

# Pathway Project Dead on Arrival at Council Meeting

By Cathy Tyson

No go at this time for the proposed Class 1 bicycle and pedestrian path along the EBMUD right of way property that meanders through downtown Lafayette. On November 14, the City Council considered the final feasibility study from a consultant team headed by Ian Moore of Alta Planning and Design. A CalTrans grant paid to examine the feasibility of a one and a half mile bike and pedestrian pathway just north of Mt. Diablo Boulevard from Risa Road to Brown Avenue that would connect with the BART station. Turns out that it is possible to build a path, but due to elevation

changes, tricky intersections and retaining walls – it’s surprisingly expensive.

It took more than a year to analyze technical, planning, logistical and regulatory issues that would impact the path, if built. A number of residents attended two workshops, offering comments and suggestions. Participants from EBMUD to Caltrans to the East Bay Regional Park District and BART gave input on engineering challenges and constraints regarding the pathway on the right of way over large buried water pipes in the heart of the city.

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# BART Ramp Access Partially Remedied



Photo Cathy Tyson

The handicapped ramp issue reported on in the October 12 issue, *Handicapped Ramp Inaccessible to Disabled BART Patrons*, is now partially remedied. The south side of the BART station had a \$2 million ramp completed in April, but until relatively recently there were no curb cuts or handicapped parking spots for folks with mobility issues to get to the fancy new switchback ramp leading to the station. Now there is a curb cut,

with adjacent ‘no parking’ space outlined in red, but there are still no handicapped parking spots in that lot. On a recent day, the curb cut didn’t look that welcoming with construction cones and yellow tape nearby. BART spokesperson Jim Allison reported that the handicapped parking requirement for the station had already been met with conveniently located spots in the north lot, a short and flat distance from the station. C. Tyson

## As Seen in Lafayette:



Who knew the brand new Lafayette Library and Learning Center would be in need of repair work so soon? The outside steps that lead from the front plaza down to the lower patio area and amphitheater failed – lifting up – as of press time the cause was uncertain. Due to safety concerns, access was restricted until repair work is complete. The Building Manager estimates the stairs should be open for business as of publication time. C. Tyson



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