



# Oakland Measure DD Community Coalition

## **Measure DD Community Coalition Meeting Notes for March 18, 2013**

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

The meeting was chaired by Judy Johnson and Bill Threlfall served as recorder.

### **1. Measure DD Coalition Attendance List:**

Alameda County Historical Society – Ed Clausen

BART – Robert Raburn

CALM – James Vann

EBBC – Glenda Barnhart, Dave Campbell, Renee Rivera, Tom Willging

Friends of Oakland Parks & Recreation – Judy Johnson

Lake Merritt Breakfast Club – Carol Agnello, Aileen Frankel

Oakland Museum of California – Bill McMorris

Oakland Parks Coalition – Judy Johnson, Mike Udkow

Walk Oakland Bike Oakland – Chris Andree

Waterfront Action – George Duncan, Bill Threlfall, Sandra Threlfall

Interested Citizens – Miriam Beames, Rory Crowder, Erik Niemann,  
Shannon Rubilam, Paul Tutwiler

City of Oakland

Council District 2 - Jennie Gerard

Measure DD Program Manager – Lesley Estes

Public Art Project – Kristen Zaremba

### **2. Minutes of 1/21/2013 were approved by consensus.**

### **3. Invited presentation - Douglas Long, OMCA's Senior Curator of Natural Sciences**

Douglas Long discussed the Museum's new Gallery of California Natural Sciences, providing an overview of its unique focus and methods. He noted that it emphasizes biodiversity and the role of humans. Its presentation highlights seven real places in California, one of which is Oakland, where nature organizations such as the Friends of Sausal Creek and the Lake Merritt Institute are highlighted.

### **4. Update on current DD projects – Lesley Estes:**

Lesley distributed copies of the March 18 2013 Measure DD Project Update and noted that it follows her new report format. Project Highlights:

#### 12<sup>th</sup> Street Reconstruction

Lesley reported that the bulk of the project will be complete by April, with a few more months needed to complete all work and fully open the park.

#### 10<sup>th</sup> Street

Gordon N. Ball Inc. won the re-bid process with a bid of \$14,804,475.90. The project is scheduled for construction this summer.

### Lake Merritt Channel Bridge and Bay Trail to Laney College

The design scope of work is complete and the contract for performing the design will go to council for their approval in May or June.

### ConAgra to 23rd Ave

Lesley reported that staff has been communicating with Con Agra regarding proposed alignments for this trail segment.

### Snow Park - Lakeside Green Street Project

The design is 100% complete, but Lesley advised that the bid is on hold until the issue of the potential dog park use is resolved. She emphasized that no Measure DD funds are being expended on the dog park.

One community member expressed support for a mixed-use park, including the current pattern of dog-related uses, but also expressed opposition to the concept of a dedicated dog park. A second community member expressed concerns about dog park noise and distributed a hand-out showing the numbers of residents near Snow Park who might be affected by such noise.

Bill emphasized that the Coalition has no authority or input regarding the decision whether to include a dog park.

Jennie noted that there will be a Community Design Review of Proposed dog play area at Snow Park scheduled at for Wednesday, April 10, from 6:30-8:30 pm at the Lakeside Garden Center.

Lesley advised that her office had applied to the Alameda County Transportation Commission One Bay Area Grant program for a \$7M grant for the Lakeside Green Street project. We will learn the outcome of this application in May of 2013. If the grant is won, the project schedule will be affected because project will have to be "federalized" which will require 12-18 months. She thanked the Coalition's Advocacy Committee and Waterfront Action for letters of support for this grant application.

### Announcement

Lesley mentioned that the Oakland Library History Room's current exhibit on Oakland water has great value and appeal, and Sandy advised that the exhibit was recently extended to June 9 in recognition of the planned celebration event.

## **5: Advocacy Report - Bill Threlfall**

Port Commission presentation. Bill noted that the informational presentation to the Port Commission regarding the Bay Trail occurred March 14. The presentation was made jointly by Lee Huo, ABAG Bay Trail Planner and by Bill. The PowerPoint slides that Bill developed for the presentation are available [here](#) in the **Miscellaneous** section of the Coalition's [documents archive web page](#). In addition, Bill prepared a transcript of the Commission and Staff discussion that followed the presentation and it is also available [here](#) in the **Miscellaneous** section of the Coalition's [documents archive web page](#). The transcript shows that the presentation was well-received and that Commissioners gave direction to staff to move forward "post haste" with collaboration on certain projects. Nevertheless, we anticipate challenges as we attempt to actually develop the needed agreements.

Letters of support for grants. With relatively short lead-times, the Advocacy Committee provided letters of support to Lesley for grant applications for a Bicycle Bridge Feasibility Grant and Lakeside Green Street One Bay Area Government Grant. The deadlines for these grants did not allow waiting to review the requests with the Coalition on March 18, but as both projects had been discussed before with apparent consensus, the Committee members acted. Copies of the

letters can be found in the **Coalition Position Statements & Advocacy Letters** section of the Coalition's [documents archive web page](#).

Suggestion for advocacy re: maintenance. Bill advised that just prior to the meeting, he had received an e-mail request from Joel Peter to convey a suggestion to the Coalition that it promptly advocate for enhanced maintenance for the new improvements at Lake Merritt. Bill read a summary of the rationale and sought volunteers for a new Advocacy Committee to address this suggestion. Mike Udkow, George Duncan, Glenda Barnhart, and Naomi Schiff (by e-mail) volunteered, and Bill agreed to coordinate committee efforts. The Coalition also agreed with Joel's suggestion to invite the Director of Public Works to the May 20 meeting to discuss maintenance issues and plans.

## **6. Lake Merritt Blvd Opening Celebration Committee Report – James Vann**

James noted that the Celebration Committee has had two meetings since the January Coalition report and described outcomes of the Committee's meeting held March 7, 2013 jointly with City staff. Notes from that meeting are available in the **Committee Notes** section of the Coalition's [documents archive web page](#).

He made the following key points:

- The date is set for June 9, 2013, 12-3:30 pm (or so).
- The form and format of the event are defined.
- There will be limited "speechifying" with remarks planned only by the Mayor and Governor.
- The event will include information about the accomplishments of Measure DD.
- It will also recognize and thank the citizens for their vote in support of the bond measure.
- The location will be centered around the new amphitheater and park areas from the 12<sup>th</sup> St. project.
- There will be food trucks and periodic entertainment.

James sought additional Committee members, and Erik Niemann volunteered.

## **7. Invited Presentation: Oaklavia by the Lake – Renee Rivera, Executive Director, EBBC**

Renee Rivera spoke of the importance of the relationship between the East Bay Bicycle Coalition and the Coalition. She introduced the "Sunday Streets" concept and gave a bit of history about it. Then she proposed combining the planned Oaklavia by the Lake Sunday Streets event with the June 9 Lake Merritt Blvd. Opening Celebration, noting that this combination would yield much larger attendance and scale.

Asked if there is a drop-dead go/no-go date by which the Oaklavia by the Lake organizers would make their commitment to proceed, she said yes: April 15.

## **8. Invited Presentation: Art Concepts for Lakeside Green Street Project – Kristen Zaremba**

Kristen introduced Ene Osteraas-Constable, from the artist team of Wowhaus. Ene described the research and background for the project and then offered a slide presentation that showed the proposed locations for the art installations as well as conceptual plans for the pieces. Much of the plan was tied to cultural origins and legend from the Ohlone. Some of the cultural foundations and design ideas were presented in this 65MB (long download) pdf document: <http://www2.oaklandnet.com/oakca1/groups/ceda/documents/report/oak039510.pdf>.

### **9. Proposal to install name on East 18<sup>th</sup> St. Pier – James Vann**

James distributed a design drawing showing the proposed positioning of text on the structure and a range of possible name choices. He asked that Coalition attendees consider the alternatives and be prepared to voice their preferred name/text choice at the May 20 Coalition meeting.

### **10. Report from Washington DC Bicycle Summit - Dave Campbell**

Dave described key legislative contacts he made as part of his advocacy effort regarding the Oakland Waterfront Trail 6.6 mile segment of the Bay Trail. These included Congressman John Garamendi and Congresswoman Barbara Lee, from whom we are seeking legislation to facilitate the easements necessary for the trail. The Coalition expressed appreciation to Dave for his commitment and advocacy efforts.

### **11. Lake Merritt Weed Warriors Program Update**

Jennie Gerard noted that the next work day will be March 30 and encouraged interested parties to check for more details at the [Lake Merritt Weed Warriors Facebook page](#). She also distributed postcards advertising the "Deadheaders' Garden Gala", a fundraiser for the Morcom Rose Garden, to be held at the San Mateo Event Center on March 19, 2013, 6-9 pm.

### **12. Agenda Suggestions for May 20, 2013 meeting:**

1. Invited guest: Director of Public works – Maintenance of DD improvements
2. Committee report: Lake Merritt Blvd Opening Celebration (James)
3. East 18<sup>th</sup> St. Pier naming (James)

### **13. Review of Work Assignments to Coalition Members:**

1. Rick Rickard: coordinate agenda for May 20 and chair the meeting; invite Public Works Director to discuss maintenance
2. James Vann: call meeting of Lake Merritt Blvd Opening Celebration Committee.
3. Bill Threlfall: coordinate Advocacy Committee action re: maintenance

The next Coalition meeting will be Monday, May 20, 2013 at 7:10 p.m. at the Garden Center.

Adjourned at 9:05 p.m.