

**San Francisco Bay Trail
Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
ABAG Metro Center
August 13, 2009**

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM.

Attendance

Steering Committee

Rick Parmer, Chair
Julie Bondurant
Brian Wiese
Cathy Woodbury
Joe LaClair
Leo DuBose

Bay Trail Staff

Laura Thompson
Maureen Gaffney
Lee Huo

Board

Betty Moose

ACTION Adoption of 08/13/09 agenda and approval of 05/14/09 minutes.

Woodbury moved, Bondurant seconded adoption of agenda and approval of minutes.

Announcements by Chair and Boardmembers

- Moose Thanked the Committee and staff for supporting the successful 20th anniversary event in Hayward on June 6th.

- Wiese Announced the July groundbreaking of the new bridge over San Leandro Slough connecting Oyster Bay to the Port of Oakland. Also announced that the San Leandro Bay Doolittle Drive study is underway to develop a long-term connection between Martin Luther King, Jr. Regional Shoreline and Bay Farm Island.

- LaClair Announced that BCDC is developing amendments to Bay Plan climate change policies, including new criteria for development in low-lying areas while the policies are being updated. One of the challenges is how to manage bridges that may be part of the Bay Trail alignment in the context of climate change. Also reported that a study is underway to develop alternatives for BCDC funding in response to the proposal to zero-out the agency's budget. Funding has been restored for this fiscal year while the study is being conducted.

- Woodbury Informed the Committee that the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District recently acquired Elkus Ranch in unincorporated San Mateo County as an addition to the Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve. The acquisition will allow for completion of a Ridge Trail segment along Purisima Creek.
- Parmer Announced that the Park District is working on facility use and program development plans for Tidewater Boat House. In partnership with Oakland Strokes, the Park District is looking for new partners including non-profit and bicycle/pedestrian organizations. The boat house will be complete in 2011.

Staff Announcements

- Gaffney Announced that the new Bay Trail bicycle jerseys are now available, and staff is working on a new brochure with assistance from East Bay Regional Park District staff. As part of the brochure project, Ben Pease helped create a new regional trail map.
- Huo Announced that the Point Molate EIR has been released and Bay Trail and TRAC will provide comments. The Contra Costa County Transportation Authority released the draft bicycle/pedestrian plan update with general policy support of the Bay Trail. Alameda County will also move forward with an update to the countywide bicycle/pedestrian plan.
- Thompson Announced the August 29 celebration of the Benicia-Martinez Bridge bicycle/pedestrian pathway; October 3 will be the joint anniversary event in Martinez celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Bay and Ridge Trails and the 75th anniversary of the East Bay Regional Park District; the *Saving the Bay* television series will air on October 8 and October 15.

Bay Trail Financial Update

- Thompson Provided the current financial status of the Bay Trail Project. The Committee was given information about previous and current funding sources and an estimate of the anticipated administrative funding shortfall in Fiscal Year 2010-2011 of approximately \$185,000. A list of potential funding strategies was presented and Committee members responded to these ideas with general support for expanding partnerships and distributing funding sources among additional agencies and programs, including public health and active transportation initiatives. Other ideas included a “Finish and Fund Forever” campaign developed with a strategic plan consultant as a public-private fund for staff and continued maintenance of the trail. The Committee recommended that this become an ongoing topic for Steering Committee consideration.

Future Bay Trail Bicycle/Walking Event

- Thompson The Committee discussed ideas to promote the Bay Trail through an active bicycle and pedestrian event including the event purpose, target audience, fundraising ideas and impacts on staff work load. It was agreed that the event should be for fundraising purposes with the goal of reaching out to new partners such as corporate sponsors.

Grant Program Completion Highlights

- Thompson This item was postponed to the next Steering Committee meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM.