

Borel Agricultural Park Community Workshop 1 Summary

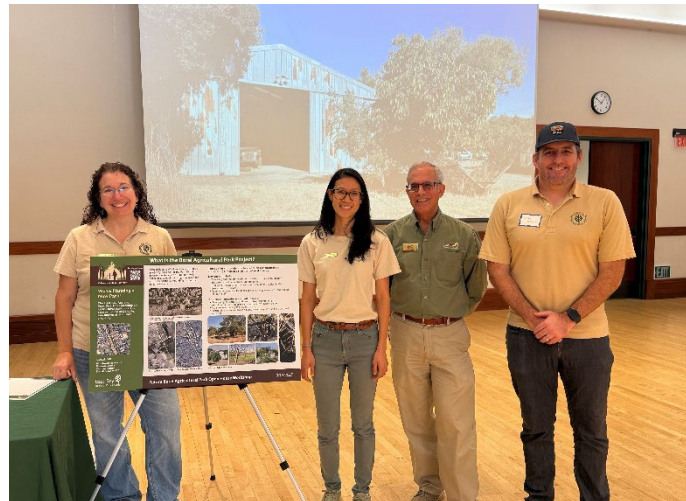
East Bay Regional Park District

September 14, 2025

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

I. WORKSHOP OVERVIEW

The Borel Community Workshop was held on Sunday, September 14, 2025 from 10:00 am-12:00 pm at the Town of Danville Community Center. This workshop was the first opportunity for the public to provide feedback on the three Concept Alternatives developed for the Borel Agricultural Park project.



Invitations were distributed to the public through multiple avenues. A mailer was printed and mailed to neighboring residents closest to the future park site, totaling 294 addresses. The mailer included event info and a QR code linking to the Project website for people to learn more about the project before attending. A digital version of the mailer was posted on the District's social media accounts. (See mailer graphics below.) The invitation was also emailed to District contacts and board members.

Mailer (front and back):



The workshop was held indoors, with a looping photo reel of the site and 6 staffed stations where attendees could learn about the project, ask questions, and provide feedback on the Concept Alternatives.

The workshop was moderately attended with a mix of the project team, local community, and District Board Member John Mercurio.



Project Team attendees:

Name	Station
Kim Thai	Welcome/Sign In/Project Background
Drake Hebert	Station/Concept A
Spence Koehler	Station/Concept B & C
Neoma Lavalle	Additional Comments Board/Kids Station
Brenda Montano	Archives

Approximately 20 members of the public attended the workshop. Attendees included nearby residents, and at least one person who had known Mr. Borel. Some attendees had no prior knowledge of the project, and others had been following the project for several years

II. STATIONS.

The Workshop included several stations, where attendees were able to interact with staff and review project information and materials.

Station 1. Welcome & Project Background

- Welcome and introduction to the workshop format
- Sign-In Sheet
- Project Background board to provide history and context for the project

Station 2. Concept A: School Group/Education Focus



- Blue Post-it notes were used to collect feedback
- 13 comments were received:
 - Too much parking, no need for bus parking
 - Like monument + lawn on corner
 - Add a water feature that splashes to drown out highway. Include chess tables
 - Keep car barn – that is a Borel barn, unlike the wood one
 - Put in [an] open link to San Ramon Creek – don't fence it off! Trail someday!
 - Not enough walkability around and through the demonstration orchard
 - I like the large lawn and adjacent picnic area. Not so wild about the parking front and center
 - Great idea I like it
 - Seems to have the most activities to draw future users/visitors
 - I like the lawn + picnic area
 - Interpretive play is great idea
 - Very walkable I like it
 - I like this least, a lot of parking, maybe too much; like a perimeter fence if there is not security residence



Station 3. Concept B: Regional Education Focus



- Pink Post-it notes were used to collect feedback
- 9 comments were received:
 - If there is not a security residence, I like the meandering path outside of the perimeter fence. This would be available after hours.
 - Potential access would be nice, to the creek. Again, a security question for the homeowners along the creek.
 - I like the front access on this option to walk along the creek.
 - Access the creek – plan ahead for the trail.
 - Not as flexible or usable; might be too passive; lawns/park – like space missing.
 - I like the separate pedestrian entry and park along the roadside. This is my favorite of the three, but I would want picnic/lawn like Concept A
 - Open the creek – birds, hiking
 - Keep Borel farm + all cars
 - Appreciate parking inside, leaving trees on Camino Ramon

TOWN OF DANVILLE

CONTRA COSTA FLOOD CONTROL

SAN RAMON CREEK

Remove Invasives

25' Riparian Buffer Zone

Visual Screen Planting

New Security Standoff

Staff Parking Lot

Viewing Interpretive Exhibit

New Interpretive Shade Pavilion

New Monument Sign/Carve Identity

New Entry Kiosk

Vehicle and Pedestrian Entry

Car Collection + Park District Meeting Space

Signage: "Closed Duck to Down"

COSTCO PARKING LOT

MARSHALLS

FUTURE WILDLIFE DEVELOPMENT

PROPERTY LINE

CAMINO RAMON

LEGEND:

- GATHERING AREAS
- INTERPRETIVE FOCUS AREA
- EDUCATION + VISITOR SERVICES
- MAINTAINED ORCHARD
- BUILDINGS
- PARKING AND DRIVEWAYS
- RIPIARIAN BUFFER
- ENGLISH WALNUT TREE
- CALIFORNIA NATIVE TREE
- WELCOME ELEMENT
- MAIN ENTRANCE
- PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION
- FENCE

- Yellow Post-it notes were used to collect feedback
- 12 comments were received:
 - Nice walking areas
 - Like this concept best; I like the large walking area around the walnut trees and I like the entrance to the walk path closer to the homes. However, with the walking area open all hours, I would want the security residence so that there was safety at night. I like preserving the buildings and equipment. If there wasn't a security resident, I would prefer the whole park closed at night.
 - I like the demonstration orchard
 - Using SR SP station somewhere more visible would be good
 - Get to the Creek for visitors. Have some vision
 - Corp yard on Danville property is good. Help it trail too
 - Like monument on corner
 - I like this option best because it is passively interactive, provides walking opportunities, and seems like the most feasible to achieve
 - Support for monument + setting parking back and screening from Costco + street
 - Best layout of roads + parking
 - Interest in a trail connection to creek trail

- I like this concept best, I like the security residence, I like the large interpretive orchard, I like the walking access for neighbors with walking- entrance closer to the homes

Station 5. General Comments

- Green Post-it notes were used to collect feedback
- 2 comments were received:
 - Try to make it advertised to Costco visitors
 - I prefer curved paths because it feels less forced

Station 6. Archival Table

Brenda Montano, the Park District's archivist, hosted a table with a collection of documents, school books, periodicals, personal history accounts, and assorted artifacts from Armand Borel's life and walnut farm to peruse and learn from.

Station 7. Kids' Activity Table

Children were provided crayons and student surveys to provide their input on the following:

- Their experience with agricultural parks and gardens
- What types of park elements and activities they prefer
- Topics they were interested in learning more about
- Their ideal learning styles
- Interest in volunteering and after-school programs at the park
- A free-response section where they could write or draw their ideas



Once the public portion of the workshop concluded, staff discussed the event and feedback received. At a high level, it was observed that most of the public seemed excited with the possibilities presented in the alternatives.