

**San Francisco Bay Trail  
Steering Committee Meeting  
ABAG Metro Center  
March 13, 2003**

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM.

**Attendance**

Steering Committee:

Chair: Rick Parmer  
Stana Hearne  
Joseph La Clair  
Brian Wiese

Bay Trail Staff:

Janet McBride  
Laura Thompson  
Melissa Barry

Board:

Jean Finney

ABAG:

Gerry Raycraft, Planning Dir.

**ACTION - Adoption of Agenda and Approval of 12/12/02 Minutes:**

La Clair moved for adoption of agenda and approval of minutes; Hearne seconded. Adopted unanimously.

**Announcements by Chair and Boardmembers**

-Raycraft                      Announced that ABAG's spring General Assembly will be held on April 24<sup>th</sup> on the subject of land use and water.

**Staff Announcements**

-McBride                      Announced an unusual format for the meeting. The bulk of the meeting will be devoted to "short item" updates of issues around the region, and of grant progress around the region.

**Announcements/Updates**

Noted that staff has been working with the Bay Area Congressional Delegation to get Members' requests for Bay Trail segments under the TEA-21 reauthorization process. Noted that staff identified one high-profile project from each district and sent a request to the appropriate Congressional Member. Directed the Committee to the list of nine projects submitted to Members, and noted three project which have since been removed for various reasons: The Central Marin Bay Trail (CA-6), Richmond/San Pablo Bay Trail (CA-07), and Presidio Bay Trail (CA-08).

Provided a brief update on the results of the end of year solicitation letter sent to Bay Trail friends. Noted that the solicitation letter provided a good forum for outreach, especially because the Bay Nature supplement was included, but that the funds received didn't generate much over and above the direct costs. Also related to the solicitation: Announced that Phil Frank will draw the winning entry for the raffle of his original cartoon drawing (it was offered as a prize to those who donated \$100 or more).

Noted that the first statewide conference on walking and bicycling-Walk/Bike California- will be held in Oakland on October 15-18. Mentioned that Bay Trail staff has been invited to sit on the host committee, and will most likely sponsor panel sessions and mobile workshops along the Bay Trail.

Noted a recent meeting with representatives from the National Trust for Historic Preservation about a project to celebrate Historic WWII Homefront sites in the Bay Area. They are interested in discussing ways they might partner with the Bay Trail on this project. Noted that they will be attending the May Steering Committee meeting to present their ideas and discuss partnership opportunities.

Circulated the most recent site plan for the Alameda Point Golf Course Bay Trail alignment. Noted that the new alignment only includes a small portion of trail that travels inland. Noted that the BCDC Design Review Board is likely to permit the trail. Committee members discussed the alignment and generally agreed that the trail as acceptable as long as the upland area is raised up enough to provide good views of the Bay.

-Thompson      Announced that the Bay Trail maps are now complete and passed maps around. Thanked the Committee for their help and support of the project, especially Cardellino and Bondurant, who reviewed maps and provided early direction. Identified several follow-up press opportunities from the maps, including coverage in MTC's March *Transactions* newsletter. Noted that maps will be distributed to local bookstores, visitor centers, and bicycle stores.

Reminded Committee members to watch the Chronicle for an upcoming article about the Bay Trail by science writer Carl T. Hall.

Noted that the City of San Francisco is updating their bicycle plan and that she will represent the Bay Trail on the Technical Advisory Committee.

Noted that staff has been involved in a joint BCDC/Port of San Francisco study of Fisherman's Wharf, which will improve pedestrian and bicycle access through the wharf.

Noted that she will be sitting on the Technical Advisory Committee to identify a feasible alignment for a bicycle/pedestrian path along the planned SMART rail corridor in Marin and Sonoma County.

Mentioned that she and McBride met with Caltrans District 4 director, Bjian Sartipi, and others to tour the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge construction and discuss options for bicycle and pedestrian access on the bridge. Caltrans is preparing a Project Initiation Document (PID), which is the next step in the process that will allow them to secure funds for access on the bridge. Also noted that Steve Kinsey (MTC Chair) has submitted a request seeking \$35 million for bridge access from the proposed \$1.00 toll bridge increase.

Noted that Caltrans will construct a portion of the Bay Trail in Vallejo as part of BCDC permit requirements for construction of the Carquinez Bridge. Mentioned that staff has been working with Caltrans to ensure a smooth trail connection between the bridge and Carquinez Park, and that the BCDC Design Review Board recently approved the plans.

-Barry

Announced that the USFWS and CDFG are preparing a joint EIS/EIR for the Bair Island Restoration and Management Plan. Noted that the proposed action would eliminate a portion of the existing (popular) loop trail around inner Bair Island, but it does seem to maintain the Bay Trail alignment along the outer edge of inner Bair Island. Noted that more information will be needed before this can be confirmed.

Provided a brief synopsis of the Edgewater Technology Park/Breuner Marsh Mitigation Bank development being proposed in north Richmond. Discussed several issues that the Bay Trail Project and other stakeholders have with the project. Noted that a substantial group, including TRAC and the East Bay Regional Park District, filed an appeal of the Final Environmental Impact Report

(EIR) for the development, and that the Richmond City Council upheld the appeal at the hearing last week.

