



Oakland Measure DD Community Coalition

Measure DD Community Coalition Meeting Notes for January 19, 2015

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

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

1. Measure DD Coalition Attendance List:

Alameda County Historical Society - Ed Clausen

BART – Robert Raburn

Bike East Bay – Rick Rickard

CALM – James Vann

Friends of Sausal Creek – Dee Rosario

Lake Merritt Breakfast Club – Carole Agnello

Lake Merritt Institute – Charles Brooks II

Garden Center, Inc. – Anne Woodell

Oakland Heritage Alliance – Naomi Schiff

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

Waterfront Action – George Duncan, Bill Threlfall, Sandy Threlfall

Interested Citizens – Sam Burd, Joel Peter, Sergio Romero, John Wilson

City of Oakland

Council District 2 – Jennie Gerard

Measure DD Program Manager – Lesley Estes

2. Following a couple of revisions, the agenda was approved.

3. Minutes of 11/17/2014 were approved by consensus.

4. Measure DD Project Update – Lesley Estes

Measure DD Project Status Summary Spreadsheet

Lesley distributed 10 copies of this document, noting that she had made further updates beyond those found in the [November 2014 version](#) provided by Lily Soo Hoo. During the brief discussion that followed, Coalition participants asked that Lesley distribute copies of the spreadsheet and review the status of projects twice per year, in January and July.

10th Street Bridge Update

The project has experienced delays, some of which are related to coordination of infrastructure relocation with AT&T.

Ownership Change at Con Agra: Bay Trail Impact

At this time, no adverse impact on the trail project is expected. The same personnel are involved in developing the necessary agreements, which are now in City hands awaiting further work.

Bay Trail Improvements on Port Land

Progress continues, with recent meetings and joint field visits by staff from the City, Port, and BCDC to investigate constraints and use of existing permits. The "Crowley site" (formerly known as Brooklyn Basin) may require new BCDC permits.

Lakeside Green Street Project

The city is still negotiating details pertaining to the \$9.2M federal grant. The bid process is not expected before October of 2015.

Garden Gates, Fairyland, and Bellevue Projects

Lesley advised that City staff have been given special direction to minimize the inevitable disruptions to public use that will occur during these projects.

5. Updates

Wind & Shadow Studies for "Remainder Parcel" Development – James Vann

James, Naomi Schiff, and Joel Peter, acting as the relevant Coalition committee, received the final report of the wind and shadow studies for the proposed Lake Merritt Avenue Apartments and in turn, submitted a letter accepting the findings, which left little concern about wind or shadow impacts. A brief discussion ensued.

Waterfront Bay Trail – Park Street to Fruitvale Avenue:

- Phoenix Commons Update – Joel Peter
Joel briefly described the location and history of the site and then distributed a photo of current construction and a drawing showing the project's planned public access spaces, including the Bay Trail.
- Union Pacific Railroad Bay Trail Segment - Lesley Estes and Joel Peter
Joel noted that once Phoenix Commons is complete, the hundred feet or so of railroad property adjacent to the Fruitvale Bridge will be the last obstacle to a continuous trail between the two bridges. He commented on the disuse of the railroad property and described the expected formal abandonment process by the railroad. Future ownership and use of the property remain uncertain. Lesley mentioned that there has been no notice of abandonment by UP and that this property is on a watch list of railroad properties of interest to the City.

Coliseum BART to Bay Trail Project – Robert Raburn

Robert described the background, goals, and financing status of this project, noting that it is partially funded by a \$750K "pass-through" grant and only requires an additional \$150K from the City of Oakland to go forward. After some discussion, it was agreed that Robert would draft a Coalition letter urging City financial support. The letter will be submitted for Coalition review at its March 16, 2015 meeting.

6. Review and Approve Proposed Coalition Letters

At the November 17, 2014 Coalition meeting, Bill Threlfall, Sandy Threlfall, and Joel Peter were charged to draft a [Coalition letter to Bay Conservation and Development Commission in support of the marsh restoration](#) at Brooklyn Basin. Bill distributed copies of the letter, which was approved by consensus.

Bill also distributed copies of a [related draft Coalition letter to the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board](#). It too was approved by consensus.

Naomi Schiff distributed copies of an early draft Coalition letter in urging augmented budgeting for maintenance of Measure DD improvements and recommending that proceeds from the sale of the "Remainder Parcel" property be committed to such maintenance. Jennie Gerard emphasized the importance of sending this letter soon. After discussion, the Coalition authorized Naomi and Jennie Gerard to finalize and send the letter as soon as possible.

7. Discussion Matters

Community Meeting

Mike Udkow announced that a [community meeting on the proposed Lake Merritt Boulevard Apartments project](#) was scheduled for January 20, 2015. A brief discussion followed, mainly regarding plans for the adjacent passive park space.

H. J. Kaiser Auditorium RFP

Lesley Estes reviewed the RFP requirements for the lease and adaptive use of the Henry J. Kaiser Auditorium and noted that two complete proposals were received and that the selection process is not yet complete. City Council will make final decision in March or April.

8. Maintenance and Announcements

Committee on Enhanced Maintenance for Lake Merritt

Jennie Girard reported an intention for the committee to meet soon.

Lake Merritt Weed Warriors Report

The next regular work day will be Saturday, January 31, 2015. Location TBA.

Channel Tidal Marsh Update

Joel Peter report that the contractor has added new and replacement plants along with 40 protective cages and a four-foot fence.

Other Announcements:

- Naomi Schiff announced that members of the Fifth Avenue Community had advised that construction is about to begin on the first interim Bay Trail segments at Brooklyn Basin.
- James Vann announced that the Orinda Garden Club has requested an "inservice/tour" of the Measure DD improvements similar to the past tour provided to the Piedmont Garden Club. During discussion, it was suggested that future tours of this sort be handled by Annalee Allen's Oakland City Tours program. For the immediate request from the Orinda club, the consensus was that James and others would offer the tour and would solicit participation-in-training from Annalee and her volunteers as preparation for responding to future requests.

9. Review of Work Assignments to Coalition Participants:

- Naomi Schiff, Jennie Gerard – Finalize and send letter re: maintenance funding.
- Robert Raburn – Draft BART to Bay Trail letter for Coalition review.
- James Vann et al. – Arrange & conduct tour with Orinda Garden Club & Annalee Allen.

10. Agenda Suggestions for March 16, 2015 meeting:

- John Roloff to discuss public art – Kristen Zaremba will explore.
- Review/adopt draft Coalition letter re: BART to Bay Trail funding.
- John Sutter to discuss potential EBRPD takeover of tidal canal to enable bridge crossings.
- Begin general discussion of Series C bond use to "fill in the holes" in overall DD projects.
- Naomi Schiff to provide update on OUSD plans near channel.
- There was a request from one participant to discuss signage, although this topic was discussed in some detail at the July 21, 2014 meeting.

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

Adjourned at 9:08 p.m.