

**San Francisco Bay Trail
Steering Committee Meeting
Hayward Shoreline Interpretive Center
September 22, 1998**

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

Attendance

Steering Committee:

Bill Bliss (Co-Chair)
Stana Hearne
Rick Parmer
Del Woods

Board:

Joan Cardellino
Leo DuBose
Julia Miller

Staff:

Janet McBride
Niko Letunic

Adoption of Agenda and Minutes

Parmer asked to add a short status report on the Wildlife and Public Access Study to the agenda. A report on Bay Trail through Sunnyvale was also added to the agenda. Bliss motioned to adopt agenda; DuBose seconded. Hearne moved adoption of minutes; Parmer seconded.

Announcements by Board

- Bliss - Future printings of the Bay Trail maps should include an ISBN number/ Library of Congress number.
- Hearne - Would like to see some research into the Trail alignment looking at the connection between Berkeley and Emeryville. The current alignment runs along Powell to Horton. This is a very uncomfortable stretch for a cyclist or pedestrian. (Letunic will explore alternatives and report back to Steering Committee).
- Cardellino - Reported on an upcoming meeting at the Trust for Public Land (TPL). TPL received Goldman foundation money to look at trail and open space/habitat opportunities around the Bay Focussing on under-served communities. Also, the Coastal Conservancy Board will be considering a request for \$30,000 for the Wildlife & Public Access Study at their October 22nd meeting.
- Miller - An upcoming (Sept. 29) meeting of the Governor's Wetlands Task Force to be held in San Diego includes the San Francisco Bay Joint Venture.

- Bliss- Learned there is a meeting on Tea-21 Enhancements to be held at MTC on one of the middle Wednesdays of October. Marsha Mason at Caltrans is a good contact to find out more.
- Parmer - California Department of Fish & Game (CDF) is undergoing a major re-organization after a series of recommendations from the Little Hoover Commission and an internal planning process. Two Major divisions will now be: Hunting and Fishing (which will include recreation and law enforcement) and Habitat Conservation.
- Woods - Reported progress to date on NASA. A South Bay Ad Hoc Committee meeting scheduled for today has been postponed. Midpeninsula OSD received a Draft Easement & MOU from NASA. The District is concerned that the language regarding access is very tentative and is revocable under a number of conditions. Also, there is no language describing what would happen in the event that public access did need to be restricted. A next meeting is set for October 28.
- DuBose - Would like to see the Project explore greater use of free publicity in newspapers and on local TV stations.

Announcements by Staff

McBride -

- 1) The State Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) finally responded to our application for an account for the Bay Trail Nonprofit. The application was denied on the grounds that there are private sector companies and citizens represented on the Board and that donations are received from private sector sources. LAIF regulations allow only public sector representation on the Board of Directors. (Parmer suggested checking into a money market account which currently pays about 5% interest.)
- 2) Recently attended a partnership meeting of the San Francisco International Airport Runway Reconfiguration Study.

Letunic -

- 1) There have been some delays in printing the new Bay Trail Signs, however, they are currently being printed and we expect delivery next month (October).

Wrap of the State Budget Process

McBride reported on the wrap up of Bay Trail funding in this year's State Budget process. Governor Wilson blue-penciled a \$5 million line item augmentation to the California Conservation Corps for the Bay Trail Project Regional Development Program. AB 2794 (Duchenev) contains a modest \$250,000 restitution, among a long list of other appropriations. The Governor has until the end of September to act on this bill. *(Post note: we learned on 10/2 that Governor Wilson signed AB 2794 and kept the Bay Trail funding item intact at \$250,000.)*

Despite our disappointment with the Governor's action on the \$5 million, the Bay Trail Project did seem to enjoy strong and broad support from the Bay Area delegation. We need to continue to cultivate general support from the legislative delegation, in addition to developing support in key committees and among the Senate and Assembly leadership.

1999 Regional Development Program

Staff asked for feedback on a framework for this year's RDP.

- Bliss thought it should be possible to make a case for RDP funding through the Tea 21 Enhancements.
- Cardellino suggested we have a two-fold strategy and begin to think about what we will do if we do not receive any State funds. We should begin to think about revising and updating our Priority list of projects. We might want to develop a broader solicitation for RDP funds and there may be a difference between our solicitation proposal and our priority project list.
- Woods suggested we seek private foundation money for the RDP. We would need to develop promotion materials that sell the program. We could seek private \$ as a stopgap for this year and it could include staff/ administrative support.
- Directors and staff also discussed the possibility of holding an additional public hearing for RDP allocation decisions. Board members requested getting additional input from other Steering Committee members prior to making a decision.

Bay Trail through Sunnyvale

Miller gave a report on Bay Trail progress in Sunnyvale. Lockheed is selling a portion of their property that includes a Bay Trail easement. Councilmember Miller is also receiving a monthly status report from Sunnyvale staff on Bay Trail progress. The City has been exploring so-called blocks (safety, cost, etc.). Staff is following up on topographic maps, risk issues, etc. By early November, staff hopes to have sample use agreements and preliminary cost estimates. Ideally, there could be a coordinated dual opening of Bay Trail at Sunnyvale Baylands and Lockheed.

South San Francisco Re-Alignment

McBride introduced the City of South San Francisco's request for a re-alignment from the shoreline to Belle Air Road and South Airport Boulevard, around the Water Quality Control Plant. Board members were concerned about a number of issues including:

- how far inland is the re-alignment;
- how is this sewage treatment plant different from other plants where public access is allowed;
- what chemicals are being used at this particular plant; and
- what has been the process to date before the Bay Conservation and Development Commission.

Staff agreed to arrange a field visit and bring additional information to the Steering Committee at its next meeting.

Summer Board Meeting

Discussion was very brief due to limited time. Board members were generally pleased with the Board meeting and especially, the reception.

Wildlife and Public Access Study

A couple of outstanding proposals were recently denied. Funding for research has been more difficult to secure. The pending request before the Coastal Conservancy would allow us to move ahead with Phase 2. Staff is exploring a suggestion raised at the last Board meeting of possibly employing CCC members for field observations. Study consultants thought it was definitely worth exploring and suggested teaming Corps members with more experienced observers for an inter-generational approach.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.