

**San Francisco Bay Trail  
Fall Board Meeting Minutes  
Gaia Napa Valley Hotel, American Canyon  
October 9, 2008**

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

**Attendance**

Board Members:

Stand-in Chair: Brian Wiese  
Julie Bondurant  
Bill Long  
Leo DuBose  
Judy Malamut  
Moirra McEnespy  
Judy Malamut  
Philip Sales  
Tom Huening

Bruce Beyaert  
Cathy Woodbury  
Sean Co  
Rob Powell  
John Woodbury  
Don Weden  
Ellen Johnck

Guests:

Mayor Leo Garcia, American Canyon  
Councilmember Joan Bennett, American Canyon  
City Manager Rich Ramirez, American Canyon  
Supervisor Brad Wagenknecht, Napa County  
Dave Perrazzo, City of Napa Parks Superintendent  
Harold Kelly, Napa County Regional Parks and Open Space District  
Cynthia Ripley, American Canyon Capital Projects Manager  
Randy Davis, American Canyon Community Services Director  
Barry Christian, American Canyon  
Wendy Hilberman, Napa County Bicycle Coalition  
Sara Woo, Solano Transportation Authority

Staff:

Laura Thompson, Project Manager  
Lee Huo, Bay Trail Planner  
Maureen Gaffney, Bay Trail Planner  
Patrycja Bossak, Bay Trail Planner

**Introductions / Agenda / Announcements**

Wiese welcomed Board members and guests, and thanked the City of American Canyon for the generous welcome including lunch and use of the hotel conference room.

Mayor Leon Garcia and Supervisor Brad Wagenknecht welcomed the board.

Introductions were made.

Agenda/Minutes

Huening made a motion to adopt the agenda; Malamut seconded.

Beyaert made a motion to adopt the previous meeting's minutes; DuBose seconded.

The agenda and minutes were adopted unanimously.

## Board Announcements

- McEnespy      Provided a brief overview of the Bay Area Water Trail and announced that the EIR will be recirculated. The draft document is expected to be available for public review in late February/early March.
- Announced the Coastal Conservancy's Nature Within Reach license plate campaign, [www.bayarealicenseplate.org](http://www.bayarealicenseplate.org). Funding generated from this program will support the Conservancy's Bay Area restoration, conservation and public access projects.
- Beyaert      Notified the Board that the Governor signed California Assembly Bill 2954 creating the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority, a special district that can raise funds and make grants to restore tidal wetlands in the Bay.
- Announced a Greenbelt Alliance hike scheduled for October 18 encircling the West County Landfill Loop Trail in Richmond. This is the first time the public will have an opportunity to walk the entire 3-mile loop.
- Co              Announced MTC will release the draft Regional Transportation Plan in December 2008 and will adopt the final plan in early 2009. Over the next 25 years, the draft plan recommends allocating \$1 billion to complete the bike network, a new Safe Routes to School program and increased funding for the Safe Routes to Transit program.
- Sales           Announced the Napa County Transportation Planning Agency will hold a public meeting on October 21 for the public to review the new Countywide Bike Path Feasibility Study for a separated pathway the length of Napa Valley, from American Canyon to Calistoga.
- Wiese          Notified the Board that the East Bay Regional Park District is seeking to extend the existing park district bond. The \$500 million general obligation bond will provide funding for regional park acquisitions and capital projects, including completion of Bay Trail segments.

## Staff Announcements

- Thompson      Announced that the wildlife and public access study, titled *Foraging Shorebird Response to Trail Use around San Francisco Bay*, will be published in the November issue of the *Journal of Wildlife Management*.
- Informed the Board that Jody Zaitlin has stepped down from the Board of Directors. She was with the Board for 2 years, and we wish her well.
- Provided an update on Proposition 84: a \$6 million allocation was recommended by the Coastal Conservancy and we are currently allocating and administering the first \$3 million grant. A \$1 million grant will be considered by the Conservancy Board in December, and the remaining \$2 million will be allocated to the Bay Trail Project after July 2009.
- Announced that staff have been working with Ridge Trail staff on the Carquinez Strait Scenic Loop Trail and the Goldman grant, specifically: developing a mid-year

progress report for the foundation; scheduling a trail tour for Goldman representatives; reconvening our joint board subcommittee for an update on the project; joining Ridge Trail staff, volunteers and REI on November 15 for an REI Service Project in Contra Costa County along our joint alignment near Martinez; assisting Ridge Trail staff with the development of a Birding Brochure for the Strait, modeled after our Birding the Bay Trail brochure; and planning a public outreach event “triathlon” in May 2009 with local partners and REI.

Announced that Assembly Bill 1358, the Complete Streets Bill, was signed by the governor. It calls for cities and counties, when updating the circulation elements of their general plans, to ensure that local roadways are designed to accommodate all those who use them, including bicyclists, pedestrians and transit riders, as well as motorists.

-Gaffney Informed the Board that Bay Trail staff is moving forward with the regional sign program identifying placement of Bay Trail signs along all existing segments of the trail.

-Bossak Announced the October 15 East Palo Alto dedication for an improved Bay Trail segment south of Bay Road. Partners included Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, City of Palo Alto, City of East Palo Alto and PG&E.

Informed the Board that the Bliss memorial art project will be considered by the Palo Alto Baylands Arts Commission next week.

-Huo Announced the upcoming October 11 Alameda Point ribbon cutting ceremony for a segment of the Bay Trail hosted by the East Bay Regional Park District.

Informed the Board that the Carquinez Scenic Drive biological, archeological and historic studies have been completed for this 1.7-mile roadway along the Carquinez Strait. \$800,000 of the full \$3.2 million has been secured from SAFETY-LU.

Informed the Board that the fall 2008 *Bay Trail Rider* newsletter will be available at the end of October.

## **Napa County Alignment Overview**

Thompson provided a brief history of the inland North Bay alignment in the adopted Bay Trail Plan and the policies supporting trail as close to the shoreline as possible. Gaffney informed the board of staff efforts and numerous grants, totaling over \$800,000, awarded to agencies and organizations in Napa and Sonoma counties to further completion of the Bay Trail and identify new alignments closer to the shoreline and off major roadways.

## **New Bay Trail Opportunities in the North Bay**

John Woodbury provided an overview of the collaborative Napa River Feasibility Study identifying a new off-street alignment for the Bay Trail between American Canyon and Kennedy Park. He highlighted progress and challenges along each segment of this 9-mile stretch. Randy Davis informed the Board about the existing portions of the Wetlands Edge Trail and proposed new access, including a loop around the landfill formerly managed by the Napa County Wastewater District.

The Board discussed the process for approving new alignments in the North Bay. Staff was directed to take new alignment requests to the Steering Committee for approval and notify the full board when the item will be placed on the agenda.

### **Sonoma County Alignment Overview**

Gaffney provided a brief overview of the proposed alignment changes in Sonoma County as a result of completion of the Bay Trail Corridor Study. A formal alignment change request is anticipated from Sonoma County Regional Parks in early 2009.

### **20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event Planning**

Thompson distributed a list of potential 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary partners and solicited Board feedback and involvement in the planning process. The Board provided feedback including consideration of a full Bay Trail bike ride, establishment of a subcommittee, coordination with ports and marinas, handing out free promotional items and highlighting the remaining gaps.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

### **American Canyon Trail Walk**

Bay Trail Board members and staff enjoyed a walking tour along the trail around the landfill extending from the Wetlands Edge Trail. Representatives from American Canyon discussed plans to formalize the trail and open to hikers and bicyclists for expansive views of the Napa River and the City of American Canyon.