

CITY OF ALBANY  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
STAFF REPORT

Agenda date: December 8, 2011

**TO:** Parks and Recreation Commission

**FROM:** Penelope Leach, Recreation and Community Services Director

**SUBJECT:** Par Course Ohlone Greenway

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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Discussion only

**BACKGROUND**

BART is currently seismically retrofitting the columns under the BART tracks in Albany. Gates and Associates, a consulting firm hired by the City to assist in creating a Master Plan for the Ohlone Greenway in 2007/2008, worked with City Commissions, staff, and citizens to develop and review design plans for the Ohlone Greenway. The community involvement process for the design of the Ohlone Greenway was extensive and the par course was part of the community discussions. Due to funding limitations, the plan that was ultimately submitted and approved by Council included pedestrian/bicycle path, irrigation, and tree/vegetation improvements only. At the time, there was very little interest in pursuing a new par course, or improving the existing par course as the emphasis was on improving the bike/pedestrian path.

Planning for the Ohlone Greenway was again discussed after Measure WW was passed in 2008. For the first few months in 2009, the Parks and Recreation Commission developed a list of potential projects for Measure WW funding. Ohlone Greenway improvements, including the par course, were among those listed, but did not end up on the list of projects presented and approved by Council.

Per the licensing agreement with BART no work other than that specifically detailed in the contract may take place until the completion of the project. BART has exclusive rights to the property until such time that the project is complete. There is no exact completion date as the project will go into late 2012 and possibly 2013.