



Oakland Measure DD Community Coalition

Measure DD Community Coalition Meeting Notes for November 18, 2019

The meeting was called to order in the Ebell Room at Lakeside Garden Center at 7:10 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 – Robert Prinz, Rick Rickard

CALM – James Vann

Community for Lake Merritt – Adrian Cotter

East Bay Rowing Club – Virginia Roe

Lake Merritt Breakfast Club – Aileen Frankel

Lake Merritt Weed Warriors – Jennie Gerard

Oakland Parks & Recreation Foundation – Barbara Schaaf, Mike Udkow

Rotary Nature Center Friends – David Wofford

Urban Permaculture Institute – Nancy Sherman

Waterfront Action – George Duncan, Bill Threlfall. Sandy Threlfall

Interested Citizens – Na Fanene, Brooke Levin, Linda Morton

City of Oakland:

Measure DD Program Manager – Kristin Hathaway

2. The agenda was adopted without revision.

3. Minutes of 9/16/2019 were approved.

4. Update on Parcel Tax Measure for Parks Maintenance – Brooke Levin

Brooke reported that Council has approved the measure for the March 3rd ballot, and she described the changes to the draft measure that had occurred since its presentation to the Coalition in May 2019. Based on professional polling conducted by the City, the measure was expanded to include provisions addressing homelessness, a key citizen concern. In addition, the Council added provisions addressing water quality. Proceeds will be allocated as follows:

- 64% parks maintenance
- 30% homelessness services
- 5% clean water

She noted that the measure includes carefully crafted “maintenance of effort” language focused on specific deliverables. It also provides for dedicated maintenance staff at major parks specified in the “OSCAR” element of the City’s General Plan. She also briefly described the accountability requirements of the measure and its planned exemptions.

Brooke took questions and then invited interested citizens to assist in promotion of the measure. Those interested may contact her by email: **Levin.brooke@yahoo.com**

After brief discussion, the Coalition reached consensus to endorse the measure and requested that Bill Threlfall document this position statement and transmit it to Brooke.

5. Measure DD Project Updates – Kristin Hathaway

Bond Section III (Channel) – remaining funding capacity and expenditure report:

Kristin sent [this email report](#) to the Agenda Committee, and it was distributed at the meeting. Discussion followed, with these highlights:

- It appears at least some funds will be available to address the goals of the Channel Path Improvements ad-hoc committee.
- Some portion of the funds may be needed to address upgrades to the 7th Street pump control station if the County elects to pursue improvements during the life of Measure DD. In response to a question, Kristin indicated that there is no Memorandum of Understanding between the City and County regarding City fiscal participation in pump station upgrades. Kristin indicated she will seek clarification from the County regarding its plans.

Bill noted that nothing in the email report accounts for the nearly \$1M in LM2BT expenditures that were previously reported to the Coalition by Lesley Estes and Diane Tannenwald. In view of the challenges in developing clear answers about these expenditures, Bill proposed that the LM2BT bridge funding workgroup (Bill, Jennie, Rick) that had previously worked with Lesley meet with Kristin to seek further clarification, and all agreed.

Channel Path Improvements and plans to set up as a DD project

Kristin described the formal steps involved in setting up a project, including assigning a project manager, establishing project goals, accounting setup, etc. In response to the question of how a new project is added to the City's workload, she indicated that the Public Works division who would manage the project would have to be consulted regarding their current work load and ability to add new projects based on staffing capacities and existing priorities. She added that ultimately it is the decision of Public Works leadership to determine work load and timing. Bill Threlfall suggested that before any such formal steps were taken, it would be useful to simply add the project to the Project Status Spreadsheet as an inactive project and use that to track the status of the ad-hoc Channel committee's work.

Adrian Cotter indicated his Channel committee has made good progress toward developing a "wish list" for the improvements. He noted that now that there is a better understanding of available funds, the committee could review the list for presentation at the January Coalition meeting, along with a simple draft Coalition position statement about the importance of establishing such a project.

Project Status Summary:

Kristin distributed copies of the November 18, 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
- 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 10th Street
- Tidal Gate Operations Guidance for the 7th Street Flood Control Facility
- Lake Merritt Channel at 7th Street Pedestrian crosswalk
- Courtland Creek Restoration at Courtland Creek Park

When discussing the status of the Estuary Park project, Kristin responded to questions about the anticipated timetable for resumption of progress and about whether any work products from Hargreaves Associates would be retained and used.

6. Downtown Oakland Specific Plan comment letter committee report – James Vann

James expressed appreciation to the committee, comprised of Jennie Gerard, Adrian Cotter, Nancy Sherman, and Naomi Schiff, for its work. The resulting [memorandum](#) is posted in the **Coalition Position Statements & Advocacy Letters** section of the [Coalition’s archive page](#).

7. Announcements and reports

- [Letter of support for OMCA grant request](#) – The Agenda Committee reported its completion of a [letter of support](#) in response to a request from Lori Fogarty, OMCA Director. The letter is posted in the **Coalition Position Statements & Advocacy Letters** section of the [Coalition’s archive page](#).
- [Council action on Fire Alarm Building](#) – Sandy Threlfall gave an overview and expressed concerns:
 - Oakland City Council on Tuesday voted to waive the competitive process generally required for leasing or selling city-owned property and begin negotiating with the [Museum of Jazz and Art](#) team to develop the parcel at 1310 Oak Street, currently the site of a parking lot and the Fire Alarm Building completed in 1911.
 - The building is on public access land, which requires a bidding process that did not take place.

Questions and a brief discussion followed.

- [2020 Coalition meeting schedule](#) – Bill Threlfall advised that he had secured the Garden Center venue for meetings on the third Monday of January, March, May, July, September, and November 2020. He noted the meeting dates will always be posted on the [Coalition web page](#).
- [Lake Merritt Weed Warriors workday](#) – December 7, 9 a.m.-12 noon
Location to be announced.
- James Vann commented that the “Remainder Parcel” developer requested another extension from Council.
- David Wofford advised that March 18, 2020 will be the 150-year anniversary of Lake Merritt as a wildlife refuge.

8. Review of work assignments to Coalition participants:

- Bill to transmit Coalition’s parcel tax endorsement to Brooke Levin.

- Kristin to seek update from County regarding plans for flood control pump station.
- Adrian to prepare "Channel Paths and Shoreline Improvement" proposal and draft a related Coalition position statement.
- Bill to coordinate meeting of bridge funding workgroup with Kristin to seek clarification about unreported LM2BT expenditures.

9. Agenda suggestions for next Meeting:

- Update on County plans for flood pump station upgrades.
- Discussion of "Channel Paths and Shoreline Improvement" as a future project and consideration of related draft position statement from the channel committee
- Requirement for audit of Series 2017C, Measure DD

The next Coalition meeting will be January 20, 2020, at 7:10 p.m. at the Garden Center Ebell Room.

Adjourned at 8:42 p.m.