



Oakland Measure DD Community Coalition

Measure DD Community Coalition Meeting Notes for May 18, 2020

The virtual meeting was called to order over Zoom at 7:10 p.m. after Jennie briefly reviewed the [Zoom meeting protocol](#).

A video recording of this meeting is available: [view recording](#). Specific video links for major agenda items are embedded in the minutes below.

The meeting was chaired by Jennie Gerard. Bill Threlfall served as recorder.

1. Measure DD Coalition attendance list:

[Bike East Bay](#) – Robert Prinz, Rick Rickard
[CALM](#) – Kathryn Kasch
[Community for Lake Merritt](#) – Adrian Cotter
[East Bay Regional Parks District](#) - Dee Rosario
[East Bay Rowing Club](#) – Jolie Krakaur, Virginia Roe
[Lake Merritt Breakfast Club](#) – Aileen Frankel
[Lake Merritt Institute](#) - John Bowers
[Lake Merritt Weed Warriors](#) – Jennie Gerard
[Oakland Parks & Recreation Foundation](#) – Mike Udkow
[Rotary Nature Center Friends](#) – David Wofford
[Urban Permaculture Institute](#) – Nancy Sherman
[Waterfront Action](#) – Bill Threlfall. Sandy Threlfall
[City of Oakland](#):
[Measure DD Program Manager](#) – Kristin Hathaway

2. The agenda was adopted without revision.

3. The [March Community Update](#), which was published in lieu of minutes, was approved.

4. Measure DD Project Updates – Kristin Hathaway ([video link](#))

Kristin commented on the status of most projects, with her remarks closely following the notes in the project status column of the [March 16, 2020 Project Status Summary](#) spreadsheet. However, for a few projects she noted some status changes:

- [Lake Merritt Water Quality](#): *Trash boom replacement complete and operational.*
- [Lakeside Green Street](#): *Robert Prinz reported "pretty significant problems" with several of the project intersections, and Kristin asked that she be looped into email communications on this matter.*
- [Union Point Park to 23rd Ave Trail \(aka E. 7th St to 23rd Ave, Miller Milling to Cemex\)](#): *Easement negotiations are not going quickly due to ongoing concern about possible homeless encampment impacts. Project technical design is continuing.*
- [Harbor Master Trail Connection](#): *Work will begin in September following required tree trimming which cannot be undertaken until after the bird nesting season.*
- [Waterfront Trail at Park St. Bridge](#): *Moffat & Nichol Engineering are developing a design for the Coast Guard to present for public comment. Design expected before summer.*
- [Waterfront Trail at Fruitvale](#): *Design completed. Finalizing required easements.*

- Estuary Park: *City issued new RFP and selected WRT as design consultant. Contract to be finalized shortly. Aileen Frankel asked if WRT would make use of the previous consultant's work, particularly the public participation component. Kristin said WRT would be doing so.*
- Lake Merritt Channel at 10th Street: *Wetland repair remains on hold pending resolution of homeless encampment impacts.*
- Lake Merritt Channel at 10th Street: *County has expressed no intention to move forward with pump station improvement in the foreseeable future. Sandy Threlfall asked if Measure DD must keep funds committed for this apparently uncertain project, and Kristin replied that no such funding obligation exists.*
- Tidal Gate Operations Guidance for the 7th Street Flood Control Facility: *In progress, with the goal of setting agreed operational protocols. Regarding water quality impacts, Kristin noted that the tide gates are not the most significant remaining limiting factor and based on preliminary conversations with our consultants, the City believes that the tide gate operations will have a negligible impact.*
- Lake Merritt Channel at 7th Street Pedestrian crosswalk: *Design complete. Bid package being prepared. Construction now expected to start in October.*
- Courtland Creek Restoration at Courtland Creek Park: *Preliminary design work and technical studies initiated. Kristin detailed several grant proposals in progress and a recent award.*

5. Channel Improvements Report/New Projects – Adrian Cotter ([video link](#))

Adrian described the genesis of this initiative and the history of visits to the site by the workgroup. He then shared [this video presentation](#) that highlighted the two major goals:

- Create a “wish list” for channel improvements
- Help define a process for ongoing channel projects

He advised that after meeting with Kristin, it became clear that some amount of funds will be left over in the Channel section of the bond. Kristin has agreed to seek accounting reports to clarify the likely residual balance.

The presentation suggested three “to-do’s” as top priorities for the wish list:

- Reconstruction of paths
- Revegetation/restoration
- Improved fencing for restored wetland

Adrian then reviewed the proposed comprehensive process to move a project forward.

He asked that participants prepare for the next Coalition meeting by reviewing these sections of his March Community Update submission:

- Channel Work Group [notes from meeting w/ Kristin](#)
- Channel Work Group [draft project request](#)

6. Waterfront Trail Report to Public Works Committee – Kristin Hathaway ([video link](#))

Kristin commented that she had covered most of the report’s content in her earlier DD Project Status Update.

Kristin noted that in addition to those DD projects, East Bay Regional Parks is in negotiations for easements for their planned trail segment projects at Gallagher and Burke and Hanson Aggregates.

She encouraged DD participants to review the updated trail map attached to the report:

- [Waterfront Trail Report](#)
- [Map for Waterfront Trail Report](#)

7. Use of remaining funds/interest earned – Kristin Hathaway ([video link](#))

Kristin noted that remaining funds vary by bond category. She indicated that there will be a significant amount remaining in the Channel category and the process Adrian outlined will be helpful once available funds can be clarified through the audit process.

8. Requests for audits and LM2BT expenditure report - Kristin Hathaway ([video link](#))

Kristin advised that the audits are not expected to start until “late summer” due to the limited resources of the Finance Department and the demands for financial analysis to address Covid-19 impacts.

Regarding the Coalition request for an accounting of LM2BT spending, Kristin gave a quick overview, reporting approximately \$1M DD bond spending on LM2BT, both for consultants and City staff, and she agreed to provide the report in written form so that it may be posted on the Coalition’s archive page.

9. Announcements and reports ([video link](#))

- [Lake Merritt Weed Warriors](#) – Jennie announced the group is in “pause mode” at this time.
- [Ballot Measure Q](#) – Jennie announced that Measure Q passed with 68.08% approval. City departments are now looking at how to use Measure Q funds in the 2021 budget. Kristin commented that in the first few years, funds from the storm water portion of the parcel tax will enable development of an updated stormwater master plan.
- [Walking tour of John Sutter Regional Shoreline](#) – Rick Rickard described the tour and recognized the efforts of Dee Rosario and park staff, as well as the [marvelous photos provided by John Kirkmire](#).
- [Lake Merritt Wildlife Refuge](#) – David Wofford reported that the 150-year anniversary of Lake Merritt as a wildlife refuge was postponed and rescheduled to July 18, contingent on health conditions. He briefly mentioned the planned Lake Merritt Summer Cleanup Contest. Additional information is available at <https://www.forthereplease.com/summerlakecleanup>

10. Review of work assignments to Coalition participants: ([video link](#))

- Tonight’s meeting participants to review the Chanel Workgroup [draft project request](#)
- Kristin to provide the LM2BT expenditure report as a pdf for publication in the Coalition archive

- Kristin to obtain estimates of remaining balances in the Lake Merritt Channel sections IIIA and IIIB of the bond

11. Agenda suggestions for next Meeting:

- Channel Project – Adrian Cotter.
- Report of remaining funds in Bond sections IIIA and IIIB – Kristin Hathaway
- Discussion of use of remaining funds, interest earned, and “wish list” priorities – James Vann

The next Coalition meeting will be July 20, 2020, at 7:10 p.m.
Venue to be determined, but likely over Zoom.

Adjourned at 8:37 p.m.