



Kottinger Creek Restoration Project
Schematic Design

KOTTINGER CREEK PARK IMPROVEMENTS

PLEASANTON, CALIFORNIA

The City of Pleasanton and the Friends of Kottinger Creek challenged the Restoration Design Group to restore the environmental structure and function of Kottinger Creek while maintaining the traditional open space setting of Kottinger Community Park. Over the years the creek had been channelized and much of its riparian vegetation had been removed. Several trail crossings had been constructed with culverts that contributed to seasonal flooding and channel erosion.

Prior to design development, RDG facilitated a series of meetings with local stakeholders to identify the full array of design considerations for the park. The integration of landscape architecture and environmental restoration played an important role in developing consensus for the design approach. The RDG

design provides a meandering creek within a continuous riparian corridor, and replaces culverts with bridges, increases floodplain storage capacity, establishes creek access points, and insures that site-lines through the park maintain public safety.

To foster restoration stewardship, RDG prepared a Management & Maintenance Guide for city staff, community volunteers, and maintenance contractors. The Guide is based on the concept of Adaptive Maintenance, a process for continually improving or modifying management practices based on lessons learned in the field, and covers techniques for site evaluations, soil bioengineering, pruning, and plant identification.