



Oakland Measure DD Community Coalition

Measure DD Community Coalition Meeting Notes for January 16, 2017

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

The meeting was chaired by Jennie Gerard.
Bill Threlfall served as recorder.

1. Measure DD Coalition attendance list:

Alameda County Historical Society – Ed Clausen

CALM – James Vann

East Bay Regional Parks – Dee Rosario

East Bay Rowing Club – Jolie Krakauer, Virginia Roe

Lake Merritt Breakfast Club – Carol Agnello

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 – Joanna Adler, Thomas Charron, Tessa Diem, John Sutter, Chloe Tucker

2. The agenda was revised to include these additions:

- Proposed change in minimum lot size – Naomi Schiff
- Meeting Schedule – Bill Threlfall
- American Indian School impacts at the Lake – Joanna Adler

3. Minutes of 11/21/2016 were approved.

4. Measure DD project update – Lesley Estes

This item was carried over to the March 20, 2017 agenda.

5. Report on Bay Trail advocacy letter from subcommittee

John Sutter reviewed the subcommittee's membership and charge. He described the progress, noting that the [letter](#) had been written and sent and meetings had been held with Councilmembers Gallo and Guillen, and a brief contact had been made with Councilmember Kaplan. A copy of the letter may be found in the **Coalition Position Statements & Advocacy Letters** section of the [Coalition's Archive page](#). He also distributed several copies of this map prepared by East Bay Regional Parks staff: [Oakland Shoreline: Gaps in the San Francisco Bay Trail](#).

Various suggestions for additional action were offered by Coalition participants, and after discussion there was consensus that the subcommittee should work with the print and television media to increase public attention to the need for a commitment of City staff resources for Bay Trail completion.

To help the Coalition track progress, John Sutter requested that Lesley provide a report on progress at each of the remaining Bay Trail gaps.

6. Snow Park – review of planned improvements

This item was carried over to the March 20, 2017 agenda.

7. Expenditure report by bond category

This item was carried over to the March 20, 2017 agenda.

8. Self-guided walking tour proposal

James Vann briefly reviewed the history of the walking tour, noting the accomplishments of the original tour committee led by Judy Johnson. Her committee's work project is captured in its [final report](#).

He then explained that the tour had not been picked up as part of the City's Walking Tour program and was languishing. James pointed to [his proposal for a self-guided tour](#) as alternative strategy to implement the tour, building on the final report from Judy's committee. A short discussion ensued, during which Bill Threlfall emphasized that the key task for a successful self-guided tour is the writing of an engaging narrative, with a script for each tour "stop". James solicited assistance with the project, and Ed Clausen and Chloe Tucker volunteered. Bill agreed to serve as a technical resource, and James will lead the project.

9. Advocacy re: \$400K maintenance funds as "baseline budget"

Jennie Gerard reviewed the background and context for this item, which was first discussed at the [November 21, 2016 Coalition meeting](#). She suggested that a working group develop a set of "talking points" to be presented by Coalition participants at upcoming community meetings that will be scheduled by the Council to solicit citizen budget input. Naomi Schiff, Barbara Schaaf, and Nancy Sherman volunteered for this working group. In addition, Jennie proposed a Coalition letter to Council containing similar points. Naomi encouraged contact about the issue with the new director of Parks and Recreation.

10. Agenda additions:

Proposed zoning changes and impacts in Lake Merritt vicinity

Naomi Schiff advised that a Staff proposal to reduce the minimum lot size will be going to the Planning Commission. The intent of the proposal is to facilitate the creation of more housing and more affordable housing. The proposed changes would affect much of Oakland, including the Lake Merritt area. She raised a question about traffic impacts in the areas around the Lake, many of which already suffer from congestion.

Naomi indicated that the Oakland Heritage Alliance (OHA) will request an environmental review. OHA will also request public meetings seeking citizen input about the proposed changes. Neither of these steps is currently planned. She mentioned that the matter is coming to the Planning Commission "Wednesday" and encouraged Coalition participants to weigh-in with the Commission in person or by email expressing concerns about impacts and the need for a public process prior to Commission action.

Meeting on Martin Luther King Day

Bill Threlfall inquired if Coalition participants encountered any difficulty with meeting in January on the third Monday, which is always Martin Luther King holiday. No objections or points of resistance to this tradition were expressed.

American Indian School impacts at the Lake

Joanna Adler described adverse impacts of school children from the American Indian School, including recklessly boisterous behavior, littering, and plant damage. She mentioned that because the school lacks a playground, it sends the kids to the Lake parks for play, so the impacts are frequent. Appeals to teachers and the school administration have been poorly received and ineffective. Joanna sought suggestions and was encouraged to contact the Oakland Unified School District regarding the charter status of the school and the requirements for protection of citizens and public property under the charter.

11. Announcements

- Weed Warriors - Work day January 28 near Municipal Boathouse.
- Tot Lot rebuild - Mike Udkow mentioned an upcoming meeting.

12. Review of work assignments to Coalition participants:

- Bay Trail sub-committee will continue contacts with Council and initiate publicity contacts with media as described in item 5 above.
- James, Ed, and Chloe will begin work on walking tour script development and consulting with Bill Threlfall as needed as described in item 8.
- Jennie Gerard, Naomi Schiff, Barbara Schaaf, and Nancy Sherman develop "talking points" as described in item 9.

13. Agenda suggestions for March 20, 2017 Meeting:

- Semi-annual project status report spreadsheet - Lesley
- Expenditure report by bond category - Lesley
- Snow Park - review of planned improvements - Lesley
- Report on progress at each remaining estuary Bay Trail gap - Lesley
- Report on Bay Trail advocacy sub-committee update - John
- Baseline budget advocacy talking points report - Jennie
- Self-guided walking tour proposal update - James

The next Coalition meeting will be March 20, 2017, at 7:10 p.m. at the Garden Center Ebell Room.

Adjourned at 8:31 p.m.