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All-Access-Playground is a sure thing

... continued from page A1

The list of donors is long and includes some big contributors such as all the area Rotary clubs, the Moraga Valley Kiwanis, the Orinda Community Foundation, the Lafayette Community Foundation, and some smaller but nonetheless meaningful contributors such as the Lafayette Youth Council, as well as middle school and high school kids contributing to help other kids.

Lafayette resident Steve Parlatt, whose disabled son is involved in a lot of structured sports activities available in the larger Lamorinda community, says he is very excited to see the

opening of a recreation option for free and unplanned fun. He notes that the reaction of other kids to his son who has very different abilities has always been good and he looks forward to a space where able as well as disabled children can interact. Parlatt who has been a constant supporter of the Moraga project, believes that the new park's design is intelligent and adapted.

Ingram hopes to take the bid documents to award the construction work to the council in June. The town has committed close to \$200,000 to study and grade the site that the new playground will

occupy. The money comes from development fees earmarked for recreation and Ingram does not think that other financial challenges in town would impact that project. Ingram anticipates breaking ground after the Fourth of July celebrations, with a ribbon cutting in October.

Moraga Rotary will continue to raise funds until June in an attempt to get to \$300,000 to accommodate the town's wish for an upgraded fence, any potential cost overruns and to possibly aid the town for some part of the grading and preparation costs for the site.

Lafayette Sculpture to roundabout

Addressing concerns from council members regarding traffic, and safety should some high-spirited youth attempt to climb it, Mudgett said that there would be several boulders around the structure, protecting both it and motorists from collision. Weighing approximately 3,000 pounds, he pointed out it will be secure and strong.

Council Member Mark Mitchell commented, "The more I see it, the more I like it." However the view was not shared

by fellow Council Member Ivor Sampson, who did not agree that it fit with Lafayette and said he would prefer additional trees instead.

Mudgett said he would have the pedestal installed in August, with the sculpture itself installed in November and lighting completed by the end of the year.

From four finalists selected out of the original proposals, in March the PAC narrowed the field down to Mudgett's "Resolve" and Gale Wagner's "Pals:

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Chameleon and Dragonfly." The public was invited to weigh in with comments through the city's roundabout art webpage and a display at the Lafayette Library and Learning Center.

The PAC, after examining the 121 public comments and keeping in mind such issues as maintenance decided "Resolve" best fit the criteria.

The council voted four against one for the art piece, with Samson against.

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