

**San Francisco Bay Trail  
Steering Committee Meeting  
ABAG Metro Center  
March 18, 2004**

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM.

**Attendance**

Steering Committee:

Rick Parmer  
Julie Bondurant  
Stana Hearne  
Brian Wiese  
Joe LaClair

Bay Trail Staff:

Janet McBride  
David Lipsetz  
Laura Thompson

Board:

Bruce Beyaert

Guests:

Felicia Borrego, Political Director, Save the Bay  
Henry Gardner, ABAG Deputy Executive Director  
Ken Moy, ABAG Legal Counsel

**ACTION - Adoption of 03/18/04 Agenda and Approval of 02/14/04 Minutes**

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

**Introductions**

**Announcements by Board Members**

-Beyaert

Announced that Bay Trail wayfinding signs will be installed on March 23<sup>rd</sup> around the Richmond Marina. Suggested photographs in the next newsletter. Also provided hand-outs of a recent paper written by Paul Shere and prepared for the Trust for Public Land entitled "Why America Needs More City Parks and Open Space."

-Wiese

EBRPD is about to enter into contract to complete the environmental assessment for a 300-ft. long Oyster Bay bridge in San Leandro, crossing the Galbraith slough. After the environmental assessment is complete, the City of

San Leandro will design and build the bridge. This is the last remaining gap between MLK Jr. Regional shoreline and the San Mateo Bridge.

The Oakland Planning Commission Design Review Committee will be holding a public workshop on March 24 on the shoreline pathway study recently completed by EDAW.

-Parmer

Announced he has provided interpretive site planning information to Carl Wilcox for consideration in the Cargill Restoration process as a possible model to try to marry the public access component with other aspects of restoration planning and desi

### **Announcements by Staff**

-McBride

Announced that Bay Trail will celebrate the 15-year anniversary of the adoption of the Bay Trail Plan this coming fall and invited suggestions for ways to mark the occasion.

Noted that the Bay Water Trail group held a forum on Friday, Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>. It was very well attended by all key stakeholders. The concept generated a lot of interest. The group will next consider feedback and options for organizational and/or institutional structure.

Berkeley Bay Trail segment received a Caltrans Excellence in Transportation award.

### **Consider Endorsing Contra Costa County Open Space Funding Measure**

-Staff

Provided an update of the Public Access and Wildlife Study data analysis with a summary of the hypotheses being tested, the database design, steps in data analysis, limited results of some analyses and next steps. The detailed analyses will assess the effects of trail user numbers on bird species and abundance at the three study locations. The research team plans to complete the statistical analyses in April 2004 and submit a journal article for publication in the fall.

### **MOTION - Endorse Contra Costa County's Open Space Funding Measure.**

Bondurant moved for approval; Hearne seconded. Adopted unanimously.

### **Proposed Regional SF Bay Protection and Recreation District**

-Borrego

Introduced the overall goal of Save the Bay to develop a consistent, reliable funding source from the Bay Area for projects that a) enhance shoreline recreational amenities for the region's growing population, b) improve public access to the Bay shoreline and tributaries, c) protect and restore vital wetlands and Bay habitat, and d) improve Bay water quality.

Various approaches to accomplish the above goals are being considered including the creation of a "San Francisco Bay Trust" that could allocate funds according to specified goals, and which might include the creation of a regional benefit assessment district. Save the Bay is working with State Senator Byron Sher on legislation to create such a regional trust.

Borrego fielded questions about the proposal, process and schedule from Steering Committee and staff. Bay Trail board members and staff expressed strong interest in participating as specific legislation takes shape. Save the Bay will also follow up with staff on future meetings with ABAG staff and policy makers.

### **Bay Trail Board Composition**

-McBride  
Committee

McBride reviewed packet materials summarizing survey feedback on Bay Trail Board composition. In general there was consensus that the Board and Steering Committee fulfill Project most project needs, however areas targeted for attention, either from the surveys or from discussion include the following:

- Increase ethnic diversity and economic justice interest representation
- Identify/recruit local area advocates (could be done along the TRAC model; and could also use the gap analysis results to target areas)
- Seek greater geographic balance from the South and North Bay areas
- Build bridges to the business community
- Increase outreach to environmental community
- Establish a funding "blue ribbon" panel or subcommittee
- Consider the role of the Advisory Committee
- Solicit media expertise
- Consider Water Transit Authority

- Fill in holes of specific stakeholder interests named in the Bylaws: MTC, CALTRANS, and State Parks

Direction: Steering Committee directed that the following nominees be brought forward for consideration by the Board at the next meeting: specifically named stakeholder groups including MTC, CALTRANS and State Parks. Also invite Bay Planning Coalition rep (Ellen Johnck) to move from Advisory Council to Board and invite the Bay Area Open Space Council (which didn't exist when the Bay Trail Project formed). Pursue ethnic/economic diversity stakeholders and other key areas identified above. Invite additional prospective candidates to the Board meeting to meet other Board members and learn more about potential common interests.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM.