

# Forebay Park Public Outreach Meeting Summary

An onsite public meeting was held at Forebay Park in Pollock Pines, CA on Wednesday, May 18, 2022 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. The open house format consisted of a presentation by HELIX. The presentation included:

1. An outline of the projects process, including the work already completed and the next steps.
2. The results of the Forebay Park Survey, which closed on April 17, 2022.
3. The draft conceptual design with specific details of how the survey responses and the prior steps formed the design. (See Figure 1)

**Figure 1 – Forebay Park Draft Conceptual Design**



Participants were invited to participate in a town-hall like discussion, ask questions, and/or write down thoughts and concerns about the improvements shown in the conceptual design, additional improvements they would like to see, the master planning process thus far, and the timeline of future improvements.

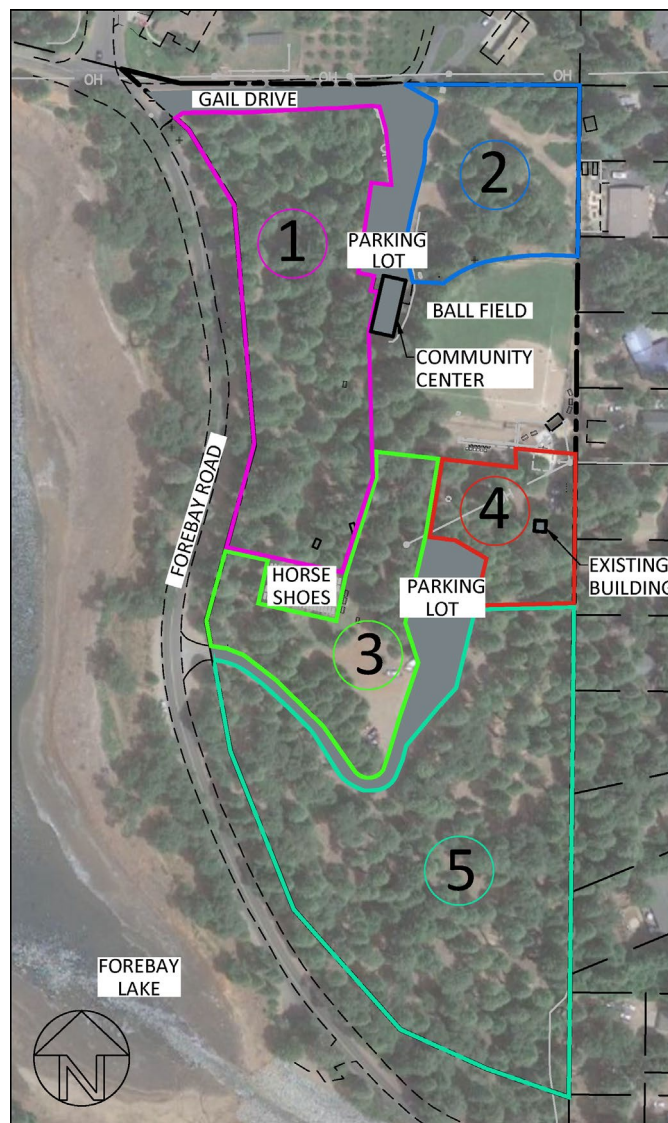
In addition to HELIX staff and El Dorado County Parks Manager Vickie Sanders, 21 guests from the community were present. Following is a summary of comments received by attendees.

### **Summary of Comments:**

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Much of the discussion was broken down by the different improvement zones presented in the Forebay Park Survey (See Figure 2)

**Figure 2 – Forebay Park Improvement Zones**



Area 1: (Proposed walking paths & disc golf)

- Attendees expressed concern that this area was too small for a disc golf course and wondered if that was a worthwhile use for only a few baskets.
- There were concerns about errant discs running into the traffic along Forebay Road or other park users.
- Attendees pointed out how strongly disc golf was supported on the survey although that contingent was not present at the in-person meeting.
- It was suggested that a gathering area, such as a rentable group picnic area, near the community center would be valuable. This would enhance the park's function for group gatherings.

