

**San Francisco Bay Trail  
Steering Committee Meeting Minutes  
ABAG Metro Center  
August 14, 2008**

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM.

**Attendance**

Steering Committee

Rick Parmer, Chair  
Leo DuBose  
Cathy Woodbury

Bay Trail Staff

Laura Thompson  
Maureen Gaffney  
Lee Huo  
Patrycja Bossak

Board

Bruce Beyaert  
Betty Moose

**ACTION      Adoption of 08/14/08 agenda and approval of 06/30/08 minutes.**

DuBose moved, Parmer seconded adoption of agenda and approval of minutes.

**Announcements by Chair and Boardmembers**

- DuBose      Announced that the East Bay Bicycle Coalition will provide free valet bike parking at the Lakeshore Merchant Association's Art & Soul festival in September.
  
- Woodbury      Informed the Committee that Alameda has initiated a local action plan for climate protection. This public-private partnership campaign will encourage local governments to reduce contribution to climate change. Invitations for participation will be sent soon
  
- Beyaert      Announced that the City of Richmond's Redevelopment Agency is preparing to go out to bid for two projects that will total over 3 miles of new Bay Trail: Shipyard III and Harbour Way. Also shared photographs of new East Bay Regional Parks exit marker signs on Highway 580 (i.e. Point Isabel Regional Shoreline) and encouraged Bay Trail staff to explore placement of Bay Trail signs on these highway markers.

Announced that the City of Richmond and Chevron entered into a community benefit agreement that requires Chevron to convey the Bay

Trail easement and commits Chevron to fund up to \$2 million of security enhancements for the gap closure project between Point Richmond and the Point San Pablo Peninsula.

- Parmer Announced that the East Bay Regional Park District will host the dedication of the Alameda Point Bay Trail segment on October 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **Staff Announcements**

- Huo Provided an overview of progress on the Chevron Bay Trail gap. Announced that design plans for the Bay Trail connections to Shellmound in Emeryville are at 60% and staff will continue to be involved.

- Thompson Announced that the Wildlife & Public Access Study article will be published in the November 2008 issue of the *Journal of Wildlife Management*.

On July 24, staff attended the Bay Bridge Visioning Conference for Gateway Park with multiple stakeholders. A working group was established and a charette will be held on September 15 to develop conceptual plans for the park and public access as part of a master access plan.

Attended the Green European Summer University conference in Frankfurt/Oder Germany, sponsored by the European Union Green Party. Presented the Bay Trail as a long-distance trail model for the Iron Curtain Trail.

### **East Bay Regional Park District Measure AA Renewal**

- Huo Presented an overview of the East Bay Regional Park District's \$500 million bond extension to fund regional parks, open space and trails. The Bay Trail is featured prominently on the project list and ranked second in tracking polls as a priority for the bond.

**ACTION** Woodbury moved, DuBose seconded the motion to support the East Bay Regional Park Districts extension of Measure AA. Parmer abstained.

### **North Bay Alignment Discussion**

- Gaffney Presented an overview of the Bay Trail alignment in the North Bay (Sonoma, Napa and Solano counties) and summarized recent efforts in Sonoma and Napa counties to identify feasible off-street routes for

bicyclists and pedestrians. Using maps, the Committee discussed options for moving the Bay Trail alignment off high-speed, high-volume roadways located miles from the shoreline. There was general consensus that removing proposed Bay Trail alignments off highways is a goal of the Bay Trail Project. However, the timing of these decisions will be based on completion of environmental review and assurance at the local level that the new alignments will be implemented. The Committee recommended taking this discussion item to the full Bay Trail Board of Directors.

### **Grant Scoring Criteria Revisions**

- Thompson Provided an overview of revisions to the Bay Trail grant scoring criteria based on suggestions from the Steering Committee. The Committee discussed the revisions and recommended that the points for community support be reduced and shifted to the gap closure points, emphasizing our primary mission to close gaps. The Committee requested staff bring this item back to the Steering Committee for review and approval at their next meeting.

### **A New Generation of Travel**

- Thompson Presented an overview of “power assisted” wheeled devices gaining popularity on trails. The Committee acknowledged the need for a diverse range of options catering to an active older generation and people with mobility restrictions. However, speed, weight and height were discussed as factors that could dramatically impact the safety, use and enjoyment of the Bay Trail. While expressing concern about some speedy and heavy devices sharing the trail with traditional users, the Committee did not adopt a position on this issue. The Committee suggested that the Bay Trail Project sponsor a policy workshop to explore the issue further.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM.