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Reservoir Parking Lot Update Mostly Complete

By Cathy Tyson



Photo Cathy Tyson

Blame it on the rain. While the new and improved parking lot at the Lafayette Reservoir is almost complete, there have been some delays due to inclement weather. The East Bay Municipal Utility District is upgrading the main parking lot to help improve traffic flow and provide more short-term parking spaces. The old parking meters are still there, though noticeably wobbly- the new updated solar-powered meters slated to be installed will accept plastic as well as quarters for payment. A parallel row of additional short term parking is awaiting striping. Included in the workplan is construction of new ADA-compliant sidewalks, guardrails, curbs and benches.

Pedestrians may not notice the new bio-retention system that will filter parking lot storm water runoff before it's discharged into the reservoir.

There's still a bit of work to be done that is temperature-dependent, said EBMUD spokesperson Nora Harlow referring to stamping the asphalt and a slurry seal that requires a minimum temperature to cure. She estimates it should all be complete in the next month or so.

Bring some extra quarters, starting in January of this

year the hourly rate has gone up from \$1 to \$1.50, the hourly fee was last increased in 2002. In addition, there has been an increase in the price of an annual pass from \$100 to \$120. Seniors can get a discounted annual pass for \$80.

On a recent gray day the lack of spring-like weather didn't deter a substantial number of young moms with strollers or happy dog walkers, and folks just looking for a good workout. The Lafayette Reservoir is as busy as ever - just mind the orange cones.

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