

Measure DD Community Coalition

Notes from February 22, 2003 meeting

Oakland Public Library, Temescal Branch

by Dick Bailey, Recording Secretary for this meeting

The meeting was called to order by meeting chair Ron Bishop at 9am. Those in attendance are identified below.

1. Opening Comments

Joe Yew, City Treasury Manager, was unable to attend this meeting to present information on the bond sales. He is available to attend a future meeting to bring us up to date on proposed bond sale dates and amounts to be sold in each period.

2. Implementing DD

Leslie Gould, City Planning Director, and Kerry Jo Ricketts-Ferris, Project Manager, both of the Community and Economic Development Agency (CEDA), presented the following preliminary information on organizing implementation of the DD bond measure.

A. The bonds will be issued over a 20-year period to correlate with the annual tax assessment. Leslie anticipates that there will be four sales, each covering a period of 5 years and about \$50 million dollars for projects to be implemented during each period. However, the first sale may be for a period of three years, and would be mostly used for design work, with some funds for construction of projects that are ready or almost ready to go forward.

B. Leslie presented an organizational chart for DD implementation. Planning for DD projects will be under CEDA (Kerry Jo Ricketts-Ferris's position). A new position will be created in the Public Works Agency (PWA) as Project Director for DD projects. This would be a full time DD position. Design and construction management staff in PWA will be assigned as needed. Someone in the City Budget and Finance Agency would be assigned responsibility for DD accounting. Public art will receive 1.5% of the funding. All DD planning and construction will be reviewed by a senior management team comprised of representatives of the City Manager, City Attorney, Public Works Agency, Community Economic and Planning Agency (Planning Director), Mayor and City Council members.

C. A two-page Proposed Capital Spending Plan, in the form of a draft chart showing four 5 year periods (2003–2008, 2008–2013, 2013–2018, and 2018–2023) and indicating which projects would be active in design and construction in each period, was presented and handed out.

D. A two-page spreadsheet depicting each of the DD projects, its total budget, proposed amount of funding by DD, funding gap and potential funding sources was also handed out. The largest project by far is 12th Street Boulevard, commanding a budget of \$47,250,000, \$40 million of which is to be paid for through DD, leaving a gap of \$7,250,000 which could potentially be filled by competitive funds distributed by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and/or the California Coastal Conservancy.

E. Several points were made during discussion of the proposed Capital Spending Plan and accompanying spreadsheet. • Some projects, i.e. Studio One, will be completed all at once. • Others, i.e. creek projects, will have funding in each of the four funding periods. • Interest money earned on bond funds before the money is spent must be used for the purposes of the bond, and cannot be used for maintenance. • It is likely that all new and renovated parks will need a maintenance plan, and a master plan for creek work will need to be developed. • The City will conduct community outreach for each project.

• Leslie will provide clarification as to which projects could be scheduled sooner if money were available. Matching funds will be required for many projects and if funds are raised faster for a particular project, that project may be implemented sooner.

F. The Proposed Capital Spending Plan, including a list of priority projects for the first year, will be finalized and sent to the City Council for consideration in late April or early May 2003. The first bond money may be available shortly after July 31st, 2003 but Leslie stressed that this is a most ambitious schedule.

G. The issue of having non-profit organizations do their own contracting for projects funded by DD was deferred to a time when Public Works Agency (PWA) staff could attend a Community Coalition meeting. To questions about the amount of money PWA would charge for project administrative, Leslie responded that PWA has standard ways of working and set percentages for various administrative efforts.

H. Work around Lake Merritt will focus on one side in each funding period, beginning on the Lakeside Drive side. Channel work will be designed in the first five years, and built in later phases (phase 4 will include Channel improvements at 7th and 10th Streets). A draft design of the Waterfront Trail should be available for public comment in March 2003. Significant matching funding is needed in order to proceed with the East Oakland Sports Complex.

I. Over \$100 million in improvements called for by the Lake Merritt Master Plan are not included in Measure DD funding.

3. Next Steps for the Measure DD Community Coalition

For projects that are “ready to go”, Leslie requested that all available information on the projects, including budget, timeline, design plans, scope of work, etc. be submitted now. Suggested criteria for scheduling DD projects are also requested. Members of the Community Coalition should present the Proposed Capital Spending Plan to their members for review and comment, and can submit comments to Kerry Jo Ricketts-Ferris at 238-1628 or kjferis@oaklandnet.com. Kerry Jo will attend the next Community Coalition meeting to discuss refinements to the proposed Capital Spending Plan.

4. Coalition Structure

A proposal for structuring the Measure DD Community Coalition was handed out at the beginning of the meeting. Members were requested to review it before the next meeting and be prepared to discuss it then. The agenda committee for the March 15, 2003 meeting will present proposal(s) at the meeting.

The goal of the proposal is to identify a small, representative group that will meet with City staff on a regular basis regarding overall DD issues. It is proposed that the small group composition would rotate. Councilmember Danny Wan and Leslie Gould expressed concern that there be continuity, not a group whose membership changes frequently. The issue is how to divide the work among members while providing continuity and still adequately representing the Community Coalition.

The purposes of the proposed structure is for the Community Coalition to make timely input to the City; to advocate both for individual projects and for overall DD implementation; and to advocate for matching funding.

Danny Wan suggested that it might be possible to provide funds for a community support person who will take notes, schedule meetings, provide agendas, copies, etc. He also reminded the Coalition that it needs to educate its members regarding the process and progress of DD.

5. Next Meeting

Saturday, March 15th, 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm at the Temescal Branch Library. The agenda committee volunteers for that meeting are James Vann, Sandy Threlfall, Caroline Kim and Jennie Gerard.

Representatives from the following organization, agencies, commissions and committees attended the meeting:

Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee – Ron Bishop

East Bay Bicycle Coalition – Rick Rickard

Budget Advisory Commission – Dinah Benson, David Stein

Chabot Park Highlands Homeowners Association – Ken Benson

Children's Fairyland – CJ Hirschfield

Coalition of Advocates for Lake Merritt – James Vann

Commission on Aging – Frank Rose

East Bay Regional Parks District – John Sutter, Brian Wiese

East Oakland Smart Moves – Frank Rose

Friends of Oakland Parks & Recreation — Judith Johnson, Kathy Raymond, David Stein, Don Walls

Friends of Temescal Creek – Bruce Douglas

Golden Gate Audubon Society – John Bowers, Caroline Kim

Greater Mandana Action Coalition – Bruce Benedictis

Lake Merritt Breakfast Club – Aileen Frankel

Lake Merritt Institute – Dick Bailey and Stana Hearne

Lake Merritt Master Plan task force – Dick Bailey

Oakland Parks Coalition – Jennie Gerard

Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission – Dinah Benson, Matt Webb

Peralta Community College District – Susan Duncan

San Francisco Bay Trail – Brian Wiese

Spanish-Speaking Unity Council – Rita Torres-Gonzalez

Studio One – Sandy Strehlou

Waterfront Action – Sandy Threlfall

Waterfront Quality Coalition Task Force – Dick Bailey

City Council representation included District 2 Councilmember Danny Wan, Pat Kernighan from District 2 Councilmember Wan's office and Pat Mossburg from District 7 Councilmember Larry Reid's office.

Also invited but not in attendance were representatives from Jack London Aquatic Center, Friends of Sausal Creek, and Oakland Unified School District.