



Oakland Measure DD Community Coalition

Measure DD Community Coalition Meeting Notes for July 20, 2020

The virtual meeting was called to order over Zoom at 7:10 p.m. after Adrian briefly reviewed the [Zoom meeting protocol](#).

A video recording of this meeting is available: [view recording](#). Specific video links for major agenda items are embedded in the minutes below.

The meeting was chaired by Adrian Cotter. Bill Threlfall served as recorder.

1. Measure DD Coalition attendance list:

BART – Robert Raburn

Bike East Bay – Rick Rickard

CALM – James Vann

Community for Lake Merritt – Adrian Cotter

East Bay Rowing Club – Jolie Krakaur, Virginia Roe

Lake Merritt Weed Warriors – Jennie Gerard

Oakland Heritage Alliance – Naomi Schiff

Oakland Parks & Recreation Foundation – Mike Udkow

Rotary Nature Center Friends – Katie Noonan

Urban Permaculture Institute – Nancy Sherman

Waterfront Action – Bill Threlfall, Sandy Threlfall

Interested Citizens – Sam Burd, Na Fanene, Linda Morton

City of Oakland:

Measure DD Program Manager – Kristin Hathaway

2. The agenda was adopted without revision.

3. Minutes of 5/18/2020 were approved.

4. Measure DD Project Updates – Kristin Hathaway ([video link](#))

Kristin commented on the status of most projects, with her remarks closely following the notes in the project status column of the [July 20, 2020 Project Status Summary](#) spreadsheet. For a few projects, she responded to questions or comments:

- Lake Merritt Channel at 10th Street: *Wetland repair remains on hold pending resolution of homeless encampment impacts. Several Coalition participants posed questions about management of these impacts, including fencing, city enforcement and sources of funds to address the problems. Kristin declared a hope to have a relevant update at the September Coalition meeting.*
- Tidal Gate Operations Guidance for the 7th Street Flood Control Facility: *In progress, with the goal of setting agreed operational protocols. Kristin noted that the contractor's first draft work product did not meet expectations and the City is now seeking a revision. The revision will be shared with the Coalition in the future.*
- Lake Merritt Channel at 7th Street: *In response to a question, Kristin reiterated her understanding that the County has no expressed intention to move forward with pump station improvement in the foreseeable future.*
- Courtland Creek Restoration at Courtland Creek Park: *Kristin highlighted several recent substantial grant awards and fund raising initiatives.*

- Other Creek Restorations: *Kristin emphasized the goal of stretching the impact of remaining funding in this category through fund-raising.*
- Other: *Katie Noonan asked several questions about possible availability of data sought by the Lake Merritt Institute, and Kristin requested that Katie provide an email detailing the requests.*
- Park Street Bridge crossing: Kristin presented and discussed three designs ([video link](#)), noting that Alternative 3 is the City's preferred design. Costs for the designs were within a modest range of one another. Several questions were reviewed.

5. Channel Improvements Report/New Projects – Adrian Cotter ([video link](#))

Adrian reviewed the history of this initiative and noted that the Channel Committee was seeking feedback about the draft, with the goal of finalizing it.

He then reviewed the Channel Work Group's [draft project request](#) in detail, framing the discussion by noting the available funding and mentioning the relative priority of specific proposed improvements.

James Vann asked whether the proposal included paving the walkway on the east side of the channel, and some discussion characterized by contrasting positions followed. No consensus about paving was reached, and it was suggested that the issue be discussed at the September meeting.

Naomi Schiff expressed a concern that the project address problems related to existing pampas grass in the area.

The item concluded with a request from Adrian that attendees commit to making a closer review of [the draft](#) and providing relevant feedback to him by email at measuredd@nonsensical.com.

6. Remaining Funds in Channel Section of Bond – Kristin Hathaway ([video link](#))

In a lengthy presentation, Kristin detailed estimates of unallocated capacity and unspent allocations in both Sections IIIA and IIIB. The bottom line is that a bit more than \$8M appears available for expenditure in bond section III – Lake Merritt Channel.

Katie asked an unrelated question about the status of the signage project at the Lake. Kristin advised that the project has been on hold due to staffing issues but noted that new staff are currently being recruited for the Watershed Division.

Regarding interest earned, Kristin indicated that it may be spent on projects in any bond section.

7. Use of remaining funds/interest earned and "wish list – James Vann ([video link](#))

James highlighted two goals that the Coalition had identified in 2014 as "wish list" items:

- Upgrade of pathways and walkways around the Lake
- Name Installation at 18th Street Pier

Kristin noted that the cost for a pathway upgrade could not be understood until the project was “scoped”, which will require staff time and funding.

Discussion ensued about unsafe pathways and failing decomposed granite surfaces, especially for persons using “mobility scooters” or other assistive devices. One concern was whether some other City department would perform necessary repairs as “maintenance”. Kristin stated that she needs to find out if such repairs are on the City’s Capital Improvements Project list. She was asked to share her findings at the September meeting and to see if a knowledgeable project manager can attend that meeting.

She also agreed to provide a rough estimate of the remaining funds in the Lake Merritt section of the bond, if any, as well as a rough estimate of available interest earned, as these would be the only potential sources of funding to address the “wish list”.

8. Requests for audits and LM2BT expenditure report - Kristin Hathaway ([video link](#))

Kristin noted that Series 2009B audit is posted on the Coalition’s Archive page [here](#). She again advised that the 2017C audit is not expected to start until “late summer” due to the limited resources of the Finance Department and the demands for financial analysis to address Covid-19 impacts.

Regarding the Coalition request for an accounting of LM2BT spending, Kristin noted that at the last meeting, she had given a quick overview, reporting approximately \$1M DD bond spending on LM2BT, and that she had agreed to provide the report in written form so that it may be posted on the Coalition’s archive page.

9. Status of EBRPD negotiations on the trail at Gallagher & Burke & Hansen Aggregates – Rick Rickard ([video link](#))

As shown in the video link, Rick offered a brief overview of progress on these two trail segments, noting that East Bay Regional Parks has taken on building the Bay Trail below High Street.

10. Announcements and reports ([video link](#))

- [Rotary Nature Center Friends Report and Update on 150th Anniversary](#) – as shown in the video link, Katie Noonan reported and encouraged people to view the [video clips](#) listed in the agenda.
- [Ballot Measure Q](#) – Jennie announced a successful effort to assure the funds from Measure Q will be spend in a way consistent with the legislation. The 32 additions to the parks maintenance crew will be hired in January. She credited the efforts of many committed Oaklanders, including Brook Levin and Naomi Schiff. Jennie suggested that we pay close attention to the work of the PRAC, which will serve as the oversight body for Measure Q.
- [Downtown Oakland Specific Plan](#) – Naomi offered a quick update, highlighting the planning suggestion of improving the parks we now have, rather than adding more parks.
- [Lake Merritt Weed Warriors](#) – Jennie announced the group is in “pause mode” at this time due to coronavirus constraints. No weeding sessions are planned.
- [Garden Gates completion](#)– No celebration is planned, but there was a great [article in SF Chronicle](#).

11. Review of work assignments to Coalition participants: ([video link](#))

- Tonight's meeting participants to review the [Chanel Workgroup draft project request](#) and then provide email feedback to Adrian at measuredd@nonsensical.com.
- Kristin to check to see if Lake Merritt path repairs are "on the radar" of any division in the Public Works Department.
- Kristin to estimate the amount of available remaining funds (if any) in bond section I (Lake Merritt) and the amount of interest, as these are the sources that could be used for "wish list" items.
- Kristin to solicit participation at September meeting from Ha Nguyen regarding the efforts to prevent homeless encampment impacts at the 10th street project wetlands.
- Kristin to submit the brief oral LM2BT expenditure report from 5/18/2020 as a pdf for publication in the Coalition archive

12. Agenda suggestions for next Meeting:

- Channel Project, with discussion of received feedback, path surfaces issue, and goal to finalize draft – Adrian Cotter
- Report about managing homeless impacts at the Channel - Ha Nguyen
- Available interest and Bond Section I funds for "wish list" items – Kristin Hathaway
- Discussion "wish list" priorities – James Vann

The next Coalition meeting will be September 21, 2020, at 7:10 p.m.
Over Zoom.

Adjourned at 8:54 p.m.