

Measure DD Community Coalition Meeting Notes for July 18, 2011

Meeting was held in the Ebell Room at Lakeside Garden Center at 7:10 PM.
Special thanks to those arriving early and setting up the room!

The meeting was chaired by Rick Rickard and Sandy Threlfall served as recorder.

1. Measure DD Coalition Attendance List:

Alameda County Historical Society – Ed Clausen

CALM – James Vann, Naomi Schiff

BART – Robert Raburn

EBBC – Rick Rickard

EBRPD – John Sutter

East Bay Garden Center – Bruce Cobbledick, Susan Veit

Friends of the Cleveland Cascade – David Bolanos

ODOG – Emily Rosenberg

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

Waterfront Action – Bill Threlfall, Sandra Threlfall

Interested Citizens – Betsy Block, Tom Willging, Judith Willging, John Wilson

City of Oakland

DD Manager – Joel Peter Council District 2: Jennie Gerard

2. Additions to agenda

None

3. Minutes were approved by consensus.

4. Joel Peter: Update on current DD projects

Fruitvale-High Street Gap

The project was paused for a time and has just re-started. Concrete will be poured during the week of the July 25th.

12th Street Project

August 1st Lakeshore Avenue will become a dead-end street, and First Avenue will be the route to go into town. Traffic will be shifted to the west half of the new bridge on August 1st. Bicycles and pedestrians will be allowed on the new bridge until the pedestrian bridge is completed in 2012. There will be stairs at the cul-de-sac end of Lakeshore to access the new bridge.

In September the pile driving will start very close to Lakeshore and should take about one month. They will be working from 8 AM to 5 PM. Demolition of the old viaduct will also begin. In October the retaining walls at the dead-end of Lakeshore will be constructed and backfilled and they will begin paving the remaining part of the roadway.

In late November traffic will be shifted to its final paths on both sides of the newly completed 12th Street bridge!

Project completion is estimated for the end of 2012. There is a 3 year plant establishment contract with the contractor for the park at the south end of the Lake.

Lake Chalet

The unstablized decomposed granite (DG) running path has proven unsuitable(it gets mush when wet due to excessive fine material) and has been removed. Installation of a slightly coarser material began recently, but work was stopped when tests indicated that specs were not being met. The contractor is working with the material supplier to get the proper material.

Pergola

The pergola has developed rust and peeling paint on the southern exposure. The architects are exploring paints that could last longer than 5 years. A coat over the paint that could be washable when marked with graffiti is also being considered.

Near the pergola, there is a break in the path's paved surface, and plans are underway to pave and landscape this section.

Cleveland Cascade

After long delays, the railing installation was partly completed, but the result has proved unsatisfactory, requiring changes, revisions, and corrections. Public Works is working on confirming code issues. One member commented that the lights were left on the other night, and the railing was stunning to see. However, the member noted that the bright yellow lights in the bollards at the top of the Cascade are a source of glare.

Boardwalk under the High Street Bridge

An agreement has been reached between the City and the County to move ahead with the project and is on the City Council's consent calendar for July 19th. It will go before the County Board of Supervisors for action thereafter. The Army Corps of Engineers easement/license issue at the Tidal Canal remains unresolved, but the project will move forward as the plan calls for building the boardwalk on top of the existing catwalk, which already has an Army Corps license.

Additional funds for 12th Street

An additional \$828,000 Federal appropriation has been received from Transportation Housing, Urban Renewal Appropriations Act for the 12th Street project.

Financial settlement with BBI

The city and the contractor working on the Studio One Project and the Muni Boathouse Project have agreed to a settlement of \$768,000. This settlement was approved by Council a few weeks ago.

Garden Center West Gate presentation by Bruce Cobbledick

Bruce brought visuals to show the preliminary landscape plan for the Garden Center area and the included new garden gate. There are pavers in storage left over from the Frank H Ogawa Plaza project that can be utilized in this project. There is roughly 6,800 sq. ft of planting beds in this design. The plans have been posted on the Coalition's Reference Documents Archive page:

[Preliminary Plan for Lakeside Garden Center Entrance](#)
[Lakeside Garden Center Gate Design Rendering](#)

Financial Overview

Joel briefly reviewed Series A and B bond allocations and expenditures and offered to bring printed material to the September Coalition meeting.

5. Tenth Anniversary Event

A committee was formed to work on an event that will update the public on all the DD projects that have been completed, and those in construction. The Measure DD was passed in November of 2002. It is suggested that we have a fall event, as the 12th Street project will be close to completion. The committee members are Sandy Threlfall, Mike Udkow, James Vann and Anne Woodell.

6. Naming of the East 18th Street Pier

After some discussion relating the efforts of Mayor Mott on behalf of Lake Merritt, by consensus we settled on the the name *East 18th Street Pier* or *East 18th Street Landing*, with the intent to choose whichever would be historically correct. Joel indicated his intent to

research the pier's history at the Oakland Library History Room. In addition, the group suggested a dedication to Mayor Mott.

7. Lake Merritt BART Planning

Robert Raburn gave an overview of BART development plans for the Lake Merritt Station area. He expressed some concern for the open spaces, or lack thereof, and the need to develop a sense of place for the station. He encouraged the attendees of tonight's Coalition meeting to attend the next BART community meeting to be held September 12th at 900 Fallon Street at Ninth Avenue, the Laney College Student Center/Cafeteria.. The discussion will focus on the Draft Emerging Plan for the Lake Merritt BART station. The meeting is scheduled for 5:30 PM. The latest information concerning this meeting and the planning project is at www.business2oakland.com/lakemerrittsap/

8. Dog Park Status along MacArthur Avenue

Naomi Schiff reported last week's Park and Recreation Committee's vote on the Dog Park – it was a tie. The park is ½ acre or 21,000 sq ft in size. The issue will now go to the Planning Department as a request for a conditional use permit. The zoning manager will ask the Planning Commission to make the final decision. A date has not yet been set as of tonight's meeting.

A member of the Oakland Dog Owners Group in attendance asked if the Coalition would declare whether the proposed park area was the "Gateway to Lake Merritt". The consensus was that the Coalition did not have the authority to declare or refute such a designation.

9. Volunteer Work Day at Lake Merritt – Jennie Gerard

This month's work day will be Saturday July 30th from 10 AM to 1 PM.

10. Possible agenda suggestions for September 19th meeting:

- Gifting Policy if any, for donations re: Lake Merritt improvements
- Bay Trail Lee Huo will give a presentation in September
- Overview of Measure DD finances
- Feedback re: the Lake Chalet restaurant lease program
- Ongoing Maintenance questions

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 PM and thanks to all for putting the chairs away!

Our next meeting will be Monday September 19th at 7:10 PM at the Ebell Room.