El Sobrante: Tour to offer glimpse of future mini-park at public library

By Tom Lochner Contra Costa Times

EL SOBRANTE -- A "special preview tour" for the public of a future mini-park behind the public library, 4191 Appian Way, at 10 a.m. Saturday will feature a native plant tour and a ribbon-cutting before a gallery of Contra Costa County and East Bay Regional Park District dignitaries.

The almost $1 million project will include restoration of a section of San Pablo Creek, which runs behind the library, as well as landscaping near the library, in partnership between the group San Pablo Watershed Neighbors Education and Restoration Society (SPAWNERS), the county Public Works Department, the county library and the office of county Supervisor John Gioia, according to a news release from Gioia's office.

The project will include interpretive displays, a new open public plaza for group gatherings, an enhanced demonstration garden, a children's sensory garden, expansion and resurfacing of the library parking lot, and replacement of the padding under the play structure.

Funding for the project will consist of $641,740 from the park district's Measure WW, $269,656 in county Park Dedication Funds and $80,000 from the county Library. The ribbon-cutting ceremony will be followed by refreshments and the plant tour, led by creek volunteer group SPAWNERS.

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