

[Personalize this letter as appropriate...]

[return address or letterhead]

[date]

Honorable Wilma Chan, Supervisor  
County of Alameda  
Administration Building  
1221 Oak Street, #536  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Supervisor Chan:

I am writing to urge Board of Supervisors approval of the draft agreement between Alameda County and the City of Oakland concerning Bay Trail access at the High Street Bridge. This agreement has already been approved by Oakland City Council, and I understand it will be coming before the Board of Supervisors soon.

I am a participant in the Measure DD Community Coalition, a City Council-recognized coalition with representation from many concerned community organizations. The City of Oakland, utilizing Measure DD funds, is currently working to close a key gap in the Bay Trail along the Embarcadero by providing pedestrian access under High Street Bridge, located in your district.

The agreement that will come before the Board calls for use of an existing catwalk beneath the bridge to carry the Bay Trail. The link beneath the bridge is important for a number of reasons, among them:

- SAFETY - The trail is currently completed on the west side of the bridge; the East Bay Regional Park District is currently in negotiations with the property owners to the east to complete that trail section. The proposed bridge connection will allow trail users an uninterrupted path along the water, avoiding a hazardous crossing of High Street.
- A LOGICAL CONNECTION - The existing catwalk can easily be adapted to carry the Bay Trail. Lighting and security are already in place. Adding trail users will have minimal impact on bridge operations and maintenance.
- SOCIAL EQUITY - The Bay Trail will link various low and moderate income neighborhoods with Jack London Square, Union Point Park, and other recreational venues.
- COUNTY POLICY - Alameda County is a major supporter of the Bay Trail. Completion of this vital link is consistent agreement with that policy.

Your support of this agreement between the County and the City will help move the Bay Trail forward in your district and will be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

[signature]

Copies to: Councilmember Ignacio De La Fuente, Council District 5  
Joel Peter, Measure DD Program Manager  
City of Oakland  
Oakland City Hall  
1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza  
Oakland, CA 94612