



# Oakland Measure DD Community Coalition

## Measure DD Community Coalition Meeting Notes for September 21, 2015

The meeting was called to order in the Vista Room at Lakeside Garden Center at 7:10 p.m.

The meeting was jointly chaired by Mike Udkow and James Vann.  
Bill Threlfall served as recorder.

### 1. Measure DD Coalition Attendance List:

A Cleaner Bay Foundation – Chris McKay  
BART – Robert Raburn  
Bike East Bay – Dave Campbell, Rick Rickard  
CALM – James Vann  
City County Neighborhood Initiative – Bill Richie  
East Bay Regional Parks – John Sutter, Jim Townsend  
Friends of the Gardens at Lake Merritt – Susan Veit  
Garden Center, Inc. – Anne Woodell  
Lake Merritt Institute – Charles Brooks III, James Robinson  
Laney College – Amy Bohorquez  
Oakland Heritage Alliance – Annalee Allen  
Oakland Parks & Recreation Foundation – Judy Johnson, Barbara Schaaf, Mike Udkow  
Oakland Spokes – David Meza, Pearly Tan  
Oakland Urban Paths – Gene Anderson  
Sobrante Park RAC – Cynthia Arrington  
Spokes Family Bike Collective – Lanaia Carter, Brian Drayton  
Waterfront Action – Bill Threlfall, Sandy Threlfall  
Interested Citizens – Trina Goodwin, Joel Peter, Bob Redman, Myra Redman  
City of Oakland  
Measure DD Program Manager – Lesley Estes  
Public Works – Ali Schwarz

### 2. The draft agenda was approved by consensus after a minor revision.

Chris McKay mentioned that he had invited representatives from Sobrante Park to speak about dumping in their neighborhood and asked that this item be added to the agenda.

### 3. Minutes of 7/20/2015 were approved by vote.

### 4. Presentation by Ali Schwarz, City of Oakland Public Works

Lake Merritt Improvement Project Ali noted that for federal grant purposes, several projects have been grouped under a new name: "*Lake Merritt Improvement Project – Bellevue Ave., Children's Fairyland and Garden Center Pedestrian and Bicycle Access Improvement Project*". In response to a Coalition question, she confirmed that the Bellevue Ave. project will be adding additional parking opposite the Sailboat House and advised that this project would go to bid in about four weeks. She shared design drawings for the new Garden Center entry.

Lakeside Green Street Project Ali stated that the Lakeside Green Street project design was finalized and expected to go to bid around January 2016. She noted a 2013 design change that added curbside parking along a portion of the project. Speaking for Bike East Bay, Dave Campbell expressed a safety concern about this change, which moved the buffered bike lane

to away from the curb to a new alignment between the parked cars and traffic. He presented a Bike East Bay letter that urged the City to return the bike lane to the curb, creating a "protected bike lane" between the parked cars and curb. Ali explained that design changes were infeasible at this point because of the extensive constraints of the federal grant submission and Caltrans requirements, but the City would consider the protected bike lane request as a possible change order once the project was underway, even if minor additional costs were incurred. Comments from Coalition participants supported the request for a change order to create a "protected bike lane".

## **5. Invited Presentation by Patrick Van Ness, Signature Development/Zarsion-OHP**

After introducing himself, Patrick gave an overview of the final development plan for Shoreline Park. He emphasized that the design had evolved in response to public input since its introduction last February, citing the addition of steps to the water, additional trees, a plan to rehabilitate the trestle, and a plan to reuse a fraction of the existing terminal structure to create smaller defined spaces. He described the upcoming public meetings and approval schedule, mentioning that these meetings are detailed on [the City of Oakland's Brooklyn Basin & Embarcadero Improvement Projects web page](#). Noting that the park is located on Public Trust Land, he also advised that the design is constrained by Public Trust guidelines and will require State approval. Video projections similar to [this document](#) (8mb pdf) were presented.

John Sutter led off the comments from Coalition participants by expressing concern about the large size of the uninterrupted hardscape, characterizing it as more of a "platform" than a "park". He declared a need for shade structures and wind protection. James Vann then passed around a copy of a September 16, 2015 letter to the City Planning Commission and its Design Committee from EBRPD Commissioner Sutter, OHA, and CALM. The letter was expanded and revised from the document regarding the design of Shoreline Park that he introduced at the July 20, 2015 Coalition meeting. He inquired if the Coalition would like to "sign on" to the letter. Coalition participants expressed uncertainty about the content of the new letter, so John Sutter read aloud its major section headings. Coalition participants' comments about the ideas in the letter were mostly positive, but no action was taken.

## **6. Measure DD Project Update – Lesley Estes**

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

Project completion is now expected by summer 2016.

### Bay Trail Improvements on Port Land

The City is working with BCDC on permits for three of the projects: 1) the "Crowley site", 2) Embarcadero Cove, 3) Livingston Pier. The Harbormaster's site is still in discussions with the involved parties.

### Sausal Creek Restoration Project

This project is underway and progressing very rapidly. Lesley shared photos of work in progress. Completion is expected by "next spring".

## **7. Report of "Pilot Walking Tour of Lake Merritt Blvd & Estuary" – Judy Johnson**

Judy introduced the Tour Committee members and described their work. Annalee Allen reviewed the route taken in the pilot tour and noted that the intent is for the tour to be offered on a regular periodic basis, though the required arrangements have yet to be made. Judy Johnson reported that she needed to step down from the Tour Committee chair for personal reasons. No new chairperson was selected.

Reflecting on the pilot experience, Judy made two recommendations:

- 1) The committee should hold a follow-up meeting, working to clarify specifics attributable to Measure DD;
- 2) The committee should develop a flyer or card for distribution to tour participants. The flyer would provide a bit of detail and web links to additional information.

### **8. "Remainder Parcel" Status**

Lesley Estes briefly summarized the history of the parcel and development plans. She advised that the City has solicited letters of interest from potential buyers but has not put out a new RFP as reported elsewhere.

### **9. Lakeside Park "Snack Shack" Use**

Brian Drayton reviewed the status of the snack shack and its uncertain future status. He discouraged its demolition and highlighted the benefits of its location. In response to a Coalition question, Lesley confirmed that the building is not included in any Measure DD project currently planned.

Brian indicated that he plans to attend the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC) and report back to the Coalition as appropriate.

### **10. Neighborhood Dumping**

Cynthia Arrington of the Sobrante Park RAC described recent progress on the problem of illegal dumping in her neighborhood.

### **11. Maintenance Announcements**

This item was cancelled due to lack of time.

### **12. Review of Work Assignments to Coalition Participants:**

This item was cancelled due to lack of time.

### **13. Agenda Suggestions for November 16, 2015 meeting:**

This item was cancelled due to lack of time, but the following topics were mentioned during the course of the meeting or cancelled and carried over from the current agenda:

- Update on Art in Measure DD Projects – Kristen Zaremba
- Begin discussion of the Port's \$1.7M annual payment for Lake Merritt services.
- "Remainder Parcel" status
- "Snack Shack" Status
- HJ Kaiser Convention Ctr Adaptive Reuse - Developer Selection & Next Steps
- School District Proposals for 10th Street Property

The next Coalition meeting will be Monday, November 16, 2015 at 7:10 p.m. at the Garden Center.

Adjourned at 9:10 p.m.