



**For Immediate Release**

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## **Assemblymember Bauer-Kahan and Orinda City Leaders Announce Securing \$125,000 in State Funding for the City’s “San Pablo Creek Pedestrian Trail and Restoration Design” Project**

*Assemblymember Bauer-Kahan and Orinda City and Community Leaders announce funding has been secured for local beatification and environmental restorative San Pablo Creek project*

**Orinda, CA** – Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan (D-Orinda), City of Orinda Mayor Amy Worth, Orinda Vice-Mayor Dennis Fay, Orinda Chamber of Commerce Vice-President Juliet Don, and the Board President of the Friends of Orinda Creeks, Bob Stoops, gathered today to announce the acquisition of funds in the 2021-2022 California State Budget to begin work on the San Pablo Creek Pedestrian Trail and Restoration Design project.

“I was happy to be able to secure state funding that will get us one step closer to creating greater public access along the San Pablo Creek,” said Assemblymember Bauer-Kahan. “This project

will help make downtown Orinda a destination for shoppers and diners, and ensure improved water quality, healthier habitat, and a stable streambank for the people of Orinda.”

The City of Orinda’s proposed San Pablo Creek Pedestrian Trail and Restoration Design project will create a preferred pedestrian trail, restore creek alignment, and develop 60% design drawings. In its current condition, the downtown section of San Pablo Creek is difficult to access and not open to the public. It is also not designed to protect water quality and offers limited habitat value. The goals for the project are to prepare restoration design plans for the San Pablo Creek.

“San Pablo Creek is a tremendous asset to Orinda and is an important amenity for the Village District of our Downtown,” said Mayor Amy Worth, “and we so appreciate the funding secured by Assemblymember Bauer-Kahan to assist us in planning for enhanced access to the creek for all to better enjoy it.”

“Restoration of the downtown Orinda San Pablo creek has been a goal of the Orinda community since the creek was channelized in the late 1950s,” commented Bob Stoops, Board President of Friends of Orinda Creeks. “It represents a huge opportunity for Orinda and fits nicely into the Orinda Downtown Precise Plan.”

“On behalf of the Orinda Chamber of Commerce, we thank Assemblymember Bauer-Kahan for her assistance to secure state funding for the San Pablo Creek Pedestrian Trail and Restoration Design Project,” said Kristen Southworth, President of the Orinda Chamber of Commerce. “This funding will assist with the redevelopment of the creek area, which benefits our businesses and community.”

Design will include a green infrastructure buffer between the existing developed environments adjacent to San Pablo Creek. Concurrent with the design work, the project includes due diligence for City acquisition of property and/or creation of public access easements for all property within the project area.

