

**San Francisco Bay Trail  
Steering Committee Meeting  
ABAG Metro Center  
September 14, 2000**

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 1:40 PM

**Attendance**

Steering Committee:

Chair: Rick Parmer  
Julie Bondurant  
Joan Cardellino  
Stana Hearne  
Brian Wiese

Staff:

Janet McBride  
Laura Thompson

Guest:

Peter Bluhon, Strategic Workshop Facilitator

**Adoption of Agenda and Minutes**

Hearne moved for adoption of the agenda and minutes. Adopted unanimously.

**Announcements by Board**

Hearne- The consultant for the East Shore State Park will be hired in November and the planning and design process will commence on December 1, 2000.

**Announcements by Staff**

McBride- The Bay Trail Project will receive an award of merit for last year's anniversary celebration at the State Trails Conference.

The Wildlife and Public Access Study has secured \$83,000 for an additional year of research including contributions from the Coastal Conservancy, the Bay Trail Project Regional Development Program, Cargill, East Bay Regional Park District, and Oracle. There are still several outstanding applications for additional contributions. The project is ready to begin collecting data and will start training observers in late September. Jana and Lynne will soon be presenting the preliminary findings at the National Trails Conference, the Open Space Council and BCDC's Policy Advisory Committee.

*Note: Since the meeting, two additional grants have been secured: \$10,000 from the Vavian Foundation and \$2,500 from the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District.*

## **Lake Merritt – Estuary Park Trail Connection**

Bondurant- Provided an overview of the planning and design project recently completed by Amphion for the Bay Trail connection between the Lake Merritt Channel and Estuary Park. The Bay Trail received Measure K funding from the City of Oakland to manage this project. The proposal includes a 1,300-foot multi-use trail through a parking lot under Highway 880 and along an abandoned railroad corridor connecting to Oak Street on the north, and across an unused railroad trestle under Highway 880 to Fifth Avenue on the south. The project had a number of constraints, including ongoing negotiations between the City of Oakland and Union Pacific for acquisition of the railroad right-of-way. In addition, Caltrans is in the process of beginning a multi-year retrofit project on the highway structure that passes over the trail corridor. However, since there is an existing striped bike lane under the freeway, Caltrans will be required to mitigate and complete construction of the trail within the Caltrans right-of-way. In addition, Laney College is planning to develop parcels within vicinity of project, possibly changing how access ties into the Bay Trail providing a potential opportunity for the trail along the new development. The Bay Trail Project will now need to work to ensure that these opportunities become realities.

## **Strategic Planning Preparation**

Peter Bluhon assisted the Steering Committee in setting the overall objectives, process and agenda for the upcoming strategic planning workshop. The Committee discussed the draft agenda and refined it to focus more on the critical issue of how to spend the \$7.5 million and streamlined it in order to get the most out of the workshop. The draft survey to be sent to the Board members was reviewed and revised to include questions more specific to the Bay Area and tailored to serve as a tool to initiate discussion at the workshop. The Committee agreed that the goal of the workshop was to capture ideas from Board members, create a process for how to proceed, and develop a set of criteria that can be used by staff and the Steering Committee to prioritize the various proposals for spending the money. McBride reported that Senator Liz Figueroa will be attending the workshop and will present a ceremonial “check” to the Board.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.