Measure DD Community Coalition Meeting Notes for September 18, 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 Nancy Sherman. Bill Threlfall served as recorder.

1. Measure DD Coalition attendance list:
   Bike East Bay – Robert Prinz
   CALM – James Vann
   Children’s Fairyland – C.J. Hirschfield
   East Bay Regional Parks – Dee Rosario
   East Bay Rowing Club – Jolie Krakauer, Virginia Roe
   Friends of Laney Garden – Harold Greathouse, Lauren Jelks, Sadie Millman
   Lake Merritt Breakfast Club – Carole Agnello
   Laney College – Amy Bohorquez
   Oakland Heritage Alliance – Naomi Schiff
   Oakland Parks & Recreation Foundation – Barbara Schaaf
   Urban Permaculture Institute – Nancy Sherman
   Waterfront Action – Bill Threlfall, Sandy Threlfall
   Interested Citizens – Carolyn Burd, Sam Burd, Adrian Cotter, Patrick Emmert, Kathryn Kasch, Gavin Lohry, John Sutter
   City of Oakland
       Measure DD Program Manager – Lesley Estes

2. The agenda was adopted without change.

3. Minutes of 7/17/2017 were approved by consensus.

4. Measure DD project update – Lesley Estes

Semi-Annual Distribution of DD Project Status Summary

Lesley distributed copies of the September 18, 2017 Project Status Summary, which is also posted on the Coalition web page in the City of Oakland Resources section.

She briefly noted that projects highlighted in yellow are considered active and offered a caution that the expenditures to date are sourced from June 2017. Drawing on the document’s detail, she discussed the status of the following projects:

- Lake Merritt Water Quality
- Snow Park/Lakeside Green Street Project
- 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
• Lake Merritt to Estuary Connection (LM2BT)

She addressed questions and discussion ensued, with these highlights:
• She noted that the recently retained consultant will be actively negotiating obstacles to progress at several of the estuary waterfront trail projects.
• Regarding the Harbor Master trail connection, Lesley noted that if negotiations fail, it may be necessary to choose an alternate trail alignment to circumvent the obstacle.
• At the Embarcadero Cove boatyard, it may be necessary to designate the route as "Waterfront Trail" rather than "Bay Trail".
• She reported that the City may choose to nullify the results of the RFP selection process for a design firm for the Estuary Park project. In that event, the RFP will be reissued and the design timeframe delayed.

5. Bay Trail subcommittee update

Subcommittee recommendation for potential cost-sharing with East Bay Regional Parks at Crowley Site – John Sutter
John reviewed the circumstances at the Crowley Site and then explained the subcommittee's recommendation, which has been posted in the Miscellaneous section of the Coalition's Archive page. After a bit of discussion, the Coalition adopted the subcommittee recommendation by consensus.

Bay Trail Summit – Dee Rosario
Dee announced the location and 9/21/2017 date of the Bay Trail Summit.

6. Lake Merritt to Bay Trail Bridge funding proposal update – Bill Threlfall

Bill reported that he had prepared suggested specifications for a written proposal request for bridge funding, and Lesley forwarded this request document to Diane Tannenwald, Public Works Capital Improvement Project Coordinator. Diane sent a response but left several sections incomplete, referring those to Lesley, who has agreed to provide the needed information so that the complete proposal can be distributed to Coalition participants in advance of the November meeting.

Bill also pointed out that with the A's announcement of the Peralta site as their preferred option for their ballpark to be constructed by 2023, the development and funding context for the proposed bridge may have changed. New potential funding sources may enter the picture, and the bridge design may need to be revised because it is proposed to land on the same Peralta Community College District property to be used for the stadium complex.

Discussion followed, with expression of concern about the nearly $4M allocation of DD bond funds to the bridge reported in Diane's response. Lesley clarified that actually an estimated $900K in DD bond funds had been spent on the bridge, and she would provide expenditure detail to complete the proposal.

Some suggestions for action were presented, including a recommendation to "cap" DD bond bridge expenditures at $1M. Bill encouraged Coalition participants to wait until they can read the completed funding proposal before taking any action.

One participant suggested inviting Diane to attend a future Coalition meeting, and again this possible action was deferred until November.
7. Proposed A's stadium at Lake Merritt Channel – James Vann & Carolyn Burd

At the outset, James stated that DD concerns are minimal because Measure DD is not involved in the Peralta property. He distributed a press release describing a 9/19/2017 press conference and walking tour of the area organized by the Asian Pacific Environmental Network.

Discussion followed and centered on the shortcomings of the preferred site, including traffic congestion, environmental impacts on the waterways and neighborhoods, and BART overload. Naomi urged contact now with Peralta District Trustees to request that they identify and report to the community about the likely adverse environmental impacts. Contact with State legislators was also suggested if it appears that enabling legislation will be required to implement the stadium plan.

One Coalition participant suggested that the stadium might be a boon to both the area and Measure DD, leading to new funds and projects.

James and Carolyn agreed to draft a letter expressing the Coalition's concerns. The draft will sent to a select group of Coalition participants for comment.

8. Warriors reimbursement status

Nancy Sherman noted the recent press articles on this subject. No action was taken.

9. Announcements

- Weed Warriors Work day: October 7, location TBA
- Weed warriors received Park Stewardship award from Oakland Parks & Recreation Foundation.
- Creek to Bay day was held on September 16.

10. Review of work assignments to Coalition participants:

- Lesley to complete bridge funding proposal by 11/1/2017
- Bill to distribute bridge funding proposal upon completion
- Bill to write letter re: Crowley site recommendation to Robert Doyle of EBRPD
- James and Carolyn to draft A's stadium letter for Coalition review & comment; Bill to distribute to Advocacy List.

11. Agenda suggestions for November 13, 2017 Meeting:

- Bridge funding proposal – Lesley/Bill
- Bridge history and alternatives - Lesley
- Update on A's Letter – James & Carolyn

The next Coalition meeting will be November 13, 2017, at 7:10 p.m. at the Garden Center Ebell Room.

Adjourned at 8:55 p.m.