Noted that the City of San Jose recently held a meeting to bring together all people involved in trail implementation in the City. Noted that the meeting spurred conversations and upcoming meetings with the City to identify projects from the recently completed *San Jose Bay Trail Master Plan* that may be ready to apply for funding.

Noted a recent conversation with Santa Clara Valley Water District about a potential grant application for improvements to a Bay Trail segment in Historic Alviso. Also noted a discussion with Santa Clara County about reinstating a grant for trail improvements and new amenities in Alviso Marina (the project was already recommended by the Committee, but was delayed for quite some time, and staff had assumed it was not moving forward).

### **Bay Trail Board Composition**

-McBride Passed around the current Bay Trail Board roster and directed Committee members to review excerpt from the 1990 Bylaws. Asked Committee Members to suggest any additions/changes to the Board based on the following:

- 1). Individuals/organizations identified in bylaws, but not currently represented on Board.
- 2). New individuals/organizations not identified in Bylaws that should be represented on the Board.
- 3). Any current Board members who might be invited to resign based on changing circumstances or lack of attendance.

Committee Members identified the following organizations/individuals for additional consideration:

National Park Service, Rivers and Trails (Linda Stonier has expressed interest)  
REBAC  
Bay Area Ridge Trail Council  
Save the Bay  
Audubon  
Sierra Club  
League of Women Voters  
Wetlands Coalitions (Joint Venture, Bay Institute, San Francisco Estuary Project)  
Napa County

## U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Committee members discussed the role of the Board vs. the Steering Committee. Members agreed that originally the Board was created to develop the plan and early stages of plan implementation & financing, and that since the trail is in such a different place now, it seems appropriate to revisit the role of the Board and Steering Committee. Committee members suggested targeting certain Board members to participate at Steering Committee meetings when relevant. The Committee asked staff to develop needs criteria for both the Board and Steering Committee and propose any necessary Board/Steering Committee structural changes in light of the new criteria. Committee members will send any suggestions on this subject to McBride.

## Bay Trail Grant Updates

Using a newly-created webpage that features a map-based grant summary, Bay Trail staff provided a brief highlight of newsworthy grant progress. Staff noted the following:

-Thompson

Preferred alternatives have been selected and construction documents are complete for the **Golden Gate South Public Access Study**. The study is expected to be complete in May 2003.

The Port of San Francisco has completed construction plans and selected a contractor for public access improvements along the **San Francisco Ferry Terminal Public Pier**.

-Barry

T.Y. Lin, consultant for the City of Millbrae, is currently working on design alternatives for the **bicycle/pedestrian overcrossing of Highway 101 at Millbrae Avenue**. The overcrossing was originally proposed as a cantilevered structure off of the existing Millbrae Avenue Bridge, however Caltrans may not approve the design because of structural issues. Consultants are now looking at a separate structure to bring bicyclists and pedestrians over highway 101.

Callander Associates, consultants for the City of **Menlo Park's Dumbarton Bridge to Ravenswood Preserve** planning study will be holding meetings in the coming months to obtain public and stakeholder input on the project.

The City of Palo Alto is nearing completion of construction of the **East Palo Alto Trail** segment. Once the City constructs the final 300-foot segment, they will hold a dedication for the trail.

The City of Milpitas recently hired Nolte Associates to complete the design of **Coyote Creek Trail**.

-McBride

The feasibility study (including conceptual design) for the **San Leandro Slough Crossing** is complete. The City is now looking for funds for environmental review, permitting, and construction. (A TEA funding request was submitted for this project).

Construction of the **Damon Slough Crossing** (bridge over the slough) is almost complete. Signs are being installed and the project is expected to be complete later this month.

A draft report has been circulated to stakeholders for the **Coliseum BART Connector Study**. The Study is not recommending a separated bicycle/pedestrian bridge over I-80. The suggested solution expected to cost two million dollars.

**Union Point Park** has experienced a significant delay due to on-site hazardous materials. Joan (Cardellino) reports recent breakthrough and expectation that it can now proceed.

The **Oakland Waterfront Path Design** is nearing completion. With the passage of Measure DD, The City has shown great commitment to completing the project all at once (rather than phasing it as planned earlier). This project may be the subject of the next Bay Trail Board meeting.

The **Paden Elementary School Planning Study** is underway. Consultants are busy conducting meetings, and the school has embraced the study, actively working on the project and displaying materials throughout the building.

Preliminary design for the **Berkeley Marina Pathway Design** is nearing completion, and a public workshop is scheduled for March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

A final report for the **West County Wastewater District Study** is now being drafted. The Study should be complete in a few months.

The East Bay Regional Park District is conducting an in-house biological assessment and contracting for aerial imaging of the site to prepare for the

grant-funded portion of the **Edgewater Technology Park to Point Pinole** study, which is expected to go out for bid next month.

The **Point Pinole to Point Wilson Study** is expected to start later this spring.

The **Pinole-Hercules Bay Trail Connection** has experienced numerous delays, but it is now on track for construction this spring.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM.