



# Oakland Measure DD Community Coalition

## **Measure DD Community Coalition Meeting Notes for January 15, 2018**

The meeting was called to order in the Ebell Room at Lakeside Garden Center at 7:10 p.m.

The meeting was chaired by Joel Peter.  
Bill Threlfall served as recorder.

### **1. Measure DD Coalition attendance list:**

Bike East Bay – Dave Campbell, Rick Rickard

CALM – James Vann

East Bay Regional Parks – Dee Rosario

East Bay Rowing Club – Virginia Roe

Lake Merritt Weed Warriors – Jennie Gerard

Oakland Heritage Alliance – Naomi Schiff

Oakland Parks & Recreation Foundation – Barbara Schaaf, Mike Udkow

Urban Permaculture Institute – Nancy Sherman

Waterfront Action – George Duncan, Bill Threlfall, Sandy Threlfall

Interested Citizens – Joel Peter, John Sutter

City of Oakland

Measure DD Program Manager – Lesley Estes

### **2. The agenda was adopted after the addition of an item on the homeless requested by James Vann.**

### **3. Minutes of 11/13/2017 were approved by consensus.**

### **4. Measure DD project update / Bay Trail gaps update – Lesley Estes**

These two agenda topics were addressed in a single presentation.

Semi-Annual Distribution of DD Project Status Summary

Lesley distributed copies of the [January 15, 2018 Project Status Summary](#), which is also posted on the Coalition web page in the [City of Oakland Resources section](#).

She briefly noted that projects highlighted in yellow are considered active and offered a caution that the expenditures to date are still sourced from June 2017 due to the 3-month absence from service of her Measure DD program accountant. Drawing on the document's detail, she discussed the status of the following active projects:

- Lake Merritt Water Quality
- Snow Park/Lakeside Green Street Project
- Garden Center and Grande Ave entrance improvements
- Union Point Park to 23rd Avenue Trail (formerly known as Con Agra/Miller Milling)
- Livingston Pier Trail Connection
- Crowley Trail (formerly known as Brooklyn Basin) (interim trail)
- Harbor Master Trail Connection
- Embarcadero Cove Trail Improvements
- Waterfront Trail at High Street Bridge
- Waterfront Trail at Park Street Bridge

- Waterfront Trail at Fruitvale
- Estuary Park
- Lake Merritt Channel at 7th Street Project
- Lake Merritt to Estuary Connection (LM2BT)
- Creeks restoration

She addressed questions and discussion ensued, with these highlights:

- She advised that because the High Street Bridge project needs to coordinate alignment with East Bay Regional Parks project at Gallagher and Burke and that project is still in development, the priority for High Street has moved to third among the estuary bridge crossings. First priority is now the at-grade railroad crossing at Fruitvale.
- She reported that the RFP selection outcome for a design firm for the Estuary Park project will be reconsidered by either the Public Works Committee or by sending it directly to the full Council. In either event, she will notify the Coalition participants who may wish to lobby for going forward promptly with the staff recommendation.
- Asked about costs for the above projects, she estimated the waterfront trail projects would come to \$5-6M not counting the three bridge crossings; the Fruitvale at grade crossing might be \$1-2M; Estuary Park might run \$9M; and the costs at High and Park Street bridges are impossible to determine but likely will exceed available funds. She commented that of the originally allocated \$53M in Bond Section II, about \$33M remains unspent to address these waterfront trail and park projects.

## **5. Cycle track proposed for Lakeside Green Streets Project – Dave Campbell**

Dave distributed engineering and design drawings prepared by the City and explained the "cycle track" concept, noting its purpose was to provide a safer bicycle experience, especially for inexperienced cyclists. He indicated that he is seeking Coalition support for this proposed revision to the project.

