The Gateway Park Working Group

In the early 1970s, two Lafayette women who became known as the “Bike Ladies,” Avon Wilson and Lynn Hiden, began advocating for safe off-street trail access for children to local schools.

Their vision, along with the help of former Lafayette Mayor Donn Black, brought together their city, Moraga, and the East Bay Regional Park District to form a nine-member Trails Advisory Committee to explore possible trail routes. All eyes turned toward the abandoned Sacramento-Northern Railroad line.

On July 4, 1976, the Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail was dedicated at this location. One of the first Rails-to-Trails projects in the country, this trail also spurred the Park District’s growing 250-mile system of paved, multi-use Regional Trails passing through communities for all to safely enjoy.