

# Jean Sweeney Open Space Park



# Background Information

- 22-acre parcel purchased from Southern Pacific Railroad at its original purchase price due to advocacy efforts of Jean Sweeney.
- May 2013: Council approved six recreation use types following an extensive community input process.
  - Walk and bike trails
  - Natural open space
  - Picnic areas
  - Community gardens
  - Natural playgrounds
  - Open lawn areas
- April 2014: Recreation and Park Commission recommended final Master Plan.
- Kristoffer Köster of KK Design Studio, and Planning Board member, developed the draft Master Plan pro bono.

# Master Plan Strategies

- Uses approved recreation use types as the foundation.
- Groups more active areas on outside edges, for cost efficiency and to preserve quieter central area.
- Cross Alameda Trail along northern edge.
- Tree buffer as a natural sound barrier for residential.
- Parking lots to draw parking away from residential.

# Public Input Process

- Draft Master Plan was reviewed by:
  - Recreation and Park Commission
  - Commission on Disability Issues
  - Youth Advisory Commission
  - Transportation Commission
  - Planning Board
  - Jean Sweeney Open Space Park Planning Committee
  - Community Garden Steering Committee
  - Design Review Team (City staff)
  - Additional input received by
    - Residents reviewing the plan on the website
    - Bike Walk Alameda

## Revisions to Master Plan

**Made the overall design less “developed”**

**Added the right of way for future transit**

**Changed the community garden to 1-acre fenced plots and 1-acre of demonstration gardens and urban orchard. This also opens up the park entrance on Constitution Way and makes it more prominent.**

**Moved the outdoor classroom to the west, adjacent to the garden.**

**Made the frog pond smaller and extended the dry creek east and west. This entire water feature will be a seasonal creek that is part of the storm drainage system.**

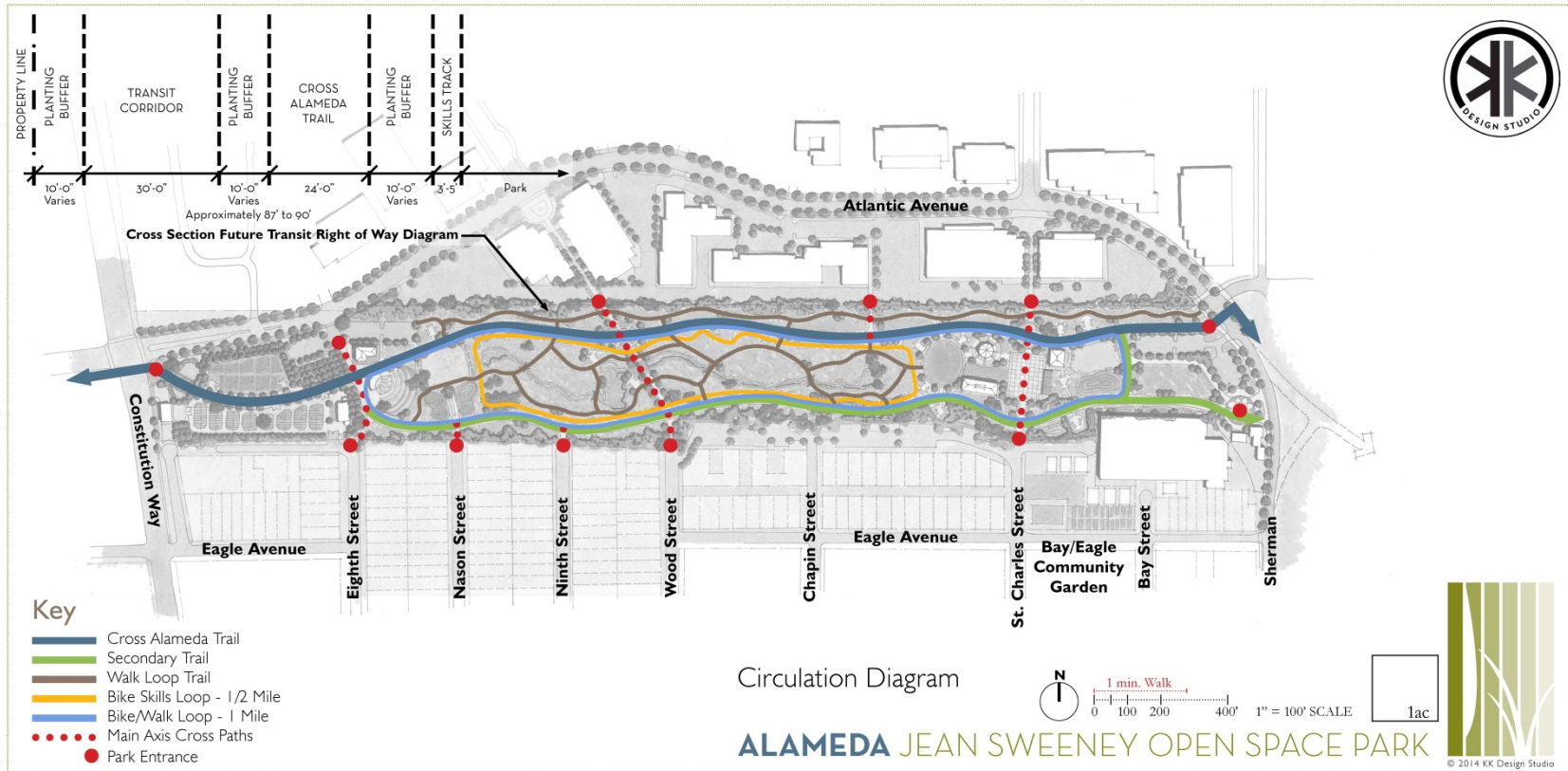
**Made the “Great Lawn” smaller**

**Added a grass hill on the east side**

**Removed the bike park and added the bike skills track loop**

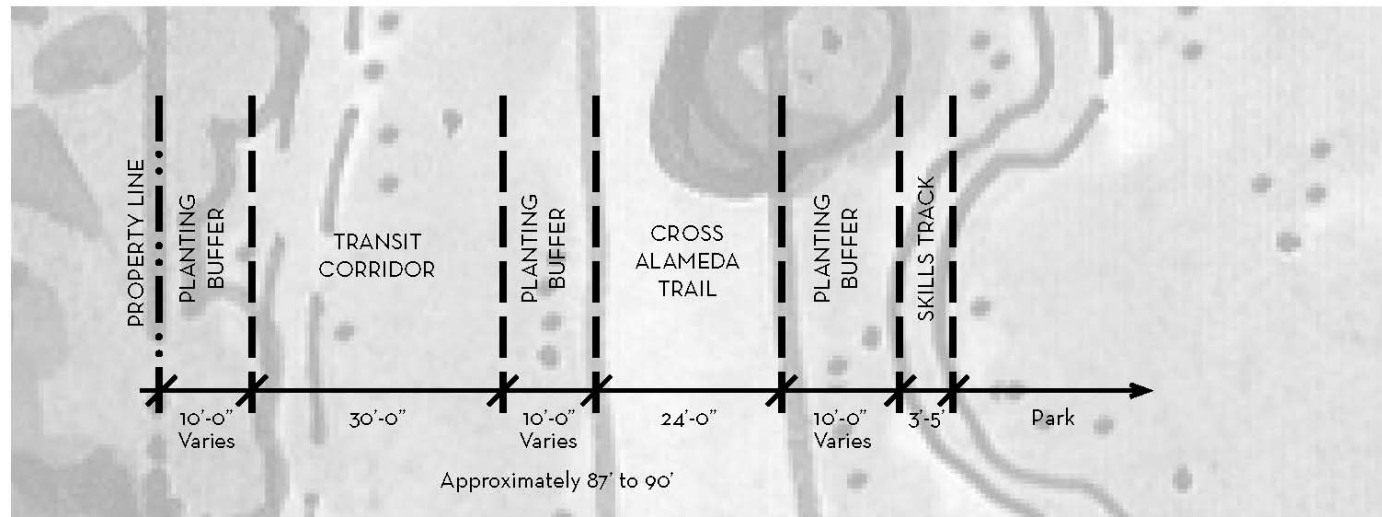
**Added a third connection on the north side into Marina Village Business Park**

