

**San Francisco Bay Trail  
Steering Committee Meeting Minutes  
Bay Area Metro Center  
April 12, 2018**

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

**Attendance**

Steering Committee

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

Bay Trail/MTC Staff

Ben Botkin  
Maureen Gaffney  
Lee Huo  
Laura Thompson

Board

Joe LaClair  
Bill Long

Guests

Alix Bockelman, Deputy Executive Director, Policy  
Andy Fremier, Deputy Executive Director, Operations  
Steve Heminger, Executive Director

**ACTION: Adoption of the 4/12/18 agenda and the 12/14/17 minutes: DuBose moved, Buxton seconded.**

*Yes Votes:*

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

*No Votes: None*

*Abstentions: None*

**Announcements by Committee Members and Staff**

- DuBose      Announced that Bike to Work Day is coming up on May 10.
  
- Buxton      Reported that she is working on a feasibility study in San Jose to address a Bay Trail gap and offered to give a presentation about the project at a future Steering Committee meeting,

- Bondurant Described in detail several active East Bay Regional Park District construction projects including Pinole Shores, a section of Bay Trail near Tidewater in Oakland, and Doolittle Drive in Oakland.
- Thompson Informed the Committee that the call for projects for Priority Conservation Area (PCA) grants for the 5 southern counties is expected in May; the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority awarded 8 projects totaling \$18 million, 4 projects include planning or construction of new or improved shoreline public access; *Resilient by Design* will hold a public celebration of the final shoreline visions on May 18, 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at the Rock Wall Winery in Alameda.
- Gaffney Reported that on March 25 NBC Bay Area Open Road with Doug McConnell aired a feature story about the Bay Trail, Ridge Trail and the Carquinez Strait Scenic Loop Trail. The story can be viewed on the Open Road and Bay Trail websites. Announced that staff recently attended the California Trails & Greenways conference as panelists and mobile workshop leaders and MTC was a conference sponsor. Informed the Committee that staff has been engaging with Resilient by Design teams, including an upcoming April 22 walk on the Bay Trail in San Rafael and a walk on May 5 in the North Bay with Team Common Ground, for more information check the Bay Trail New & Events webpage.
- Huo Announced that the East Bay Regional Park District trail project at Pt. Molate in Richmond is underway and will connect to the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge pathway. Reported to the Committee that the City of Richmond applied for a Sustainable Communities Grant to assess needs for better connections to the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge and the Richmond ferry terminal. Announced that the City of Alameda is updating the citywide bicycle and pedestrian plan. Reported that the Goodrick Avenue section of Bay Trail in Richmond is moving forward to construction and is now fully funded. Finally, the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project released the draft DEIR for the Eden Landing restoration and Bay Trail section in Alameda County.
- Botkin Saved his announcements for his presentation later in the agenda.
- Bockelman Informed the Committee that Regional Measure 3 will be on the June 5 ballot. Also announced that MTC staff recently took the Active Transportation Program (ATP) guidelines to the MTC Programming & Allocations Committee for approval.

### **Bay Trail Realignments**

Gaffney introduced the item and provided an overview of the Bay Trail in San Rafael as it relates to the new SMART train and associated pathway that will run parallel to the rail corridor. Currently, the adopted Bay Trail segment exists as a Class II bike lane with sidewalks. The City is building a new trail segment and environmental review has been completed. This new facility is superior to our current alignment.

**ACTION:** Bondurant moved, Raigoza seconded the motion to adopt a new alignment in San Rafael shifting from West Tamalpais Avenue-Mahon Creek Path-Andersen Drive to the new SMART pathway parallel to the train tracks. The vote was approved unanimously.

Yes Votes:

*John Woodbury*  
*Julie Bondurant*  
*Brenda Buxton*

*Leo DuBose*  
*Ethan Lavine*  
*Juan Raigoza*

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

### **Major Bay Trail Projects Overview**

Bay Trail staff shared information with the Steering Committee about major projects in the works that have an anticipated need for assistance from members of the board. Projects range from planning to major construction projects along the shoreline, rail lines, highway corridors and toll bridges. MTC management offered information and updates on several projects.

### **Water Trail Program Overview**

Botkin presented a comprehensive overview of the Water Trail program, highlighting recent accomplishments and specific initiatives. Committee members recognized the great strides the project has taken in recent years and expressed support for public-private partnerships with hotels and shoreline businesses that could benefit the Water Trail.

### **Use of 2017 Golf Tournament Funds**

Thompson provided an overview of the 2017 MTC/BATA golf tournament and summarized the proceeds raised to benefit the Bay Trail. The Committee was supportive of directing the funds to this project in the North Bay. The Committee discussed the benefit of flexible funds like this to use for Bay Trail outreach and awareness and expressed a need to increase our ability to communicate with the general public and build a constituency for the Bay Trail. The Committee recommended reserving some of the golf tournament funds next year for this purpose.

**ACTION: Bondurant moved, Raigoza seconded the motion to authorize the expenditure of up to \$25,000 of 2017 golf tournament proceeds to the Bay Trail / Vine Trail project in Vallejo. The vote was approved unanimously.**

Yes Votes:

*John Woodbury*  
*Julie Bondurant*  
*Brenda Buxton*

*Leo DuBose*  
*Ethan Lavine*  
*Juan Raigoza*

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

### **30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Brainstorming**

The Committee and staff discussed possible approaches to recognizing and celebrating the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Bay Trail Plan adoption in 2019. The ideas fell into the following broad categories:

### The Approach

Align our efforts to the Bay Trail Strategic Plan  
Consider hiring a firm to develop a campaign, ideally on a pro-bono basis  
Identify specific goals and a target audience  
Keep it simple  
Partner with the Bay Area Ridge Trail on a joint effort

### What do we want to accomplish?

Help understand where we have been and what has been accomplished  
Raise awareness of the existing trail  
Political support, i.e. engage local politicians  
Raise money and awareness, i.e., "MoveOn.org" initiative  
Create a simple ask  
Promote anniversary through newly completed projects such as the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge

### How to pull it off?

Coordinate with our partners, i.e., East Bay Regional Park District to showcase recently completed Bay Trail projects such as Golden Gate Fields.

### Social Media / Video

A Ken Burns, documentary with Doug McConnell as a seasoned spokesperson for the Bay Trail  
Use smart phones to convey the message  
Plan a social event to attract youth  
Public service announcements on television and radio  
News magazines  
Run stories in multiple languages, i.e. Park District and Coastal Conservancy have experience with this.  
Place signs at end of trail with links to get more information about the barrier and how to participate in advocating for its completion.

### Event ideas

- Bay Area Air Quality Management District bike ride, September 2019
  - Current idea is a 4-6 day ride around the entire Bay Trail
  - Schedule a meeting with MTC and Air District, cost estimate of \$200 - \$500 K
  - Considering hiring someone to manage the project
  - Suggest instead a 1-day test event, check with Sunday Streets managers as a model
  - For-profit business could get involved
  
- 30-on-30
  - Inspired by the EBRPD trail challenge
  - What does 30 mean to you? 30 minutes, 30 people, 30 miles ...
  - Strong social media component, ask people to post photos of their 30
  - Awards: t-shirts, reservations at Napa County yurts, etc.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.