Oakland Measure DD Community Coalition

Measure DD Community Coalition Meeting Notes for January 21, 2019

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:**
   - Alameda County Historical Society – Ed Clausen
   - Bike East Bay – Rick Rickard
   - CALM – James Vann
   - East Bay Regional Park District – Dee Rosario
   - East Bay Rowing Club – Jolie Krakauer, Virginia Roe
   - Oakland Parks & Recreation Foundation – Barbara Schaaf, Mike Udkow
   - Oakland Rotary Club – Robert Kidd
   - Rotary Nature Center Friends – David Wofford
   - Urban Permaculture Institute – Nancy Sherman
   - Waterfront Action – George Duncan, Bill Threlfall, Sandy Threlfall
   - Interested Citizens – Sam Burd, Joel Peter, John Sutter
   - City of Oakland:
     - Measure DD Program Acting Manager – Kristin Hathaway
     - Public Works – Ali Schwarz

2. The agenda was adopted after the addition of an announcement regarding the Downtown Specific Plan.

3. Minutes of 11/19/2018 were approved.

4. **Measure DD project updates – Kristin Hathaway**

Kristin briefly commented on the following projects:

- Lake Merritt Water Quality – broken trash boom at Glen Echo will be replaced.
- Bellevue Ave – complete.
- Garden gates installation - affordable solution still being pursued by staff.
- Snow Park/Lakeside Green Street Project – will be “substantially complete” by early May.
- Livingston Pier Trail Connection - complete
- Harbor Master Trail Connection – designing alternate trail alignment around the Harbor Master building.
- Embarcadero Cove Trail Improvements - complete
- Waterfront Trail at High Street Bridge – City & County staff are at impasse.
- Waterfront trail at Park Street Bridge – City & County staff are at impasse.
- Waterfront Trail at Fruitvale – design needs to address grade change.
- 333 Kennedy – continued negotiation needed.
- Lake Merritt Channel at 7th street Project – County is assessing existing pump system.
- Creek Restorations – RFP for Courtland Creek restoration design to be released this spring. Design work for Glen Echo Creek at Oak Glen Park and Sausal Creek in Beaconsfield Canyon also plan to initiate this spring/early summer.
5. Report to City Council Public Works Committee re: Bay Trail progress – Kristin Hathaway and Rick Rickard

At the January 15, 2019 Public Works Committee Meeting, Kristin delivered this Bay Trail progress report:

(Note that the downloaded file will be saved to your computer but will not automatically open due to the design of the City’s systems.)

Rick briefly described the report presentation and noted that two speakers from the Coalition urged a policy-level initiative to address the City and County staff impasse at the High and Park Street Bridge crossings. At the close of the agenda item, Councilman Kalb agreed to work with Councilman Gallo to write to County supervisors about the need to support City-County staff agreement.

Bill Threlfall complemented Kristin on an effective delivery of the report. Kristin advised that the Committee has requested a follow-up report in six months.

6. Estuary Park design and community meetings – Kristin Hathaway and James Vann

James briefly described the December 5 community meeting and noted the availability of his summary report. The slide presentations from the meeting are available at the City’s Estuary Park web page.

Coalition participants commented on the quality of the meetings and the public outreach events.

James and Ali Schwarz encouraged participation in the third meeting in the series, scheduled for January 31, 2019:
- 6:00-8:00 pm
- Jack London Aquatic Center
- RSVP to a.sabo@circlepoint.com

7. Proposed Coalition statement of recommendations for Estuary Park – Virginia Roe

Virginia presented a position statement for possible adoption by the Coalition. After discussion and minor revisions, the statement was adopted:

The redevelopment of Estuary Park with Measure DD funds deserves specific attention be paid to its unique character, in that it is one of the only free public sites from which watercraft may be launched ONTO the water. It is the position of the Measure DD Coalition that this access, and the infrastructure needed to facilitate this objective, be given significant consideration in the park’s redevelopment.

This statement is posted in the Coalition Position Statements & Advocacy Letters section of the Coalition’s archive page.
James noted that the Coalition may wish to offer more comprehensive input regarding the design of Estuary Park after receiving a presentation from representatives of Hargreaves Associates.

8. Nominations for new Agenda Committee

Coalition guidelines call for Agenda Committee selection annually at the March meeting, so nominations were considered. Joel Peter advised that he would not continue, but the Jennie Gerard and Naomi Schiff had volunteered. Nancy Sherman indicated her interest to continue. Appointments will be an agenda item for March.

9. Report on Lake Merritt Advocates January 10 meeting

David Wofford noted that funding to rehabilitate the "Green Monster" has been obtained and work will proceed soon. He reviewed a discussion of adverse impacts of scooters at the lake, and Nancy Sherman echoed this concern.

Notes from the LMA meeting are available on the Lake Merritt Advocates page at lakemerritt.org.

10. Update on Orton Development’s plan for Oakland Auditorium – James Vann

James mentioned that the Auditorium is not a Measure DD project, but lies in proximity to DD projects. He summarized major features of the preliminary design and indicated that the design team could present to the Coalition in May if desired. No consensus for such a presentation emerged.

11. Announcements and updates

- Rotary Nature Center Grand Re-opening February 16, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
- Lake Merritt Weed Warriors workday – February 23, 9 a.m. - noon
- Estuary Park community meeting #3 – January 31, 6:00 p.m @ JLAC
- A preliminary draft of the Downtown Specific Plan has been published.
- The Oakland Parks Foundation has released a report: CONTINUING CRISIS: The 2018 Report on the State of Maintenance in Oakland Parks
- The Alameda County Historical Society annual meeting will be January 24, 2019. George Duncan will keep the Coalition apprised of future events.

12. Review of work assignments to Coalition participants:

- Bill to post position statement from item 7, above.

13. Agenda suggestions for March 18, 2019 Meeting:

- Agenda Committee appointment
- Lori Fogarty, Oakland Museum: connection of museum campus to Lake Merritt
- Estuary Park design presentation by representative of Hargreaves Associates
- Bond section III: improvement of park and paths along Lake Merritt Channel – status and plans

The next Coalition meeting will be March 18, 2019, at 7:10 p.m. at the Garden Center Ebell Room.

Adjourned at 8:55 p.m.