

COLISEUM BART STATION AREA

Priority Conservation Area APPLICATION

The Coliseum BART Station Area corresponds to the boundaries of a recently adopted Specific Plan and a proposed PDA of the same name, and contains a wide mix of urban uses: industrial land, urban parks, residential activities, and large sports facilities. The urban areas interface with many natural features such as Damon Slough, Elmhurst Creek, the Martin Luther King Regional Shoreline, and San Leandro Creek. The entire PCA has been identified by the state EPA as Environmentally Disadvantaged, due a variety of factors including poor air quality and the presence of industrial contaminants. It has a high concentration of minority and low-income residents, many of whom are living in a food desert. Still, the area includes a number of important neighborhood parks necessary to protect, and opportunities for greening projects along creek corridors. The Coliseum BART Station Area is proposed as Urban Greening, though it overlaps and interacts with additional PCAs across other designations applied for separately.

The PCA qualifies as Urban Greening because of its benefits to **Community Health, Recreation and Climate & Resilience**. It would co-benefit Water Supply & Quality and Wildlife Habitat.

The entire Coliseum BART Station Area PCA is considered a Community of Concern by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, defined as having a high concentration of minority and low-income residents. There are a handful of Parks within a Community of Concern in the area, such as Coliseum Gardens. There is also one Community Garden within a Community of Concern, Acta Non Verba. The eastern corners of this neighborhood experience a Park Deficit, according to Oakland's Open Space, Conservation, and Recreation Element of the General Plan. At the same time, there is a pair of Parks within Areas of Park Deficit, Rainbow and Tassafaronga, which are crucial to conserve. Additionally, most of the parcels within the Coliseum BART Station Area have been defined by the USDA as Low Income-Low Access to Food, because at least 70% of the residents must travel more than 0.5 miles to reach a healthy food source such as a grocery store. Coliseum Gardens represents the sole Park within Low Income Low Access to Food Census Tracts. By conserving existing green space with carbon storage potential, this PCA benefits Climate and Resilience. It benefits Community Health by increasing park and food access in a Community of Concern.

The entire PCA territory has been defined by the California EPA as an Environmentally Disadvantaged Community, found to be in the 75th percentile of the EnviroScreen due to their disproportionate share of pollution. Interstate 880 bisects the PCA, meaning much of the area falls within a 1,000 ft. Freeway Buffer. Along the freeway and in the northern corners of the PCA are High Particulate Levels, above Bay Area Air Quality Management District thresholds as laid out in Plan Bay Area for 2040. The area has an industrial character, past and present. Over half the PCA consists of Old Industrial Land, used for industrial purposes prior to 1968 that may contain PCBs and mercury, and flagged by the Alameda County Clean Water Program for potential stormwater contamination. Residents also live here, and

along the eastern edge of the PCA is a Residential Area within 300 ft. of an Industrial Zone, mapped by the City of Oakland.

As a neighborhood on the water, the Coliseum BART Station Area has environmental challenges but also opportunities for greening. Major Urban Corridors intersect the area that connect regional parks to the Estuary, and which allow for enhanced street tree plantings. This includes San Leandro Street, part of the East Bay Greenway, which would provide Recreation benefits. Several hill to bay Open Creeks empty into San Leandro Bay, determined by City of Oakland watershed staff. One of these is the San Leandro Creek, one of two Priority Streams in the City of Oakland, called out by the Conservation Lands Network to receive substantial protection for long-term fish conservation. Elsewhere in the PCA is a Priority Creek Restoration Site, identified by the City of Oakland to be high priority for restoration under Measure DD. Unfortunately, much the PCA is also threatened by a potential five-foot Sea Level Rise, as modeled by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. By including this area in a PCA, the City of Oakland has an opportunity to address hazard risk due to flooding / sea level rise, thereby benefiting Climate & Resilience. This would also capture a stretch of the San Francisco Bay Trail and other regional recreation infrastructure, thereby benefiting Recreation. Projects to conserve and enhance creeks and add further vegetation benefit Community Health by greening areas expected to experience urban heat island effect while co-benefiting Water Supply & Quality and Wildlife Habitat.