



# Oakland Measure DD Community Coalition

## Measure DD Community Coalition Meeting Notes for November 21, 2016

The meeting was called to order in the Ebell Room at Lakeside Garden Center at 7:10 p.m.

The meeting was chaired by Jennie Gerard.  
Bill Threlfall served as recorder.

### 1. Measure DD Coalition attendance list:

Alameda County Historical Society – Ed Clausen

Bike East Bay – Rick Rickard

CALM – James Vann

East Bay Regional Parks – John Sutter

East Bay Rowing Club – Jolie Krakauer, Michael Phillips

Friends of Sausal Creek – Dee Rosario

Lake Merritt Breakfast Club – Carol Agnello

Lake Merritt Weed Warriors – Jennie Gerard

Oakland Parks & Recreation Foundation – Mike Udkow

Urban Permaculture Institute – Nancy Sherman

Waterfront Action – George Duncan, Bill Threlfall

Interested Citizens – Carolyn Burd, Sam Burd, Joel Peter, John Wilson  
City of Oakland

Measure DD Program Manager – Lesley Estes

Public Works Administration – Tora Rocha

### 2. The agenda was adopted as presented.

### 3. Minutes of 9/19/2016 were approved.

### 4. Measure DD project update – Lesley Estes

Lesley briefly commented on the status of the following projects:

- 10<sup>th</sup> St. Bridge – Culvert removal has been delayed and may occur in December.
- Snow Park/Lakeside Green Street – A ground-breaking ceremony will be held in mid-December. Construction set-up is underway. Detours may be expected throughout the term of the large project.
- Miller Milling and other waterfront trail sites – Site on hold pending the outcome of the East Bay Regional Parks District negotiations with the Army Corps of Engineers over Tidal Canal title transfer.
- Embarcadero Cove Trail Improvements – Lee Huo of the Bay Trail Project has requested minor changes to address BCDC requirements.
- Harbor Master Site Trail Connection – Negotiations continue.
- Waterfront Trail at Fruitvale Bridge – In collaboration with EBRPD attempts at negotiations with RR continue.

At the close of the presentation Lesley reminded the Coalition that the series C bond sale will not provide sufficient funds to complete all the Bay Trail projects and matching funds will be needed. She also noted that with the passage of Measure KK, there is a concern that City Project Managers might be drawn into Measure KK projects and pulled away from Measure DD projects. John Sutter suggested that progress on Bay Trail may depend on attaining greater support from

Council members and that some form of advocacy may be needed. Jennie Gerard advised that advocacy would be most effective if directed toward Council Members whose district includes the Bay Trail segments intended for completion or upgrade. After further discussion, there was consensus that the Coalition's Bay Trail Sub-committee, consisting of John Sutter, Rick Rickard, Mike Udkow, and Joel Peter, should write a Coalition letter to the appropriate Council Members advocating a commitment of City support for the Bay Trail and other DD projects?, possibly including a commitment of City project management staff and some Measure KK transportation funds. By this consensus, the Subcommittee was authorized to act.

## **5. Series C bond sale**

Lesley discussed the process that will lead up to the first Series C bond sale, which is expected by the beginning of February 2017 pending Council approvals. She noted that most of the first sale proceeds will be directed toward design for Estuary Park and Bay Trail projects. The [Series 2017C Allocation Report and Resolution](#) is posted in the **Council Resolutions** section of the [Coalition's archive page](#).

## **6. Request for DD fiscal overview at next meeting**

James Vann commented that he has requested audits or other expenditure reports on several past occasions and wanted to renew the request. As discussion followed, Lesley offered to provide information from her office records bearing on expenditures by major category of Exhibit A of the [bond measure](#). After review of this information, the Coalition could consider whether it wished to pursue additional detail.

## **7. Should the DD Coalition make a report to City Council?**

James Vann posed the question above, and a discussion ensued. No consensus to prepare such a report emerged. Rick Rickard suggested we review existing reports to see what is already available and what has previously been presented to Council, and Bill Threlfall suggested the [January 29, 2014 Measure DD Fund Reallocation Staff Report](#) to Council as an appropriate existing report. Lesley also mentioned the [Series 2017C Allocation Report and Resolution](#) that she has submitted for the December 6, 2016 meeting of the Special Finance & Management Committee. Both documents may be found in the **Reports** section of the [Coalition's archive page](#).

## **8. DD-Related projects and matters:**

### Update on Brooklyn Basin shoreline park design

In the absence of Naomi Schiff, James Vann noted that there have been minor design changes but these do not bear directly on any Measure DD project.

### Update on OUSD site

James Vann indicated that Naomi Schiff is continuing her participation in meetings with OUSD and Peralta staff. Apparently, OUSD is showing interest in an administration building project along the channel.

### Update on Oakland Civic Auditorium

James commented briefly on recent reports about building uses under consideration by Orton Development.

### Measure KK infrastructure bond and DD

Joel Peter noted that the Measure KK bond includes transportation funding for "rebuilding cracked and deteriorating sidewalks, funding bicycle and pedestrian safety improvements" which might be targeted for Bay Trail development or upgrades. Unlike Measure DD, Measure KK

offers little specificity regarding allowed expenditures, and the process for determining allocation has not yet been defined. Accordingly, early and loud voices may receive favorable attention. He suggested the Coalition consider whether to approach Council or other decision-makers. After discussion, it was decided to fold a Measure KK funds appeal into the Council letter under development by the Bay Trail Sub-committee.

\$400,000 Lake Merritt DD Maintenance fund – Use of funds for previous & current fiscal years  
Jennie Gerard provided a bit of context by reviewing the history, noting the important role of Abel Guillen in proposing the special allocation and the commitment by Mayor Schaaf to continue these funds in the ongoing baseline budget after the special two-year allocation ends. She then introduced Tora Rocha, Park Supervisor for the Lake and West Oakland, who described how the special funds were spent in the first fiscal year. Key expenditures included three additional gardeners, four electric trucks, contract repair of failing decomposed granite pathways, other equipment such as a "dingo" loader, and a funds set-aside for replanting of failed plantings along Lakeshore from the Pergola to East 18<sup>th</sup>. Tora expressed appreciation for the additional resources but cautioned that vastly more would be needed to attain "B"-level conditions.

Jennie Gerard emphasized that the Coalition will need to go back to Council at the start of the next budget cycle to firm up the commitment for the \$400K as part of the baseline budget.

#### Proposal for self-guided walking tour

James briefly mentioned [the proposal](#) to form a committee to develop a self-guided tour, building on the work of Judy Johnson's tour committee described in [this November 2015 report](#). Given the late hour, the matter was put over to the January meeting.

#### Homeless encampment update

James described a recent proposal to Council to raise the priority for use of Measure KK funds to address homelessness and the housing needs of those with lowest incomes. Tora emphasized that the county has responsibility for addressing homelessness but has not been fulfilling that role, leaving the burden on City staff who are not suited to the challenging task.

### **9. Announcements**

- [Weed Warriors](#) - Work day December 3.
- [Tot Lot rebuild](#) – Mike Udkow sought volunteers for a December 6 rebuild event.
- [2017 Meeting schedule](#) – Bill Threlfall announced that the Garden Center has been requested for third Mondays: Jan 16, Mar 20, May 15, July 17, Sept 18, Nov 20.

### **10. Review of work assignments to Coalition participants:**

Bay Trail sub-committee shall write and deliver a Coalition letter as described in item 4 above.

### **11. Agenda suggestions for January 16, 2017 Meeting:**

- Semi-annual project status report spreadsheet – Lesley
- Expenditure report by bond category – Lesley
- Budget advocacy initiative re: \$400K maintenance funds as "baseline budget" - Jennie
- Report on Bay Trail advocacy letter from sub-committee - John
- Self-guided walking tour proposal - James
- Follow-up on homeless encampments James / Nancy

The next Coalition meeting will be January 16, 2017, at 7:10 p.m. at the Garden Center Ebell Room. Yes, it is Martin Luther King Day.

**Adjourned at 9:06 p.m.**