



Oakland Measure DD Community Coalition

Measure DD Community Coalition Meeting Notes for July 15, 2019

The meeting was called to order in the Ebell Room at Lakeside Garden Center at 7:15 p.m.

The meeting was chaired by Sandy Threlfall. Bill Threlfall served as recorder.

1. Measure DD Coalition attendance list:

Alameda County Historical Society – Ed Clausen

Bike East Bay – Rick Rickard

CALM – James Vann

Community for Lake Merritt – Adrian Cotter

East Bay Regional Park District – Dee Rosario

East Bay Rowing Club – Ken Croley, Jolie Krakauer

Lake Merritt Institute – Katie Noonan

Lake Merritt.org – John Kirkmire

Lake Merritt Weed Warriors – Jennie Gerard

Oakland Heritage Alliance – Naomi Schiff

Oakland Parks & Recreation Foundation – Mike Udkow

Oakland Rotary Club – Robert Kidd

Oakland Tours Program – Annalee Allen

Rotary Nature Center Friends – David Wofford

Urban Permaculture Institute – Nancy Sherman

Volunteering for Oakland – Sam Burd

Waterfront Action – Bill Threlfall. Sandy Threlfall

Interested Citizens – Carolyn Burd, Bob Redman, Myra Redman, Na

City of Oakland:

Measure DD Program Manager – Kristin Hathaway

2. The agenda was adopted without revision.

3. Minutes of 5/20/2019 were approved.

4. Measure DD Project Updates - Kristin Hathaway

Kristin distributed copies of the July 16, 2019 [Project Status Summary](#), which is also posted on the Coalition web page in the [City of Oakland Resources section](#).

Drawing on the document's detail, she briefly discussed the status of the following projects. Her remarks closely followed the spreadsheet's "Project Status" column:

- Lake Merritt Water Quality
- Lake Merritt Improvement Project/Garden Center & Grand Ave. entrance
- Snow Park/Lakeside Green Street Project
- Union Point Park to 23rd Ave Trail (aka E. 7th St to 23rd Ave, Miller Milling to Cemex)
- Harbor Master Trail Connection
- Waterfront Trail at High St. Bridge
- Waterfront Trail at Park St. Bridge
- Waterfront Trail at Fruitvale
- Estuary Park

- Lake Merritt Channel at 7th Street Pedestrian crosswalk
- Creek Restoration at Courtland Creek
- Watershed Acquisition Initiatives

When discussing the stalled trail crossings at High and Park Street bridges, Kristin mentioned a possibility that if impasse continues, the involved parties may wish to reconsider previously rejected options, including the catwalk option. She also circulated design drawings for the re-aligned Harbormaster site trail and provided additional background about the status of the Estuary Park design.

Katy Noonan expressed concern about the condition of the 7th St. pump station tidal gates.

In response to the Coalition request for a report of the remaining funding capacity in Bond Section IIIA and IIIB, Kristin reviewed the bond allocations and offered some estimates of expenditures to date and planned. A discussion ensued which revealed uncertainty about the amount of remaining funds. After further discussion, the Coalition expressed consensus requesting written reports to include a) expenditures to date in [bond section IIIA and IIIB](#), together with remaining capacity in these, and b) all Measure DD expenditures for the LM2BT project.

In response to a question about the leadership of the LM2BT project, she reported that Henry Choi is now the project manager.

5. Parks maintenance funding ballot measure follow-up – Jennie Gerard

Jennie briefly reviewed the purpose and plan as presented in May by John Bliss and Brooke Levin. She advised that the Council had budgeted \$80K for a poll to determine whether to put the parcel tax on the March or November ballot. Jennie cautioned that it would be exceptionally challenging to meet the requirements for March.

6. Estuary Park design status update – Kristin Hathaway

Kristin reviewed the issues leading to the delay, and noted the Ali Schwarz had committed that the regardless of the appearance of the final design, it will include all the expected project elements.

7. Homeless encampments at Lake Merritt Channel – James Vann, Nancy Sherman

James summarized his interaction with Joe DeVries regarding enforcement of the no-camping rule at Lake Merritt. Nancy described a “bigger picture”, county-wide and reviewed the challenges jurisdictions face, including lack of funds and follow-up.

Naomi Schiff mentioned the expiration of a one-month contract with the Business Improvement District (BID) for assistance clearing unauthorized encampments from the Lake Merritt parklands. She also advised that Steve Snider of the BID has many concerns about the homeless and enforcement and has some ideas about what to do. Steve or a representative from his group will plan to attend the September Coalition meeting.

Ken Croley described many homeless problems at Estuary Park/Jack London Aquatic Center, and suggested expanding the scope of the Coalition’s enforcement requests.

After some discussion, the consensus was not to expand at this time, but to continue the clear focus on enforcing the City's rule about lake Merritt as a no-camping zone.

8. DD social event – Robert Kidd

Robert described a few alternatives for venue and timing, after which there was consensus to "think about it" further and revisit the issue in the future.

9. Announcements and reports

- Rotary Nature Center - Katie Noonan encouraged visits to the center and described its challenges and problems.
- Lake Merritt Newsletter – Katie Noonan urged Coalition participants to read the [Lake Merritt Institute "Tidings" newsletter](#).
- Snow Park Opening and Celebration – Naomi Schiff described the event, at which she spoke representing the Coalition. Sandy Threlfall, who also attended the event, circulated [photos of the celebration](#).
- Historic plaque for Snow Park – Annalee Allen presented [draft text for the plaque](#), which is intended to fit the design of the City's plaque standard. A discussion ensued about the size and content, and it was finally agreed that participants at the 7-15-2019 Coalition would be invited to send suggestions for the plaque to Annalee by email within the next two weeks at: aallen@oaklandca.gov

It was also suggested that when we learn more about the constraints of schedule and budget, additional options for historic interpretive signage and recognition may be considered.

- Lake Merritt Weed Warriors workday – July 27, 9 a.m.-12 noon
Meet between amphitheater restroom and municipal boathouse
- Lake Merritt Advocates – Jennie advised that the group is seeking to learn from other groups and exemplar parks.
- Water Quality Report for September – Nancy Sherman encouraged interested Coalition participants to contact her at nancysherman123@gmail.com

12. Review of work assignments to Coalition participants:

- Naomi to confirm arrangements with Steve Snyder
- Annalee to revise plaque text in light of Coalition input.
- Kristin to prepare a written report of the remaining available funding capacity in Bond sections IIIA and IIIB
- Kristin to add "Channel Paths and Shoreline Improvement" to project status list.

13. Agenda suggestions for next Meeting:

- Steve Snyder, BID
- Bond section III – expenditure report & funds remaining
- Estuary Park design status

The next Coalition meeting will be September 16, 2019, at 7:10 p.m. at the Garden Center Ebell Room.

Adjourned at 9:05 p.m.