



Oakland Measure DD Trust for Clean Water and Safe Parks Community Coalition

Meeting minutes - November 15, 2021, 7:10 p.m.

A [video recording of this meeting is available here](#)

Additional [meeting files are available here](#)

Welcome by meeting Chair, Adrian Cotter, and introduction of other Agenda Committee members: David Wofford and Jennie Gerard. Mandolin Kadera-Redmond, introduced as Coalition administrator, will act as technical support during meeting and record minutes. Mike Perlmutter coordinated the agenda for today's meeting.

Review of Zoom meeting protocol: recording, chat, raise hand and transcription.

1. **Introductions of Coalition meeting participants [Note: Coalition doesn't have a membership]**

Bike East Bay – Rick Rickard, Robert Prinz

Bike Walk Alameda - Cyndy Johnson

Coalition of Advocates of Lake Merritt (CALM) – James Vann

Community for Lake Merritt – Adrian Cotter

Lake Merritt Institute - John Bowers, Richard Bailey, James Robinson

Lake Merritt Weed Warriors – Jennie Gerard

League of Women Voters of Oakland – Gail Wallace

Oakland Heritage Alliance – Naomi Schiff (also member of CALM)

Oakland Parks and Recreation Foundation - Mandolin Kadera-Redmond

Pelagic Shark Research Foundation - Sean R Van Sommeran

Rotary Nature Center Friends – Katie Noonan, David Wofford, Jim Cavel

Waterfront Action – Bill Threlfall, Sandy Threlfall

Interested Citizen –

Robert Kidd, Estuary Park, JLAC

Vince Geronimo, Cleveland Heights neighbor, runner

Sam Burd, The Essex Community Action Committee

Charles Brooks

Andy Young

Wood Rogers Consultants - Cheng Soo, Dan Matthias (civil engineer)

City of Oakland Attendees

Kristin Hathaway – OPW Watershed and Stormwater Division and DD Program Manager
Mike Perlmutter – OPW, Watershed and Stormwater Management Division, Watershed Specialist
Jennifer Stern – OPW, Watershed and Stormwater Management Division, Watershed Specialist
Jeff Roubos, OPW Watershed and Stormwater Division, Civil Engineer
Ha Nguyen, OPW, Project Delivery Division

- 2. Hearing no changes, the agenda was adopted without revision.**
- 3. Review Restated Minutes of September 20, 2021 [PDF](#), [Word](#) were adopted with revisions.**
- 4. Protocol Memo regarding the Alameda County 7th Street Pump Station tide gates operations Kristin Hathaway, OPW, Measure DD Program Manager, and Wood Rogers Consultants [7th Street Pump Station tide gates Operations Memo PDF](#)**

This update is in response to a past request made by the Coalition to explore opportunities to improve Lake Merritt water quality through tide gate operations.

The 7th Street Pump Station is owned and operated by the Alameda Flood Control District (District). The City has developed this memo to make recommendations regarding tide gate operational modes that could benefit water quality objectives, but does not have the authority to make the management decisions on flood control operations. That authority rests with the District.

Dan Matthias with City consultant, Wood Rogers, provided an overview of the memo. Dan explained that the memo's approach is hydrological and the benefits that can be achieved by tide gate operations must also take into consideration flood control needs to protect life safety and property.

Coalition members expressed concern that the memo does not cover winter months when tide gate operation is more important as it relates to winter storms and flooding. Coalition members also expressed concern that tidal range should be maximized when possible and not a flood risk to maximize water quality benefits, and tidal function of Lake Merritt, as well as the public education opportunities to see tidal systems. A suggestion was made to hire a subconsultant expert in water quality. Coalition members asked to meet with Kristin and consultants. John Bowers, Dick Bailey, Vince Geronimo and Adrian Cotter expressed interest in meeting.

Links to comments from [Katie Noonan and John Bowers](#), [[Link to images](#)], and [letter from Richard Bailey](#).

Kristin asked the Coalition to send additional written comments directly to her to compile and pursue comments as next steps.

- 5. Decomposed Granite (DG) Path Repair: update Kristin Hathaway reporting for Craig Pon, OPW, Facilities Services Division**

The pilot application of the new path repair materials will take place [on the path along Lakeshore at the intersection with Wesley and Wayne Avenues](#) seating area on Wednesday, 11/17.

