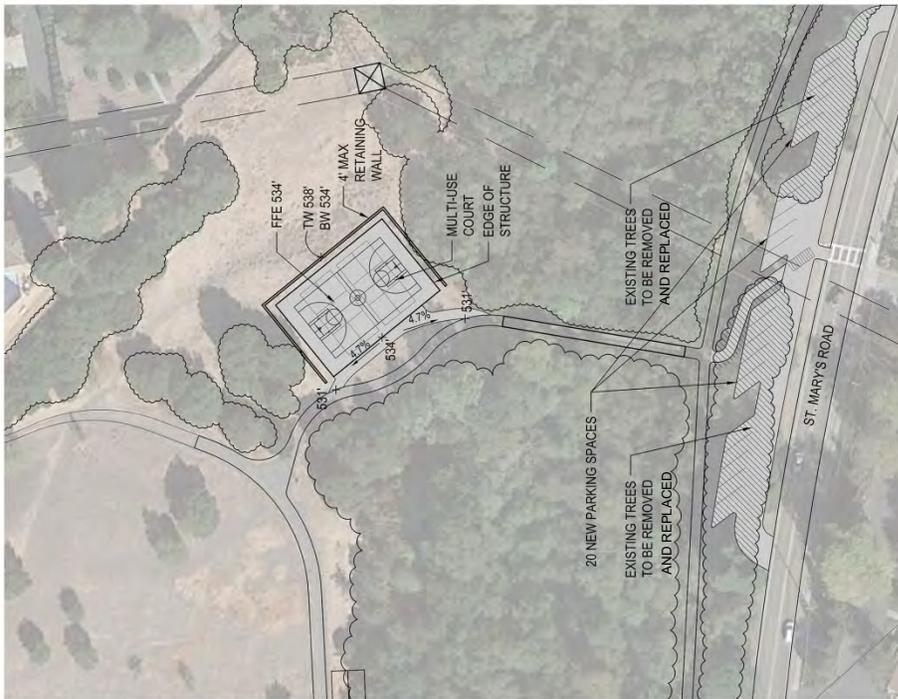
Moraga Commons Park Master Plan - Existing Conditions
Town of Moraga - Parks and Recreation Department



BACK 40 - DISC GOLF HOLE RELOCATION



ADDITIONAL BOCCIE COURT(S)



BACK 40 - INDOOR SPORT COURT / GYMNASIUM AND PARKING

Moraga Commons Park Master Plan - Potential Developments

Town of Moraga - Parks and Recreation Development
4 OCTOBER 2016

Moraga Commons Site Specific Master Plan
Community Workshop #2

Agenda

Thursday, October 4, 2016, 6:30 PM
Hacienda de las Flores – 2100 Donald Drive, Moraga

- I. Welcome, Introductions, Review of meeting agenda**
- II. Master Plan process**
 - What we have heard so far
 - Planning background for Moraga Commons
- III. Issues and Visioning**
 - Small group breakouts to discuss the following questions (15 minutes):
 - o What are current issues and concerns in the Commons?
 - o Any recreational needs/facilities not being met and could be at Commons Park?
 - o What is your vision for the future of the Commons?
 - o Ideas for use of the “Back 40” area - or leave it as is?
 - Reconvene and small group report back (30 min.)
 - Review of small group reports (5 min.)
- IV. Next steps and final thoughts**
 - **Upcoming meetings to review draft plan (dates to be confirmed):**
 - Tuesday, October 18, 2016 – Moraga Park and Recreation Commission**
 - Wednesday, November 9, 2016 – Moraga Town Council**

Project Contacts:

Jay Ingram – Moraga Parks and Recreation Director: jingram@moraga.ca.us

Douglas Nelson – RHAA Landscape Architects: doug@rhaa.com

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