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## The Moraga Park Connection

By Sophie Braccini



The project site

Image provided

When the Moraga Planning Commission agreed in mid-December to the creation of a 5-acre nature area across from the Moraga Commons Park, it also recommended that this new park be accessed only through Camino Ricardo, or from the future development that will occur one day to the south of the property. The idea of crossing Moraga Road to link the two parks was not appealing to the commissioners. But on Jan. 6 town staff came to the commission to

make the case for a connection to Moraga Road. Town Manager Jill Keimach described the vision of an integrated pedestrian network of trails and parks in Moraga and beyond. The commission finally approved, with conditions, an access from the new park across Laguna Creek (that borders the park along Moraga Road) to regional trails; the point of crossing Moraga Road at the existing traffic light or other location will be determined as

part of the Livable Moraga Road plan. The 5-acre nature area will be dedicated to the town by Summerhill Development as scheduled in its plan to develop a more than 12-acre parcel off Camino Ricardo and reaching Moraga Road to the east. At a previous meeting the Planning Commission recommended the elimination of a pedestrian bridge that would cross Laguna Creek and facilitate access from Moraga Road.

... continued on page A9

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