

**MEASURE DD COMMUNITY COALITION
Oakland Public Library, Temescal Branch
Minutes of March 15, 2003**

Participants

Children's Fairyland CJ Hirschfield, Karl Osterloh
Coalition of Advocates for Lake Merritt John Klein
East Bay Bicycle Coalition Rick Rickard
East Bay Regional Parks District John Sutter
Friends of Oakland Parks and Recreation David Stein, Don Walls
Friends of Sausal Creek Linda Morse
Lake Merritt Institute Elizabeth Borowiec, Stana Hearne
Lake Merritt Rowing Club Jerry Denham, Alan Dreyfuss
Oakland Heritage Alliance Naomi Schiff
Oakland Museum of California Foundation Lance Gyorfi
Oakland Parks Coalition Jennie Gerard
Peralta Community Colleges Susan Duncan
One Thousand Friends of Studio One Sandy Strehlou
Waterfront Action Sandy Threlfall
District 7 Councilmember Larry Reid's office Pat Mossburg

Caroline Kim chaired the meeting held at Temescal Branch Library from 12:30 to 2:30 PM.

Kerry Jo Ricketts Ferris gave us an update of discussions on the Bond series. Joe Chew, finance manager, is looking at 2 bond issues instead of 4, which would significantly increase the amount available for the first round. The cost to the tax payer would increase slightly from \$20 per 100,000 to approximately \$21.30 per \$100,000. The advantages would be numerous: fewer charges against the bond revenues as they are linked to issues, the amount available would go up to almost \$100 M at the sale of the first round which would shorten significantly the time frame on a majority of the projects. City staff is estimating an inflation factor of 3%. The discussions at staff level will continue. No determination has yet been made

Kerry Jo said that there were three criteria to determine the priority list of projects:

1. Status of project

Readiness to Proceed - such as Union Point Park, Studio One and East Oakland Sports Complex - they have plans and considerable preparation work has been done.

Community Support

New: most of the DD projects fall in this category.

2. Ability to generate additional funding

Proposition 50 (Clean Water Bond) has already confirmed \$2M for Lake Merritt and the Estuary. Proposition 40 will generate \$3.5M to Oakland for its per capita share. The Coastal Conservancy has \$160M available for grants, 10% of which will go to education.

3. Balance across city council districts.

Other comments were made regarding the city manager's (East Oakland Sports

Complex) or mayor's pet projects (12/14th Street improvements and Boat House restoration). Will that have an effect on the project's position in the priority list? Difficult question - logical assumption is Yes, but that is not an official part of the criteria.

When will the DD Community Coalition have an opportunity to discuss projects and our sense of priorities?

Kerry Jo indicated that the prioritization had already been determined on the Lake Merritt Master Plan through public meetings. The remainder will be accessed by the above criteria. Kerry Jo's plan is to submit a priority list of projects to Council in time for them to vote to issue the first round of Bonds in July of this year. Given the Sunshine Ordinance, that would require Kerry Jo get the list to her managers by early May for review time, before forwarding it to the Council. Kerry Jo said that the Estuary projects are in beginning stages, and the Creeks will require a lot more coordination. Leslie Gould will be the point person on the Creeks projects. Sausal Creek group will meet with other creek groups and then meet with Leslie Gould.

Naomi Schiff suggested using the City's Web Site as an information source for DD. There was support for this, and Kerry Jo felt that could be a possibility.

Readiness Project

Fairyland representatives indicated their readiness and hoped that Fairyland would be at the top of the priority list in addition to Studio One, Union Point Park and East Oakland Sports Complex. They have planned a \$3M amphitheater and \$1M for restoration of historic sets. There are also drainage issues. Carol Osterlou served as the project manager for the \$1.8M from Measure I. He was able to generate an additional \$500,000 in donated resources.

Proposed Statement of Purpose

The handouts included a proposed statement of purpose which the group then began to modify.

The Measure DD Committee is a coalition formed by people representing associations, neighborhood groups and city sponsored Task Forces who are concerned about the Measure DD projects.

The Purpose of the Committee is to interact with the city of Oakland and the stakeholders to ensure that the projects are planned and completed in a timely fashion with financial accountability. The Committee will ensure that information is passed to the members of the associations that are represented in the coalition and act as an interface with the city.

More than representing one point of view, and advocating for any particular subset of projects, the Committee's purpose is to act as a city-wide watchdog to make sure that no project is slighted, all groups are fairly represented, and that the citizens get the most for their tax dollars.

A number of people noted that the middle paragraph is the HOW statement, and can be dealt with separate from the statement of Purpose. The group gave feedback on ways to improve the Purpose, and then asked the Agenda Committee to fine tune it for the next meeting.

Naomi suggested setting a regular meeting time with city staff, either prior to a Public Works Committee or Life Enrichment Committee meeting so that it is scheduled. Proposed staff people for DD Committee reps to meet with: CEDA staff: Leslie Gould and Kerry Jo Ricketts Ferris, and Public Works staff: Lesley Estes and Raul Godinez.

There was some discussion on the structure of the DD Community Coalition.

Given the time that this Measure will cover until completion, there was a recommendation by Sandy Strehlou for a clearly defined organizational structure. An alternative, put forward by John Klein, was continuing with our interim structure over the next few months, while we get to know each other and determine what would work best for all of us. Sandy Threlfall pointed out that working on the agenda committee for this meeting was very productive, as she had the opportunity to meet and work with two new people. She suggested that we continue with the agenda committee rotation, with the recording secretary from the previous meeting be the fourth person to sit in on the next agenda committee meeting. In this way there will be an opportunity for people to meet and work together.

Sandy Threlfall gave a report on Measure K.

There was no city appointed task force for Measure K. COOS (Citizens for Oakland Open Space) provided input and guidance on the Open Space purchases. A number of the larger non-profits worked with city staff to complete their projects. Some of the projects needed a non-profit for contract compliance and other city requirements, and the Friends of Park and Rec were instrumental in coordinating these efforts. The city of Oakland took 3% of the total bond sales for their expenses (approximately \$1.8 M) and then each project had a range of administrative costs allowed in the Measure, up to 15%. At this time, there is no a report available on completed Measure K projects. Everything was moved from Park and Rec to Public Works in early 2000. I believe that the Bond Measure required an annual report on status of projects, but I have been unable to access a copy of any. These are the issues we can learn from, and provide clearer guidance to the public on the use of their DD funds.

Circulation of Coalition Participants

The attending members of the Coalition agreed that their information could be provided in hard copy to members. There was agreement that the e-mail list would continue to be blind copied.

Our next meeting will be held on Saturday, April 12th from 2:30 to 4:30 PM in the Temescal Library basement. The agenda committee for that meeting will be John Klein, Liz Borowiec, David Stein and Sandy Threlfall (recording secretary for the March 15th meeting).

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Sandra Threlfall