

**San Francisco Bay Trail  
Steering Committee Meeting  
ABAG Metro Center  
February 16, 2000**

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM

**Attendance**

Steering Committee:

Chair: Rick Parmer  
Julie Bondurant  
Joan Cardellino  
Leo DuBose  
Stana Hearne  
Joe LaClair  
Tom Mikkelsen

Board:

Rob Powell  
Brian Wiese (Alternate)

Staff:

Niko Letunic  
Janet McBride  
Ceil Scandone  
Laura Thompson

**Adoption of Agenda and Minutes**

One item added to the agenda – a discussion of a regular meeting day for the Steering Committee. Two minor changes to Page 2 of the minutes – last paragraph, second sentence amended to: “It was developed with partial funding from an S.F. Urban Resources Partnership grant and may swerve as a prototype for future route guides.” With the above changes, Bondurant moved adoption of agenda and minutes; Hearne seconded. Adopted unanimously.

**Announcements by Board**

LaClair- Gave an update on the progress of BCDC’s S.F. Bay Public Access and Wildlife Compatibility Project Policy Advisory Committee. A survey is currently being prepared and will be considered by the PAC at their next mtg. on March 1.

Mikkelsen- Brian Wiese will serve as Alternate and attend Steering Committee meetings over at least the next several months.

## **Announcements by Staff**

McBride-

1. Update on advocacy efforts in Sacramento. Senator Figueroa continues to pursue a long-term funding strategy. SB 494 was amended to ask for \$34 million, to be allocated over 10 years. SB 494 did not make it out of committee in January and died. Figueroa will pursue both a new bill vehicle, as well as the members request process.
2. San Rafael shoreline RDP project dedication was held on a rainy day, January 19, 2000.
3. Flyer invitation for a Contra Costa County forum to develop open space priorities was circulated. Bay Trail staff will attend.
4. Following up on Steering Committee composition recommendations from the last mtg. – Glenn Lyles would be interested in joining the Steering Committee, but not until June; Del Woods has graciously agreed to continue in the interim.

## **Regional Development Program Update**

McBride reviewed the 13 project applications received (and summarized within the packet materials). There was a good geographic spread and a diverse mix of projects. Staff is currently exploring options for additional funding partners, especially for some of the higher grant requests.

Staff has visited all sites and met with most of the applicants, joined by Coastal Conservancy and California Conservation staff for some of the site visits. A few of the proposals have questionable “readiness” either because of environmental review or because they lack detailed engineering or cost estimates.

The proposed Review Panel of volunteers and willing nominees includes: Hearne, DuBose, La Clair, and Miller from the Bay Trail Board plus a staff member each from the Coastal Conservancy and from the CCC. Review meetings will be scheduled over the next couple of weeks. The goal is to be able to bring a package of funding recommendations to the Coastal Conservancy Board at the end of April.

Steering Committee members raised a question about whether there might be a conflict of interest problem with Councilmember Miller, since Sunnyvale had submitted an application. Staff promised to pursue the question with legal counsel.

Four of the project applications would involve a re-alignment. Of this total, 1 project (San Leandro) is a feasibility study, so the alignment question would be considered upon completion. Of the other three, two are minor (Richmond, City of Oakland) and one is more significant (American Canyon). Thompson passed out map sets depicting the current and proposed re-alignments.

The Steering Committee considered each of the proposals in turn:

Richmond – minor change between Marina Way and Cutting – Hearne moved approval; DuBose seconded; passed unanimously.

Oakland – re-aligns a portion of the current alignment from 5<sup>th</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> Streets to take advantage of the new 3<sup>rd</sup> Street extension. Hearne moved approval; DuBose seconded; passed unanimously.

American Canyon – a new spur (and possibly new spine if through connections can be established) proposed between American Canyon Road and Green Island Road. Could potentially result in moving the alignment off of Highway 29, a heavily traveled thoroughfare. Steering Committee members appreciated the potential benefits of such a re-alignment, but would like to ensure that sufficient environmental review is first completed, prior to formal consideration of a re-alignment.

### **Winter/Spring Board Meeting**

Staff sought ideas about locations, program and business agenda. A first idea proposed was for an event focussed on the Crissy Field restoration – including a walking tour. This idea was well received. A back-up suggestion was to hold the Meeting at one of the Wildlife & Public Access Study sites (Bothin Marsh, for example). Committee brainstormed on possible walking tour leaders. Consideration of program ideas continued into the following agenda item.

### **Strategic Planning/ Trends**

A list of issues prepared by Parmer was circulated to kick off the discussion. Committee engaged in a provocative and wide-ranging discussion on major trends and emerging issues including the following:

#### Habitat Restoration –

Questions about Bay Trail location in and around these areas. There are new opportunities, but there is a continuing debate over public access. Also, to some extent, the very success of trails AND of habitat restoration efforts is creating new conflicts and new problems, and is also creating new and complex relationships. Can't necessarily assume the same old alliances.

#### Transportation –

New and increasingly important role for trails

#### Partnership –

Increasingly important as a way of accomplishing the trail development

#### Multi-user conflicts

A continuing issue, but also with some new twists:

- changing views of parks and open space, based on societal and demographic changes, for example more demands for industrial recreation as typified by X-games.

It was suggested that we could put together a discussion panel for the next Board meeting, inviting representatives from diverse groups to give their ideas on multi-user conflicts and some of the other issues raised.

**Regular Steering Committee Schedule**

Members discussed preferences which included: continuing to meet every other month and meeting at ABAG offices. Members preferred a polling to identify a preferred regular day/ time.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.