Area 2: (Proposed a dog park)

- Attendees wanted separate areas for small and large dogs.
- Attendees wanted to retain the trees within the dog park.
- Adjacent property owners voiced concerns about the impact of a dog park so close to their homes and suggested that a larger buffer, such as a 50' buffer, would help to minimize the impacts.
- It was recommended the dog park be placed closer to the parking lot.

Area 3: (Proposed restroom, horseshoes, extension of walking and disc golf)

- Restrooms overall were highly desired and people said they get high use from others including delivery drivers.
- Restroom use generated curiosity as to whether they would be open 24/7 and if they would be locked.
- The president of the horseshoe club requested a shed (10'x10') near the horseshoe area.
- The exposed dirt area is currently used as necessary overflow parking and cannot be used for disc golf or a walking path.

Area 4: (proposed playground, exercise equipment, maintenance road)

- Some people thought it would be nice to have the exercise equipment spread out along the walking path while some considered it possibly unsafe for people to be using equipment in remote locations due to health and privacy concerns.
- Conesus was to move the exercise equipment down to the north end of area 5.
- General support for the playground in this location.

Area 5: (Proposed bike pump track or disc golf & walking paths)

- Many residents whose property abuts this area had concerns about cleanliness, trespassing, privacy, and fire safety. They have experienced people driving through their property as well as trespassers within their property line.
- Attendees see a lot of wildlife in this area and don't want to a lot of trees torn down.
- Some residents voiced concerns over erosion from an unpaved trail.
- There was not strong support for the bike pump track nor the disc golf.
- Attendees wanted to see a paved multi-use trail that can be used by walkers, strollers, wheelchairs, bicycles, and scooters.

Homeowner concerns:

- Many adjacent homeowners commented on the proximity of various park features to their residences, as well as trespassing and access concerns.

- Attendees like having a buffer along their property, but another fence wasn't deemed necessary.
- Residents along the southeast edge requested the County replace their existing fence.
- Access to adjacent properties is important to many residents as they use the current drives for fire egress, RV/trailer pull-throughs.
  - This is to be discussed directly with the County.

#### General Comments:

- Attendees wanted to retain as many trees as possible and the natural feel of the park.
- The strongest support amongst attendees was for an accessible walking path, playground, and better restroom facilities.
- Fire safety was a high priority for the community. It was recommended by Vickie and understood by attendees that having barbeques and ash cans available and placed in coordination with the fire captain is preferred over allowing users to bring their own barbeques. Barbeques will be removed if there is a ban due to fire danger.
- There were concerns about the speed of drivers on Forebay Road in excess of the speed limit. Residents wanted to see traffic calming measures implements such as speed bumps, stop signs, and/or crosswalks
- One attendee asked when phase 1 Construction might begin. It was noted that the schedule is aiming for groundbreaking in 2023.
- There is an interest in adding historical pieces throughout the park in the form of a Miwok Village or a gold rush theme. Interpretive panels could be located along the walking path to highlight the history of the area.
- Pickleball was mentioned by a few attendees, but it was noted that the activity didn't make it into the top 3 in the survey.

### Written Comments

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1. Comment 1:
  - a. Disc golf course will not accommodate many holes (definitely not 9) given typical fairway lengths (300-450') and widths (150-250'). As much as I'd like to see D.G. course added, there's honestly not enough space.
  - b. DO NOT PAVE any proposed trail! Consider DG or other more natural aesthetic that can still accommodate multi-use, be designed to allow drainage/prevent erosion and retain natural character.
    - i. Relatedly, finish circular trail around east side of lake where it disconnects at inlet.
  - c. Put dog park on south side of parking lot (where disc golf is proposed) to satisfy adjacent property owners' privacy.
  - d. #1 priority – PLAYGROUND FOR ALL ABILITIES!!!
  - e. #2 – Gathering space/pavilion/music amphitheater.
  - f. Site #1 – Instead of DG course (not large enough) why not consider ropes course, zipline structure (perhaps with private concessionaire & related insurance)??
2. Comment 2:
  - a. Leave some trees in dog park.
  - b. Group picnic area by lodge.

- c. Crosswalk/speed bumps at entrance & Gail Drive.
- d. Scattered picnic tables throughout.
- e. Area 5 – paved walking path around exterior.
- f. Area 3 – accessible playground and/or Area 2.