



Oakland Measure DD Community Coalition

Measure DD Community Coalition Meeting Notes for September 16, 2013

The meeting was called to order in the Ebell Room at Lakeside Garden Center at 7:15 PM.

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

1. Measure DD Coalition Attendance List:

Alameda County Historical Society – Ed Clausen

CALM – James Vann

EBBC – Rick Rickard

Friends of Gardens at Lake Merritt – Susan Veit

Garden Center, Inc. – Anne Woodell

Oakland Heritage Alliance – Naomi Schiff

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

Waterfront Action – Bill Threlfall, Sandra Threlfall

Interested Citizens – Joel Peter

City of Oakland

Council District 2 – Jennie Gerard

Measure DD Program Manager – Lesley Estes

Public Works Administration – Tora Rocha

2. Minutes of 7/15/2013 were approved by consensus.

3. Measure DD Project Update – Lesley Estes

Lesley provided the following project highlights:

Lake Merritt Boulevard, 12th Street

The remaining work includes rocks at pedestrian bridge, installation of more skate stoppers, inspection report of playground, repair/replacement of sod in problem area.

10th Street

Replace 10th street culverts with bridge and construct new bicycle/pedestrian pathways along the channel under the new bridge. The utility relocation work will continue through the end of the year. Excavation will start end of October and new retaining walls will begin in January weather permitting. The project is expected to extend through mid-2016.

Lakeside Green Streets

Renovate Snow Park, create new pedestrian/bike friendly promenade and street. Project is scheduled to bid spring/summer of 2014 and begin construction in the winter of 2014/15.

Bellevue and Garden Center Entry Project

Create new pedestrian friendly entrances to Lakeside Park entry at Bellevue and to the Lakeside Park Garden Center. The project is close to 100% designed and should go out to bid before the end of the year. Fabrication and installation of the new garden gates awaits overall project progress.

Sail Boat House Shoreline Improvement

Replace failing sea walls, create new tidal flats, reconfigure parking lot and create new plaza entrance for sail boat house. Awaiting environmental permit approvals. Anticipate going to bid early 2014.

Creeks and Waterways

The Sausal Creek Restoration in Dimond Park is finalizing additional environmental review in order to issue a tree permit this fall and anticipates going to bid early 2014 for construction next Summer. The Shepherd Canyon restoration project completed Fall 2012 will require additional bioengineering and plantings as the first year plantings did not survive this year's drought conditions.

Lake Merritt Water Quality

Currently investigating new non-CDS trash reduction options including Cigarette butt holders, solar trash cans (Big Belly) and pilot installation of Inlet Screens in upstream inlets. Staff is in negotiation for replacement of three Lake Merritt Trash Booms.

Con Agra Trail segment

Staff has obtained tentative verbal agreement with ConAgra for Right-of Way trail access and will follow-up with written agreement this fall. Coalition members expressed strong approval of this pending outcome.

LM Channel to Bay Trail Connector

It is anticipated that the new consultant will begin design work in October.

Cryer Building

The RFP for the Cryer Boatworks Building reuse study was released, one firm responded and that proposal will be reviewed next week.

4. Follow-up Items

A series of items requiring follow-up were covered:

- Future Field Trips. James Vann reminded the Coalition of our previously declared interest in a project site field trip. After discussion, it was decided to defer this item until next spring with the intent to arrange a Coalition meeting then at the East Oakland Aquatic Sports Center.

A presentation from UrbanCore-Integral, LLC, the developer of the Lake Merritt Boulevard Apartments site will be on the Coalition's November 18 agenda. Accordingly, Coalition members were **encouraged to visit the [site](#) independently in advance of our upcoming meeting**. The location of the site is identified in [this architectural drawing](#) (pdf).

- Erik Niemann Book. Bill Threlfall announced that Erik Niemann's book covering the 12th St. reconstruction was now available for preview or purchase at <http://www.blurb.com/b/4536599-oakland-12th-street-lake-merritt-blvd-reconstructi> Bill commented on the strengths of the book and encouraged Coalition members to examine the preview.
- Advocacy Update. Bill Threlfall reported on John Sutter's recent efforts to stimulate conversations between East Bay Regional Parks leadership and Port of Oakland leadership regarding opportunities to advance the Bay Trail on Port lands. After some discussion,

with Coalition support, Lesley agreed to write a letter to Port staff to open negotiations regarding the City-Port agreements needed for the three projects about which the Port Commission expressed interest in moving forward during the March 14, 2013 informational presentation by the Coalition and Bay Trail staff. Bill noted that [the March 14 presentation](#) and a [transcript of the related commission discussion](#) can be found in the **Miscellaneous** section near the bottom of the [Coalition's documents archive web page](#).

- Lake Merritt Boulevard Traffic Light Synchronization. James Vann suggested that a study of the issue was needed. After brief discussion, it was agreed that James and Rick will develop a description of the issue and then identify and contact appropriate City staff.
- Revised Recommendation to Identify the 18th St. Pier. James circulated a sheet with a [revised and briefer recommended identification](#):

EAST 18th STREET
PIER
1908

Consensus supported this revised "[Option C](#)", replacing the "Option A" choice made on May 20, 2013. Regarding implementation, James briefly described a simple design that has worked for decades in another location and volunteered to work on this design.

- Maintenance Strategies Committee. Jennie Gerard reported on the first meeting of the committee, which for at this point wishes to be known as the "Lake Merritt Enhanced Maintenance Project." The initial strategy will be a conversation with the community through a series of "listening meetings." The aim will be to build a case statement about the need to supplement or enhance PWA maintenance efforts. Considerable discussion ensued regarding the possible benefits and shortcomings of various funding sources and strategies, including the revenue from the Port's Lake Merritt tidelands trust maintenance contributions as well as proceeds from the sale of the Lake Merritt Blvd. Apartments site; no consensus was reached.
- Weed Warriors update. Jennie reported that the next work day will be Saturday, September 21, in recognition of Creek to Bay Day, and the work site will be along side the Lake Merritt Channel Marsh. On this special day, Weed Warriors will join volunteers from the Lake Merritt Institute in removing flotsam from the marsh and trash nearby, pulling invasive weeds in the native plant zone and planting native material.

5. Agenda Suggestions for November 18 , 2013 meeting:

- Invited presentation on Lake Merritt Blvd. Apartments by representative from UrbanCore-Integral, LLC (Lesley)
- Cryer site re-use proposals (Lesley)
- Report on issue of synchronization of traffic lights on Lake Merritt Blvd. (James, Rick)

6. Review of Work Assignments to Coalition Members:

- James Vann & Rick Rickard: Work with City staff re: LM Blvd. traffic light synchronization
- Lesley Estes: Write letter to Port staff to open negotiations regarding the City-Port agreements needed to move forward with Measure DD Bay Trail segments on Port land.
- Lesley Estes: Confirm invitation to UrbanCore-Integral, LLC.

The next Coalition meeting will be Monday, November 18, 2013 at 7:10 p.m. at the Garden Center.

Adjourned at 8:50 p.m.