6. Fencing at Peralta wetlands along Merritt Channel: Ha Nguyen, OPW, Project and Grants Management Division

Ha presented a recap and current progress on installation of a black, 8-foot tall spiked fence at adjacent to the restoration wetland along the Lake Merritt Channel that has been significantly impacted by homeless encampment-related activities. Because the installation can be considered temporary, no permits will be required and no presentation to PRAC is necessary. Fencing is scheduled to be installed in Spring 2022.

7. DD Program Manager Report - Kristin Hathaway, Measure DD Bond Manager

Kristin shared screen of the [November 15 Program Summary Report](#) outlining projects and status updates.

Estuary Waterfront Access Category Active Projects

- Union Point Park to 23rd Avenue Trail Project contract with Wood Rogers is in process with the City's Capital Projects Division. When that is done they will bring on Right Of Way consultants to advance design.
- Harbor Master Trail connection is complete.
- Bay Trail connection at Park Street Bridge received approval to move forward with design. Waiting on contract with the City's Capital Contracts Division to approve design consultant contract.
- Bay Trail connection at High Street Bridge. Overwater and over land trail options are being explored.
- Bay Trail at Fruitvale Bridge. Design is at 95% and moving forward with permits. Construction planned for 2023.
- Estuary Park, preliminary concept design developed and working on remediation agreement to remove hazardous materials. Currently accepting public comments on the design.

Kristin answered questions from the Coalition in regard to the on-line availability of updated designs by landscape designers WRT and community engagement processes.

Cyndy Johnson asked if the Alameda bike [bridge crossing](#) project could land in Estuary Park, and would like to return at a future meeting to speak in more detail.

Lake Merritt Channel Category

- Lake Merritt Channel 10th Street Project, fencing to protect the wetland at this project detailed report earlier in the meeting.
- Tide Gate 7th Street, a protocol memo was presented earlier in this meeting
- 7th Street Pedestrian Crosswalk, completed

Creek & Waterways Restoration Category

- Courtland Creek - design is advancing, but did not receive \$1.5M grant funding from Ocean Protection Council for which the City had applied. Need to raise that additional funding for construction in Spring 2023 to stay on track. City continue to seek project funding.
- Glen Echo Creek on Richmond Blvd. The City hired design consultants Restoration Design Group to advance preliminary design. RDG has initiated technical data

gathering phase, and staff is developing community engagement plan.

Watershed Acquisition

- City is pursuing acquisitions across Oakland, including at Arroyo Viejo Creek, Sausal Creek, near Claremont Canyon Regional Park, and Temescal Creek. Staff is engaging with many stakeholders including the Segorea Te Land Trust. Staff are also investigating the possibility of including a conservation exemption for the [Vacant Property Tax](#).

After some Q&A and Coalition comments, the session concluded with requests for additional lines in Kristin's report for CIP submitted and future items from wish list projects.

8. Redistricting - Gail Wallace with League of Women Voters of Oakland

The Coalition received a presentation on the redistricting process currently underway in the City of Oakland.

The Coalition considered making a joint statement but ultimately decided to decline commenting as a group. Those who want to be more closely involved were provided the information to do so. Public Hearings to give input before the Redistricting Commission will take place on December 1, 6 and 8.

9. Announcements

- a. Proposed Brooklyn Basin Expansion: update - Naomi Schiff and Bill Threlfall
Essentially stalled. Comments to the Planning Commission's Design Review Committee were overwhelming against marina expansion and asked that the Commission return with feedback implemented.
- b. Rotary Nature Center Friends on-line events -Katie Noonan
 - a. Lakeside Chat December 3rd,
 - b. Clean up 3rd Saturday, Nov 20 at the nature center. Students working on projects
- c. Lake Merritt Weed Warriors and Lakeshore Ave replanting -Jennie Gerard
 - a. Next work day on Saturday Nov. 20 to prepare garden beds on Lakeshore Ave at Bowden for replanting in December
- d. Lake Merritt Town Hall and Survey - David Wofford
A [virtual Town Hall took place September 29, 2021](#) about community led conflict resolution and self-governance and as an alternative to police enforcement at Lake Merritt. Eastlake United for Justice, Eastlake Neighbors, Good Brotha Network, Dr. C.N.E. Corbin, Oakland Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission (PRAC), and others are collaborating on this issue. A coalition of organizing groups [issued this statement with reflections and next steps on the process](#). [This survey is circulating](#) to obtain additional feedback from the community. Part of the discussion concerns the [PRAC recommendations for Park Rules at the Lake](#).

9:15pm Adjourn

Next meeting, January 17, 2022, 7pm