

**San Francisco Bay Trail
Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
Bay Area Metro Center
February 9, 2017**

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Attendance

Steering Committee

John Woodbury, *Chair*
Julie Bondurant
Brenda Buxton
Leo DuBose
Ethan Lavine
Steve McAdam
Juan Raigoza

Bay Trail Staff

Ben Botkin
Maureen Gaffney
Lee Huo
Laura Thompson

Board

Bruce Beyaert
Nance Donati
Linda Stonier

Guests

Ina Gerhard, Caltrans

ACTION: Adoption of the 2/9/17 agenda and the 11/7/16 minutes: Bondurant moved, Donati seconded.

Yes Votes:

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|------------------------|---------------------|
| <i>John Woodbury</i> | <i>Ethan Lavine</i> |
| <i>Julie Bondurant</i> | <i>Steve McAdam</i> |
| <i>Brenda Buxton</i> | <i>Juan Raigoza</i> |
| <i>Leo DuBose</i> | |

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

Announcements by Chair and Boardmembers

- Lavine BCDC, MTC and the Bay Area Regional Collaborative received a grant from Caltrans for a sea level rise adaption study for transportation assets that will include the Bay Trail. A working group will be formed.
- Bondurant The East Bay Regional Parks is involved in a 10-year assessment of the sports complex agreement at Golden Gate Fields including Gilman Street improvements. The Bay Trail should be involved if not already.

Gerhard The Statewide bike/ped plan is available for public review. This policy document will have a public meeting in San Jose on February 14. The Caltrans District 4 bike plan is also underway and will kick off with a public survey next week seeking input from the broad community on state facilities/highways and bicycle/pedestrian gaps. Workshops will be coming up; Lee is on the technical advisory committee.

Staff Announcements

- Thompson The Bay Trail and Water Trail released a 2016 highlights brochure celebrating the accomplishments of last year. It has been distributed to many decision-makers and partners in the region. The Bay Trail was featured in an article in the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy magazine; special thanks to Bruce Beyaert and Corinne DeBra for meeting with the author. *Migrations* was featured in the New York Times, highlighting an artwork approved in Redwood City along the Bay Trail. Two park bonds are making their way through the Assembly and Senate, and we are keeping an eye on them. The Priority Conservation Area (PCA) grant program will get started soon with an expected application process to begin this spring. The Statewide trail conference is coming up in April in Monterey. The Design Guidelines & Toolkit applied for an award and panel presentations have been submitted.

- Gaffney The annual Pacific Flyway Festival is coming up this weekend at Mare Island. The Bay Trail will join the Ridge Trail and the Vine Trail to represent regional trails. The Solano Transportation Authority has secured a \$4.2 million Active Transportation Project grant that will fund final design and construction of 3.6 miles of Bay and Vine trail in Vallejo.

- Huo Assembly member Bill Quirk has convened a committee for trails in southern Alameda County to explore opportunities to fund trails. The San Leandro homeowners association at Heron Bay is now trying to restrict access to the Bay Trail with a kiosk and a security guard. City Council is opposed and we have weighed in. The Port of Oakland is moving forward with a 7th Street multi-modal project connection to Middle Harbor Shoreline Park that will include rebuilding the Bay Trail and the Alameda County Transportation Commission is leading the project. The City of Hercules continues to build out sections of their intermodal path near the proposed train station. A ribbon-cutting will be held on March 5 to celebrate this next phase of the "Path to Transit."

- Botkin Water Trail updates: moving forward with Berkeley and Suisun sites, as well as the Ferry Point grant close-out in Richmond. There are more potential sites in Richmond as part of a cultural historical trail in the planning stage. In partnership with the San Francisco Estuary Partnership, the program is developing a series of 5 Water Trail and interpretive information about the estuary. Expect a draft in March, complete by the summer. We are also updating the website and looking to feature great photographs of the bay.

San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Draft Project Lists and Maps

Thompson provided an overview of Measure AA, regional parcel tax approved by voters in 2016 that presents an opportunity for funding to support new and improved shoreline public access in conjunction with wetland restoration projects. She presented lists and maps of potential Bay Trail and Water Trail projects that could be considered for funding under this program.

The Committee reviewed the grant guidelines, discussed the timeline and raised questions about: the purpose of the Restoration Authority project list, projects on the Bay Trail/Water Trail lists that may not be supported by sponsors, how eligible projects are determined, whether a public access project needs to be part of a past or future restoration project, how far along projects need to be in permitting and CEQA processes and whether an eligible project is required to meet all the criteria. The Committee discussed the concept of the entire Bay Trail is a restoration project, but did not take a position on eligibility.

Sections of the shoreline with opportunities for restoration and public access were also discussed and it was acknowledged that some of these areas do not yet have designated shoreline Bay Trail alignments, such as Mare Island. It was recognized by the group that the key message is to maintain flexibility for new shoreline public access as opportunities arise within the funding program.

The Committee asked for regular updates from staff on Measure AA.

Shaping the Future of ABAG: Update on ABAG's General Assembly

Thompson provided an overview of the ABAG General Assembly discussion about the consolidation of ABAG and MTC. She also highlighted several documents that will soon be released for public review: the contract for services and the MOU addressing governance. A consolidated planning department organization chart is also expected to be released soon. All of these documents will be shared with the Committee and placed on the next Committee meeting on April 6 to allow for discussion and possible action.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.