

Measure DD Community Coalition Meeting Notes for May 16, 2011

Meeting was held in the Ebell Room at Lakeside Garden Center at 7:15 PM.
Special thanks to those arriving early and setting up the room!

The meeting was chaired by Rick Rickard and Sandy Threlfall served as recorder.

1. Measure DD Coalition Attendance List:

Alameda County Historical Society – Ed Clausen

CALM – James Vann

BART – Robert Raburn

EBBC – Rick Rickard

Friends of the Cleveland Cascade – David Bolanos, Barbara Newcombe

Lake Merritt Uptown Community Benefit District – Steve Snider

Oakland Parks Coalition – Barbara Schaaf, Judy Johnson, Mike Udkow

Waterfront Action – Bill Threlfall, Sandra Threlfall

Interested Citizens – Erik Niemann, Steve Rochan

City of Oakland

DD Manager – Joel Peter Council District 2: Jennie Gerard

Public Works, Watershed and Stormwater Program: Lesley Estes

2. Additions to agenda

Erik Niemann's photo story of the 12th Street Construction

3. Minutes were approved by consensus.

4. Lesley Estes, Watershed Program Supervisor - Review of Creek Restoration and Water Quality DD Projects

James Vann noted that he had attended as a member of the DD Coalition some of the public workshops for the Creek Restoration projects. Lesley provided a detailed overview of the City's creek restoration and watershed preservation initiatives. She accompanied her remarks with a Power-Point presentation that she offered to provide to the Coalition. It will be posted on the Coalition's Reference Documents Archive page at

<http://www.waterfrontaction.org/dd/archive/archive.htm>

She also reviewed the process by which priorities were set for creek restorations. She provided a copy of the project priority list that was adopted by the City Council in 2005, and it has been posted on the Coalition's Reference Documents Archive page:

http://www.waterfrontaction.org/dd/archive/creek_priorities_exhibitA.pdf

5. Photo History of 12th Street Construction

Erik Niemann posted his prints of the construction site for review by the Coalition and noted that May 13 marked exactly one year since the start of the 12th St. reconstruction project. Each photo was dated so that the viewer could track the changes. One set showed the area exactly one year apart – wow! There is a link to Erik's [Oakland 12th Street Project blog](#) in the photos section of the Coalition's web page.

6. Joel Peter's Update on DD Projects

Sailboat House

Contractor: Dan Peters Construction. The new balcony is up, with new and attractive hand rails. The deck membrane at the end of the building will also be replaced, and then design work will begin on the seawall in front of the Sailboat House. The proposed plans will improve the shoreline edge to the giant domed bird cage.

Cleveland Cascade

Contractor: Ray's Electric. The LED-illuminated handrails have been delivered and installation is scheduled to be completed by the end of May. The conduit to supply power to the railings has already been installed.

Snow Park

The public meetings went well, with some consensus as to final inclusions. Everyone agreed about the access to the shore and the renovation of the landscaping. There were mixed views on the children's play lot, the putting green, and other Snow Park improvements. Overall the opinions were positive, and no major changes to the proposed plans are expected. At the Harrison and 20th intersection a scramble pedestrian crossing will be evaluated. Pedestrians would cross all ways with no right turns on red lights. In addition, the slip turn at Grand and Harrison is being reevaluated. (These ideas were raised at the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee).

Bellevue Avenue at Grand Avenue

Under consideration is a possible narrowing of the street entrance to improve pedestrian safety. There is \$100K budgeted in Series B of DD. A suggestion was made to use pop-up bollards for temporary road closure (especially after the theft of the one ton brass torpedo ring off the Maine). Note: plans are in the works to improve Fairyland entrance independent of Measure DD.

Bellevue Avenue along the housing area

The original Lake Merritt Master Plan called for diagonal parking on both sides of the street and retaining the two existing traffic lanes. Joel indicated that the two-lane width may be a fire safety requirement. A Coalition member suggested that there be diagonal parking on the building side, one wider lane of traffic, and then a bike lane on the Lake side. That approach would meet the safety standards and a single lane could reduce speeding. Given that planning for this project will occur at a future date, the Coalition agreed to put off further discussion of this issue.

Cryer Site

The City has applied for an EPA grant of \$300,000 to fund environmental remediation of the beach and water areas. Measure DD has hired consultants to work on the 2nd phase of the remediation.

Fruitvale-High Street Gap Closure - Waterfront Trail

Contractor: Vortex Diving. The pile driving has been completed from a barge. Next step is the boardwalk. This 650 foot project will be a key link in connecting the Bay Trail along the Estuary. The attendees supported a dedication event to call attention to the work being done by Measure DD.

High Street Bridge Trail

Progress on the agreement with the County continues.

Theft on the waterfront: Thieves removed the costly irrigation controller from one completed project. In addition, near Alameda Avenue the arms of metal benches cut off and stolen.

Gates at Lakeside Garden

Joel Peter distributed photographs of the final graphics for the gates (a Public Art project).

7. Letters task force status report – Rick Rickard

Advocacy for waterfront trail gap closures.

- New model letter from John Sutter:
[Army Corps Bay Trail easement model letter to legislators](#)

- Other models:
[Brooklyn Basin/10th Ave. Marina model letter to Port Commissioners](#)
[High Street Bridge model letter to County Supervisor](#)

Rick described his interactions with a ConAgra VP and discussed tentative plans for a June meeting with this company representative.

8. Lake Merritt Maintenance

Jennie Gerard announced that the Lake Merritt Master Volunteers will be working at the park on Saturday May 21st from 10 to 1 PM. Joel Peter will be the manager for the day.

9. East Oakland Sports Center update

Oakland Parks and Recreation Department is planning a June 30th grand opening.

10. Possible agenda suggestions for July 18th meeting:

- Naming of East 18th Street Pier
- Gifting Policy if any, for donations re: Lake Merritt improvements
- Invitation to Bay Trail staff representative to talk with us
- Invitation to Bruce Cobbledick for update on planned West Gate for the Garden Center
- Overview of Measure DD finances
- Feedback re: the Lake Chalet restaurant lease program
- Letters Task Force / trail closures advocacy -
- Project maintenance
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Our next meeting will be Monday, July 18th at the Ebell Room at 7:10 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55.