# Circulation





# Future Transit Right of Way



Key Map



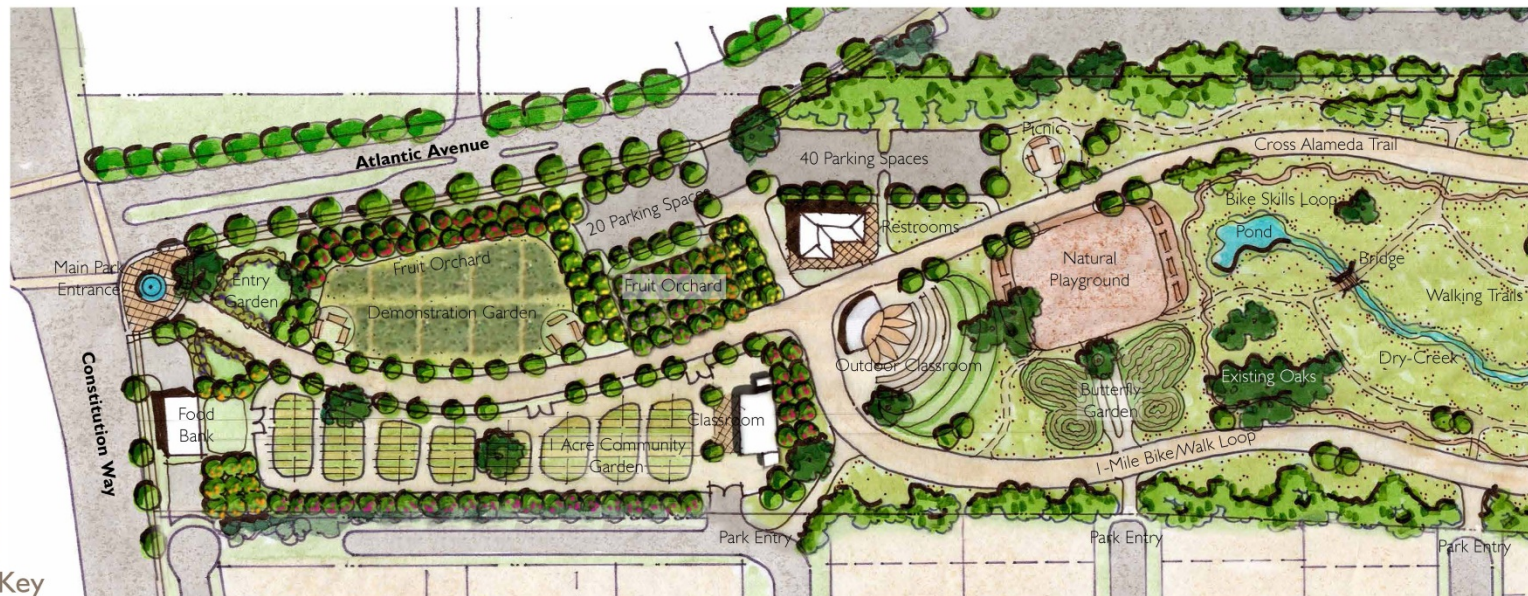
Cross Section Future Transit Right of Way Diagram



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# West Entrance

Note: A 30 foot right of way has been provided along the north side of the park for a future transit corridor (see attached cross section)



## Key

	Fruit Tree Orchard		Fountain		Natural Landscape
	Existing Oak Trees		Water & Dry Creek		Lawn Area
	Park Structure		Foot Bridge		Existing Vegetation
	1 Mile Trail & Bike Loop		Plaza or Special Paving		Community Garden

Enlarged Masterplan Diagram  
West Entrance Diagram

**ALAMEDA JEAN SWEENEY OPEN SPACE PARK**



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# Natural Playgrounds





# Outdoor Classroom Examples





# Center Park

Note: A 30 foot right of way has been provided along the north side of the park for a future transit corridor (see attached cross section)



Key		

Enlarged Masterplan Diagram  
Center Park

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# East Entrance

Note: A 30 foot right of way has been provided along the north side of the park for a future transit corridor (see attached cross section)



## Key

 Fruit Tree Orchard	 Fountain	 Natural Landscape
 Existing Oak Trees	 Water & Dry Creek	 Lawn Area
 Park Structure	 Foot Bridge	 Existing Vegetation
 1 Mile Trail & Bike Loop	 Plaza or Special Paving	 Community Garden

Enlarged Masterplan Diagram  
East Entrance

**ALAMEDA** JEAN SWEENEY OPEN SPACE PARK



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# Community Garden

- 1-acre community plot garden adjacent to the Alameda Food Bank.
- 1-acre of informational demonstration gardens and urban orchard
- Community Garden Steering Committee with representatives from Alameda Backyard Growers, Project Leaf and Alameda County Master Gardeners
- Collaborative efforts to provide free plots and produce for the Food Bank.



# CEQA

- City is circulating the draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) evaluating the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project.
- The draft MND finds that the park project has minimal environmental impacts, and those that do occur are related to the construction period (e.g. dust, construction traffic, etc.) Those potential impacts are identified and mitigations are recommended to minimize those impacts.

# Next Steps

- Recommendations to City Council July 15, 2014
- Once approved, this Master Plan will be the roadmap for fundraising, final design, and park development.
- Park development is unfunded. Timeline and scope will be dependent upon securing grants and private donations from businesses and individuals.
- Total budget estimate = \$8 Million
- Funding Update
  - Active Transportation Program
  - Land and Water Conservation Fund
  - New National Park Service national pilot program grant
  - Tim Lewis Communities

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