Discussion and questions followed, with a focus on technical details. It was apparent that the proposed change wasn't well-understood by the Coalition meeting participants, and various suggestions were offered to gain better understanding, including obtaining section renderings or photographs of similar cycle track installations, arranging a field trip to the site for the Coalition, etc. Dave noted that the Council will act on the matter in February, so the window for input is limited. Further discussion revealed that there was broad though not unanimous support for sending a Coalition a letter to Council with general language encouraging project revisions that would yield safer, more family-friendly cycling so long as the revisions so long as the revisions did not delay project completion, did not degrade original project design aesthetics or add DD expense. Dave agreed to work with Lesley to draft a Coalition letter consistent with this consensus and forward it to Bill Threlfall for formatting and transmission on behalf of the Coalition.

## **6. Lake Merritt to Bay Trail Bridge funding proposal update – Bill Threlfall**

Bill reviewed the history of the item: At the July meeting, the Coalition expressed the view that there were "too many moving parts" to make a decision and requested that a written funding proposal be provided. On July 25, Bill prepared specifications for such a proposal and Lesley conveyed them to Diane Tannenwald, the Capital Improvement Project Coordinator, who sent [the written proposal](#) on August 29.

Unfortunately, it was missing answers in several key sections, which Diane referred to Lesley for completion. Those sections have not yet been completed, though Lesley sent email with some relevant information on January 12, after the current agenda had been distributed.

Recognizing the level of detail in the funding proposal, a committee of Coalition volunteers prepared a [summary of the proposal's key points](#) for distribution with the January agenda. They also provided [selected comments regarding the proposal](#). The full proposal, summary, and comments are available in the **LM2BT Bridge** section of the [Coalition's Archive page](#).

Bill read the proposal summary aloud and suggested that the Coalition appoint a work group to review the full proposal and work with Lesley to obtain the best possible answers for the incomplete sections. The work group would be charged to evaluate the merits of the proposal and bring a recommendation for action on it to the March Coalition meeting. Jennie Gerard offered a "friendly amendment" that the Coalition requests there be no more expenditure of DD funds until the promised deliverables are posted and a complete funding plan and accounting of DD funds for LM2BT, including for project management, are provided. After brief discussion, the Coalition expressed consensus to move forward per Bill's suggestion as amended by Jennie.

Rick Rickard, Jennie Gerard, and Bill Threlfall volunteered to serve as the work group and were so appointed by the Coalition.

## **7. Oakland Civic Auditorium development plans – Naomi Schiff**

Naomi offered brief remarks on the planned landscape features.

## **8. 10<sup>th</sup> St. project public art – Jennie Gerard**

Jennie gave a brief update and hopes to be able to arrange a presentation on the subject at an upcoming Coalition meeting.

## **9. Announcements**

- Weed Warriors Work day: February 24
- Rotary Nature Center meeting – January 24, 6:30 – 8:00PM  
There will be a "meet and greet" at the Sailboat House.
- Tidal marsh volunteer work has been suspended  
Joel advised that the area is contaminated with trash and human feces, leading to this decision.

## **10. Homeless – James Vann**

James expressed concern about the adverse impact of homeless encampments upon DD improvements at the channel and lake. A following discussion focused on tactics the Coalition might use to stimulate City monitoring and cleanup. There was consensus supporting a letter that James will draft and Bill will format and transmit on behalf of the Coalition.

## **11. Review of work assignments to Coalition participants:**

- Lesley to send electronic copy of Project Status Summary to Bill for posting on the Coalition web page.

- Dave to obtain Lesley's input and draft cycle track letter reflecting Coalition consensus; then email to bill for formatting and transmission.
- James to draft letter reflecting Coalition consensus about homeless and email to Bill for formatting and transmission
- Bill, Jennie, and Rick to assume LM2BT funding work group role as appointed
- Rick to update the [Bay Trail Gap Chart](#) to reflect tonight's reports

**12. Agenda suggestions for March 19, 2018 Meeting:**

- Bridge funding proposal – Bill, Rick, Jennie
- Expenditure report by bond category – Lesley  
(carried over from November 2016 and January 2017)
- Bay Trail gap update - Lesley
- Civic Auditorium - Naomi
- Homeless – James

The next Coalition meeting will be March 19, 2018, at 7:10 p.m. at the Garden Center Ebell Room.

**Adjourned at 9:00 p.m.**