

**San Francisco Bay Trail Project
Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
March 30, 2011**

ABAG Metro Center
East Bay Regional Park District Headquarters
State Coastal Conservancy Office
San Mateo County Center

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order via conference call from above locations at 2:00 PM.

Attendance

Steering Committee

Rick Parmer, Chair
Tom Huening, Co-Chair
Leo DuBose
Brian Wiese
Cathy Woodbury
Julie Bondurant
Ann Buell

Bay Trail Staff

Laura Thompson
Lee Huo
Maureen Gaffney

Board of Directors

Bruce Beyaert
Philip Sales
Don Weden
Cecily Harris
Julia Miller

Discussion Regarding Naming of the Bay Trail

-Parmer Provided a summary of the motion approved by ABAG's Legislation & Governmental Organization Committee (L&GO) and ABAG's Executive Board. L&GO recommends that ABAG staff and the Bay Trail Board work with Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty to develop a process to honor a single individual and/or others along the Bay Trail and report back to L&GO. The motion will be brought to the full Bay Trail Board for discussion at its April 18, 2011, meeting.

Reported that he initiated contact with Supervisor Haggerty's office regarding attending the April 18, 2011 Bay Trail Board meeting, and that he has not

heard a response yet. Also stated that a board packet will be sent to Supervisor Haggerty.

-Thompson Reiterated that this discussion would be brought to the full Bay Trail Board. Indicated that Matier & Ross published a piece on the Bay Trail renaming in the *San Francisco Chronicle* and that public comments received by staff thus far are overwhelmingly against renaming of the Bay Trail including a letter from Waterfront Action. Some public comments suggested renaming the Bay Trail after other individuals. Stated that so far 17 Board Members have expressed being against renaming the Bay Trail. Indicated that the next L&GO meeting would be on May 19, 2011.

-Committee All participants in the phone call voiced opposition to changing the name of the San Francisco Bay Trail. Reasons included: many people have worked to complete the Bay Trail over decades; miles of trail existed prior to the introduction of SB 100; renaming would result in unnecessary expenditures of public funding to change all trail signs, maps, etc.; naming the trail after an active politician could create problems if there is controversy or future elections; the current name establishes a sense of place and has strong name recognition.

Given the consensus of Board members on this matter, the discussion centered on support for two items:

- 1) a resolution passed by the Bay Trail Board of Directors that supports retaining the San Francisco Bay Trail name
- 2) policy language stating that the trail in its entirety should not be named after one individual but that local segments or features may be named.

The Committee discussed how to address a renaming process and agreed that the process could involve several steps:

- 1) a poll or survey
- 2) a formal public hearing to consider the proposed name or policy
- 3) a proposed policy and review process

Staff was directed to pull together similar naming policies from other jurisdictions for discussion at the Board Meeting and at the L&GO follow-up meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM.