

Measure DD Community Coalition Meeting Notes for November 15, 2010

Meeting was held in the Ebell Room at Lakeside Garden Center at 7:15 PM.
Once again, special thanks to Rick Rickard for arriving early and setting up the room!

The meeting was chaired by Barbara Schaaf and Sandy Threlfall served as recorder.

1. Measure DD Coalition Attendance List:

CALM - James Vann

EBBC – Rick Rickard

EBRPD – John Sutter

Friends of the Cleveland Cascade – David Bolanos

Friends of OPR - Anne Woodell

Oakland Parks Coalition – Judith Johnson, Barbara Schaaf, Mike Udkow

Waterfront Action – Bill Threlfall, Sandra Threlfall

Interested Citizens – Marian Beil, George Duncan,

City of Oakland

DD Manager – Joel Peter

Council District 2: Jennie Gerard

2. Additions to the agenda:

Cleveland Cascade

OPC surveys

3. Minutes of 9/20/2010 were approved by consensus.

4. Joel Peter's Update on DD Projects:

Announcements

a. Peralta Community College District is considering purchase of the Henry J. Kaiser Convention Center.

b. A Professional Baseball Stadium site at Lake Merritt Channel and Victory Court will be the topic of a December 1 Planning Commission Meeting.

Bird Islands in Lake Merritt

A one million dollar project has begun. The plan is to clear some of the non-native species and significantly reduce the amount of guano on the Islands. The excessive guano may have been responsible for killing the trees. Native trees and plants will be planted and a new fresh water supply will be added. Rip rap on the south side of the Island will be installed to deal with existing erosion and lake elevation changes that will occur when the Lake Merritt Channel is opened. Temporary staging area fencing has gone up along the shore opposite Bird Islands and the contractor hopes to complete the project before the nesting season in February.

12th Street Project

About one month behind schedule, partly due to discovery of a forest of pilings under the old culverts. It required re-designing the installation of steel braces for sheet piles support.

Cleveland Cascade: Ray's Electric

Today installation of the conduit for the LED handrails began. Anticipated completion of project will be February.

Lion Creek at 66th Avenue (Former Coliseum Gardens Housing Development)
Measure DD funds have restored a natural creek parallel with the existing concrete flood control channel. Planting is being done now. There is a trail on both sides of the creek but it does not go over the freeway.

Cryer Site

The interpretive sign relating the history of boat building should be done in December.

Brooklyn Basin (just northeast of Coast Guard Island)

The Port is proposing the lease of an easement to the City for an interim Bay Trail. Pamela Kershaw of Commercial Real Estate has indicated that it's value may be close to zero, but an appraisal is required. The lease terms sought by the Port exempt it from responsibility for maintenance or liability for the trail once it is built. Joel is proposing simple asphalt path and a low chain link fence for safety from falling into the broken sea wall.

Con Agra

We need an easement for the Bay Trail. This is an opportunity for a letter campaign to help Con Agra, a major national company, understand the importance of the trail..

Park Street Bridge Tiki Tom Restaurant fire

Diane Tannenwald had an informal meeting with the restaurant owner, who indicated that he intends to rebuild on the site, but not necessarily in exactly the same spot. If he does, it is expected that BCDC will require him to install the Bay Trail along the front of his property.

High Street Boardwalk

In response to the City's proposal to Alameda County, Joel Peter and technical staff from the City will be meeting with the County Public Works people at the site on November 30th. The County is seeking exemption from liability and maintenance responsibility for the boardwalk should it be built.

Gallagher and Burk site

The owners do not want the Bay Trail on their property, so implementation of the Bay Trail here would require the placement on Army Corps property at the edge of the Estuary. East Bay Regional Park District is working on this, along with working to get an easement at the adjacent Hanson Aggregate site.

East Oakland Sports Center on Edes Avenue

Joel brought in color prints of the project and the walls are faced with perforated metal screening to let sun in at reduced strength. The murals are painted on the screening. The project is about 95% complete and scheduled for completion in December of this year.

4.1 Interim Bay Trail at Oak to Ninth – John Sutter

John inquired about the status of a Coalition letter on this topic. It was reported that the Measure DD Community Coalition submitted a 9/1/2010 letter to BCDC requesting an interim Bay Trail within 18 months of the granting of the BCDC permit.

The letter is available on the coalition web page at:

http://www.waterfrontaction.org/dd/archive/BCDC_9-7-10.pdf

It is anticipated that the BCDC hearing on this project will be in December.

5. Jogging Path Materials - Joel Peter

Public Works is testing a few different types of paving materials for joggers. There are two new kinds of decomposed granite installed near the Lake Chalet parking area; near 19th at Lakeside the decomposed granite was removed and two additional types of paving were introduced: gorilla bark (long and stringy redwood bark) and tan bark. Experience will help determine how the various types hold up to winter and joggers.

5.1 Oakland Parks Coalition Survey - Judi Johnson

There were 119 parks, plazas and medians surveyed. Generally, the condition of the parks are improving in some areas and falling short in others. The OPC Park Stewards are not located throughout the city. An organized volunteer group does make a difference.

6. DD Coalition Administrative Support - Joel Peter

Joel will be seeking three proposals and statements of qualification in response the DD Coalition Administrative Support RFO, which will be issued near end of this month. A couple of attendees asked why he couldn't renew Waterfront Action's contract, and Joel advised that the planned procedure is needed to comply with City contract policy.

7. Coalition letter of support for Cryer Site Brownfield Grant

The Measure DD Coalition provided a letter of support for the EPA Brown Fields Grant application for the funds to assess the contamination, which is necessary before development of a remediation plan to present to the Bay Area Water Board.

The letter is available at

http://www.waterfrontaction.org/dd/archive/dd_cryer_grant.pdf

8. Letters of Support for Waterfront Trails

There are a number of places along the Trail where there are gaps – and several of these sites are owned by public agencies. Coalition members agreed that we need a letter campaign from as many people as possible to alert our representatives to the importance of closing these gaps. John Sutter and Rick Rickard agreed to draft a model letter that could help interested individuals meet this objective. The model will be made available on the Coalition's web page.

9. Punch Lists for Contracts - David Bolanos

David shared his concern that the intersection street signals require the pedestrian to push the walk button. Joel noted that this is a balance between pedestrians and automobile users, and referred him to the traffic engineering department in the City.

10. Lake Merritt Projects' Maintenance - Jennie Gerard

The Lake Merritt Deadheaders had a successful first work party in October. There were a number of high school students who attended without any gloves or other aides. Their task was pulling rose bushes – and somehow they managed! The next work party will be Saturday, December 11th from 10 AM – 1 PM. Meet at the north side of the Boat House (Lake Chalet) and bring gloves, etc!

The Deadheaders are now making 1/8 acre assignments to individuals as a supplement to the Public Works Agency efforts under the supervision of Tora Rocha. Deadheaders hope to find a 2011 project to galvanize interest and investment in the Lake.

11. DD Meeting Schedule for 2011 – Bill Threlfall

The coalition agreed to continue to meet the third Monday of the month:
Jan 17, Mar 21, May 16, Jul 18, Sep 19, Nov 21 (Same as Orchid Society)
The Garden Center site has been reserved for those dates.

12. Agenda suggestions for January 17th meeting

- Large map displaying location of DD projects under discussion – Joel Peter
 - Harrison/20th/Snow Park redesign status report – Joel Peter
 - Report from Deadheaders on December meeting – Jenny Gerard
 - Status report from Letters Task Force Subcommittee – John Sutter, Rick Rickard
- Invite Bay Trail staff representative to talk with us in March!

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM. sjt