

**San Francisco Bay Trail
Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
Bay Area Metro Center
July 18, 2016**

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

Attendance

Steering Committee

John Woodbury, *Chair*
Julie Bondurant, *Co-Chair*
Juan Raigoza

Bay Trail Staff

Ben Botkin
Lee Huo
Laura Thompson

Board

Bruce Beyaert

Guests

Ina Gerhard, Caltrans
Michael Williams, City of Richmond
Kelly Malinowski, Coastal Conservancy

ACTION: Adoption of the 7/18/16 agenda and the 5/2/15 minutes: Julie moved, Juan seconded.

Yes Votes:

*John Woodbury
Juan Raigoza*

Julie Bondurant

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

Announcements by Chair and Boardmembers

- Beyaert Announced the July 16 dedication of the El Toro sculpture at Boat Ramp Street celebrating the creation of this boat in Richmond. There are six active projects along the last remaining 10 miles of Bay Trail in Richmond that includes 6 miles of trail. Two projects are in the late stages of completion. In addition, 4.3 miles on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge will be completed in 2017.

- Woodbury Announced that AB 2444 passed through the Assembly to the Senate and has a good chance to be on the June 2018 ballot. The current draft includes an emphasis on funding urban parks, focusing on disadvantages communities. Specific funding may be identified for the Bay Area Conservancy Program. Napa County will propose a ¼-cent sales tax on the November ballot for parks, open space and watershed preservation. Requires a 2/3 vote in the county.

Staff Announcements

- Thompson Provided a brief overview of the agency move and ABAG/MTC staff merger process. During the week of May 9th, 5 new miles were added to the Bay Trail, including segments at Eden Landing (Hayward), Sears Point (Sonoma County) and Christie Avenue (Emeryville), bringing us to the milestone of 350 miles. On May 20, we celebrated 4 miles of resurfaced Bay Trail between Sunnyvale and Mountain View, courtesy of Google. The event was hosted by board member Julia Miller, and speakers included Congresswoman Eshoo, John Igoe of Google, Chris Barr of USFWS, Lockheed Martin, Julie Pierce of ABAG, and staff of Supervisor Cortese’s office. There were many partners in attendance. After several years on the Bay Trail board and steering committee, Maggie Wenger has left BCDC and with Betsy Wilson leaving the Coastal Conservancy, we have two vacancies to fill on the steering committee and board of directors at the fall meeting.

- Huo Announced that 62 Active Transportation Program applications were submitted to MTC, and some are Bay Trail related. Mentioned a Trails Collaborative discussion about MTC funding and creating a web portal for collection of regional trail count data. Only \$60,000 was dedicated for bike counts last year and the trails community is hopeful that MTC will be supportive of expanding funding. Announced that PedalFest is back at Jack London Square this Saturday, July 23 11am – 7pm, celebrating bicycling of all forms.

- Botkin Announced that the Bay Trail’s Explore the Coast grant is moving forward on five new audio tours, working again with Canogle and Doug McConnell. Provided an update on a new Bay Trail section at India Basin/900 Innes in the works with a proposed cycletrack and shoreline alignment.

City of Napa: Stanly Lane Spur Design (\$100,000)

Thompson introduced the item and provided an overview of the grant application and funding request. Members of the committee expressed support for the private contributions lined up for the construction phase.

ACTION: Bondurant moved, Raigoza seconded the motion to award a grant to the City of Napa in the amount of \$100,000 to complete design and construction documents for a 0.6-mile trail section extending the Stanly Lane trail to the Napa River. The vote was approved unanimously.

Yes Votes:

*John Woodbury
Juan Raigoza*

Julie Bondurant

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

City of Vallejo: Vallejo Bluff Trail Design & Engineering (\$125,000)

Thompson introduced the item and provided an overview of the grant application and funding request. Members of the committee expressed enthusiasm for this project and recognized that staff has been working towards this goal for a long time.

ACTION: Bondurant moved, Raigoza seconded the motion to award a grant to the City of Vallejo in the amount of \$125,000 to complete design and engineering for the 1.5-mile Vallejo Bluff Trail. The vote was approved unanimously.

Yes Votes:

*John Woodbury
Juan Raizgoza*

Julie Bondurant

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

City of Richmond: Goodrick Avenue Construction (\$130,000)

Huo introduced the item and provided an overview of the grant application and funding request. Huo clarified that environmental designation is expected in October and the project could possibly be constructed as part of the Breuner Marsh project that is underway, but it is potentially outside of East Bay Regional Park District jurisdiction. Once constructed, this segment will complete a continuous Bay Trail from Point Pinole to the Oakland waterfront, also connecting to the Bay Bridge.

In response to committee questions about the high cost of project, City of Richmond project manager Michael Williams stated that engineering over Chevron pipelines, anticipated cultural resources and wetlands/drainages issues contribute to the higher estimated cost.

ACTION: Raigoza moved, Woodbury seconded the motion to award a grant to the City of Richmond in the amount of \$130,000 to construct a 0.3-mile section of Bay Trail along Goodrick Avenue between Breuner Marsh and the Richmond Parkway. The vote was approved unanimously.

Yes Votes:

*John Woodbury
Juan Raizgoza*

Julie Bondurant

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

Migrations Check-In

Thompson provided an overview of progress on the *Migrations* public art initiative. The Committee discussed a proposal to request funds from local jurisdictions to pay into a regional roll-out of Fireflies. The Committee expressed hesitancy about asking shoreline cities for contribution to a project that they do not have local control over. Concern over equity was also raised if the same funding amounts were asked of cities with disparate economic capacities. There was also expressed concern about the width of

the vehicles conflicting with other trail users. Encouraged Fireflies in areas where concessions are already in place, such as along the Embarcadero in San Francisco. The committee encouraged Fireflies as part of shoreline festivals that are already taking place with support from local jurisdictions rather than new events created from scratch.

The Committee was enthusiastic about private sector funding of *Migrations* projects, including adding “license plates” to Fireflies vehicles recognizing donors. Other funding ideas include adding an art component to our construction grant criteria to encourage grant recipients building large Bay Trail sections to work art into their project scopes; encouraged working with established art museums such as SFMOMA and Exploratorium that have a history of outdoor public art; tie art into the discussion of sea level rise and coordinate with BCDC’s adapting to rising tides work.

The Committee was supportive of taking an inventory of existing public art along the Bay Trail as a way to develop momentum for art on a regional scale.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.