



# Oakland Measure DD Community Coalition

## **Measure DD Community Coalition Meeting Notes for March 20, 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 Joel Peter.  
Bill Threlfall served as recorder.

### **1. Measure DD Coalition attendance list:**

Alameda County Historical Society – Ed Clausen  
Bike East Bay – Robert Prinz, Rick Rickard  
CALM – James Vann  
East Bay Regional Parks – Dee Rosario  
East Bay Rowing Club – Jolie Krakauer, Virginia Roe  
Lake Merritt Weed Warriors – Jennie Gerard  
Laney College – Laurie Allen-Requa  
Oakland Parks & Recreation Foundation – Mike Udkow  
Urban Permaculture Institute – Nancy Sherman  
Waterfront Action – Bill Threlfall, Sandy Threlfall  
Interested Citizens – Adrian Cotter, Patrick Emmert, John Sutter  
City of Oakland  
Measure DD Program Manager – Lesley Estes  
Public Works Administration – Sean Maher

### **2. The agenda was adopted without change.**

### **3. Minutes of 1/16/2017 were approved by consensus.**

### **4. Measure DD project update – Lesley Estes**

#### Semi-Annual Distribution of DD Project Status Summary

Lesley distributed copies of the [March 20, 2017 Project Status Summary](#), which is also posted on the Coalition web page in the [City of Oakland Resources section](#).

She briefly explained the document's color coding and offered a caution that the expenditures to date are sourced from December 2016, the most recent data available due to impacts of a City Information Technology upgrade project. Drawing on the document's detail, she discussed the status of the following projects:

- Lake Merritt Water Quality
- Snow Park/Lakeside Green Street Project
- Bellevue Avenue Reconfiguration
- Garden Center and Grande Ave entrance improvements
- Union Point Park to 23rd Avenue Trail (formerly known as Con Agra/Miller Milling)
- Livingston Pier Trail Connection
- Crowley Trail (formerly known as Brooklyn Basin) (interim trail)
- Harbor Master Trail Connection
- Embarcadero Cove Trail Improvements
- Waterfront Trail at High Street
- Estuary Park

- Lake Merritt Channel at 10th Street Project
- Lake Merritt Channel at 7th Street Project

She addressed questions and discussion ensued, with these highlights:

- The Union Point Park to 23rd Avenue Trail is being delayed by a lack of response from Cemex to staff attempts to negotiate the required agreements. A suggestion to approach Councilman Gallo for assistance was discussed briefly with no clear outcome.
- The Port's Crowley Trail site is currently under long-term lease negotiations by the Port, which is considering offers from East Bay Regional Parks District and Duong Estuary Cove, LLC.
- Regarding the Harbor Master Trail Connection, Bill Threlfall inquired whether the Port's lease agreement with the tenant precludes port improvements to the land without explicit consent of the tenant. As the answer was not known, Lesley agreed to obtain a copy of the lease to permit review of the issue.
- For the Embarcadero Cove Trail Improvements obstacle, the Coalition consensus was that abandoning the planned project and accepting the status quo would be preferable to proceeding with the project and erecting "Trail Ends" signs at both sides of the boat yard as proposed by ABAG. Several Coalition participants expressed dismay at the apparently intransigent position of the ABAG Bay Trail staff.
- Regarding the Waterfront Trail at High Street, Robert Prinz offered to work with Lesley to help coordinate an at-grade crossing at this site.
- Lesley mentioned that she was considering allocating additional Measure DD bond funds to the Lake Merritt to Bay Trail Connection bridge design and was seeking Coalition input on the matter. No discussion followed, so the issue will be suggested for the May agenda.
- Finally, Bill Threlfall noted that many of the above obstacles to Bay Trail progress were not due to a shortage of engineering or project management staff. Instead, they reflect incomplete or failed negotiations to obtain the required agreements. He suggested successful negotiations may require additional staff or consultants dedicated to negotiating the agreements and proposed this matter as a May agenda item.

## **5. Lakeside Green Streets/Snow Park planned improvements – Lesley Estes**

Lesley reviewed the project scope, goals, and status. Bill Threlfall asked Lesley to follow up with the project manager about the May 20, 2013 Coalition consensus requesting that the project include interpretive signage about role of Henry Snow in establishing the Snow Museum, a key precursor to the Oakland Museum of California. The Snow Museum was housed in the Cutting Mansion, formerly located at the site now known as Snow Park.

## **6. Report on Bay Trail advocacy letter from subcommittee – John Sutter**

John advised that the subcommittee had met with three Council members and had additional meetings scheduled or planned. He noted a supportive reception from them but also commented that they expressed an interest in hearing about the issue from a wider range of voices.

Relevant to this request for broader input, subcommittee member Rick Rickard described a model letter developed by the subcommittee with the intent that Coalition participants would adapt it for sending to Council from their organization or from themselves personally. This model letter will be distributed later this week.

## **7. Baseline budget advocacy subcommittee update – Nancy Sherman**

Nancy distributed a list of "talking points" developed by the subcommittee, with the request that two or three Coalition participants show up to speak on these points at the March 22 and March 29 community budget forums detailed on the document. She emphasized that the "time is now" for advocacy to protect the \$400,000 commitment made by the Mayor.

In response to Nancy's request for additional talking points, Lesley suggested this addition: "We've spent nearly \$80M on improvements at Lake Merritt; there is a need for dedicated maintenance to protect this investment:"

Nancy requested that Bill publicize by email the dates, times, and venues for additional community budget forum sessions that the subcommittee will identify and provide.

## **8. Measure DD report – Sean Maher**

Sean introduced himself and described his communications role in Public Works. He advised that he is now working on a Measure DD Bond Report and is soliciting vignettes or contributions from Coalition participants about their favorite DD projects. Bill Threlfall asked "Who is the audience for the report?" Sean replied, several audiences including Council and the public. Sean closed his presentation by circulating a sign-up sheet for contributions.

## **9. Self-guided walking tour update – James Vann**

James stated there was no report at this time. He indicated that the committee would be reaching out for additional members because one of those who volunteered at the January meeting proved unable to participate.

## **10. Lake House Commons update – Mike Udkow**

No report.

## **11. Announcements**

- Weed Warriors - Work day: March 25 near Pergola.

## **12. Review of work assignments to Coalition participants:**

- Bay Trail sub-committee to continue contacts with Council and distribute model advocacy letter.
- James and Ed to solicit additional members for walking tour committee.
- Baseline budget advocacy subcommittee to announce additional dates, times, venues for Council community forum sessions for "talking points" presentations by volunteers. Send information to Bill for distribution.
- Lesley to obtain and Bill to review terms of Port lease to tenant for Harbormaster site.
- Bill to remind Lesley & Ali Schwarz about Coalition consensus requesting historic informational signage about Henry Snow & Snow Museum in Lakeside Green St project.

## **13. Agenda suggestions for May 15, 2017 Meeting:**

- Bay Trail advocacy sub-committee update – John
- Baseline budget advocacy talking points report - Jennie
- Self-guided walking tour proposal update – James

- Discussion re: staff or consulting resources needed for negotiating Bay Trail project agreements – Bill
- Coalition discussion and input re: DD Bond expenditures and allocations for bicycle bridge design - Bill

The next Coalition meeting will be May 15, 2017, at 7:10 p.m. at the Garden Center Ebell Room.

**Adjourned at 9:02 p.m.**