

Measure DD Coalition
Minutes of January 26, 2009 Meeting

In attendance: Rick Rickard, Naomi Schiff, Steve Rochon, John Gorman, Anne Woodell and Kathy Raymond.

City Staff Attendees: Joel Peter, Jennie Gerard

Meeting was chaired by Naomi Schiff:

Introductions were given and the minutes were deemed fine.

Progress Report:

Lakeside Drive is well underway they have started tearing up the street portion. The restaurant just applied for the building permit and will probably begin next month on the interior.

Lakeshore is under way, Gallagher and Burke working on the path along edge of lake first, the path will be stabilized DG. At some point they will tear out the sidewalk to put in multiuse path and then El Embarcadero. The schedule is not complete yet but will be a year long project that started in November. The path will be 8 ft at its narrowest. They compromised to leave the sidewalk open the part next to the Pergola is closed. Bike paths will be the last thing done and this work will stop at El Embarcadero.

The Federal money is not expected to be held up due to state budget but the Coastal Conservancy money for the 12th St. project of \$8 million is currently frozen due to state budget problems. Fed. Money has to come through the State as well so the 12th St. project will be delayed and CalTrans won't give a schedule, they need an E76 form. \$13 million from the Federal is needed for the project.

Lake Merritt water quality storm drain insert across from Whole Foods was done and 3 more are installed. They have screen into the catch basin to catch trash before it enters pipes and it is designed to be sucked out through a vacuum truck. They will also try a different kind and will pick the one that works best and put it in the hot spots. They will evaluate this through the winter.

Waterfront – Cryer stie project is out to bid and will be opened Jan. 28th (this is next to Union Point Park). Derby to Lancaster is under construction, part of bay trail. The City countered the Port's counter offer on the Brooklyn Basin site and are waiting to see how the Port responds. They are continuing in the design work around the U.S. Audio site by Alameda Ave. to complete the trail there.

East Oakland Sports Complex also has state funding which is frozen, the \$3 million. They are going to get started and see what happens.

Kathy Raymond gave an update on a committee that has been formed to look into the feasibility of a maintenance trust in Oakland. The committee is looking into hiring interns to do research around what other cities are doing and what a trust might look like or entail. Jim Wheeler who attended the last meeting has left Oakland Parks and Recreation and Sarah Herbelin will try and attend in his place in the future.

Joel brought a copy of the Audit report. It is online on the City's Web site as well. It is not overly detailed and did not report any red flags. It was suggested we invite Courtney Ruby to one of the meetings but it was not clear what we would want her to report on, so we tabled this to a future meeting.

20th – Harrison and Lakeside: Joel brought two possible configurations, one from the Lake Merritt Master Plan and one that had an alternative plan. One had a potential T intersection and would expand parts of the park and Snow Park. In the Lake Merritt Master Plan it was suggested to build an Amphitheater in the section of park by the lake but the group at this meeting did not think that was necessary. This project is Series B so all of this is only preliminary so everything isn't planned out yet. The Kaiser building is also now planning to put up 2 towers, they have to use the Measure DD Layout as baseline because of Master Plan layout from 2002. The T intersection called for in the Master Plan is not looking like it will really work and Joel presented an alternative. You would keep one intersection but expand park from Lake, this would give Pedestrians only one crossing, would be less expensive and would save some trees. The

group at the meeting did like the second alternative and it was stated that with this a bicycle lane could be put in from Harrison to Grand. The City has asked Kaiser to evaluate the EIR they will do with both alternatives. Series B funding is looking like Oct. of 2009, and no more would really be done on this project until Series B. Naomi suggested using permeable materials for whatever gets done. It was noted that Kaiser is considering access to the roof garden from the street so people wouldn't have to go into the building.

It was noted that on Feb. 18th at 8:30 am Waterfront Action would have a meeting where the City of Alameda will give a tour under the High Street Bridge to look at the possible catwalk alternative.

It was asked if the walls around the Lake were included in the funding to be renovated. Joel stated that from the Boat House to 19th they are not fixing. They are prioritizing what needs to be done and are doing the ones by the Sailboat House next.

It was asked if the group could get a tour of the finished Boathouse before the restaurant renovation begins. There is a historic shell and more room on the bottom for boating. The gondolas will be on one side and the rowing club on the other, each have to still renegotiate their lease with the City. They will come back when the restaurant work is complete. They hope to have it open in Summer and it will be called the "Lake Chalet".

Naomi gave a brief update on the zoning code issues that the City is looking at building height specifications and the group has submitted a letter stating that we hope they will keep height restrictions around the lake.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Ongoing Agenda Committee: Sandy Threlfall and James Vann

Next Meeting March 16th.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.