

**San Francisco Bay Trail
Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
Bay Area Metro Center
January 10, 2019**

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

Attendance

Steering Committee

John Woodbury, *Chair*
Brenda Buxton (phone)
Leo DuBose
Ethan Lavine
Steve McAdam
Juan Raigoza

Bay Trail/MTC Staff

Lee Huo
Maureen Gaffney
Laura Thompson
Ben Botkin

Board

Corinne DeBra (phone)

ACTION: Adoption of the 01/10/19 agenda and the 11/16/18 minutes: McAdam moved, Raigoza seconded.

Yes Votes:

<i>John Woodbury</i>	<i>Ethan Lavine</i>
<i>Brenda Buxton</i>	<i>Steve McAdam</i>
<i>Leo DuBose</i>	<i>Juan Raigoza</i>

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

Announcements by Committee Members and Staff

- Buxton Announced that Coastal Conservancy staff will bring a recommended Prop. 68 grant for the Ridge Trail to the Board this year and plans to bring grant recommendations for the Bay Trail and Water Trail in August.

- Thompson Informed the Committee that Block Grant #4 from the Coastal Conservancy was completed in 2018, referring to the summary of accomplishments in the packet. The Bay Trail nonprofit's \$5,000 sponsorship of NBC Bay Area's Open Road with Doug McConnell has been matched by the Bay Area Toll Authority's \$20,000 sponsorship that will allow for an entire episode dedicated to the Bay Trail during the 30th anniversary year. The Priority Conservation Area (PCA) grant program for the 5 southern counties was launched on January 7. This partnership between MTC and the Coastal Conservancy

includes up to \$10 million for projects in PCAs that improve and enhance natural landscapes, agricultural areas, urban greening and regional recreation. Letter of interest are due on February 25.

- Huo Following up on the operational issues discussed at the last Steering Committee meeting, announced that he attended a meeting in Oakland about homeless encampments at Union Point Park, also attended by businesses representatives, elected officials and city officials. The Bay Trail, Coastal Conservancy and BCDC are crafting a letter to the City of Oakland communicating concerns and reminding them of funding partnerships that created the public park and trail. The Bay Trail 30th anniversary plans are underway, meetings with the consultant have started with a final implementation plan expected by the end of January. We will have more information at the next meeting with events starting in March.

- Botkin Announced that the Water Trail now has 45 designated sites, and new design guidelines were just released.

The Steering Committee watched the video created by the Bay Area Toll Authority about plans for a bicycle/pedestrian pathway on the West Span of the Bay Bridge.

2019 Bay Trail Strategic Plan

Thompson provided a background of the Bay Trail strategic plan developed in 2013, highlighting the board subcommittee that was formed to develop objectives through a scenario based planning process. She described staffs' review and recommended changes to the plan as an update rather than starting from scratch on the plan. Since the Integrated Regional Planning Program (IRPP) Strategic Plan process is underway, it is recommended that the Bay Trail Strategic Plan be developed concurrently.

She reviewed the primary staff recommendations for each objective, recording Committee feedback:

Objective 3

The Committee discussed the pros and cons of revisiting more research for the Wildlife & Public Access Study to address the balance of wildlife and public access but concluded that decisions about wildlife impacts are made on a case-by-case basis.

The recent Sonoma County and Santa Clara County economic benefits reports are worth looking at before we start this study.

Objective 5

The question was asked whether there are examples from other regions of dedicated funds for regional trails. During the next state park bond formation, suggest that we work to get specific language directing funds to the Bay Trail.

The need to promote the 12 existing audio tours was discussed. There will be opportunities to promote the tours through the 30th anniversary and coordination with our partners to help with outreach. Facebook ads would be one effective way to reach a wider audience. It would benefit the program to connect with partner websites to promote the tours.

Process

The Committee agreed to have staff move forward with these recommended changes to the plan and bring to the full board as a draft at their spring meeting giving everyone a chance to weigh in.

The Embarcadero Redesign

Casey Hildreth provided an overview of the design alternatives for the Embarcadero Enhancement Project. The proposed layout considers a layout with slow, medium and fast speeds separated from each other at 5 – 15 – 25 mph. Near term safety improvements are expected by the end of 2019 and initial construction would begin by 2022. A planning concept design report will be released in early 2019. \$12M has been programmed for construction but not secured with an expected \$50-80 million total cost.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.