



Oakland Measure DD Community Coalition

Measure DD Community Coalition Meeting Notes for March 21, 2016

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

The meeting was jointly chaired by Mike Udkow and James Vann.
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

Children's Fairyland – C.J. Hirschfield

East Bay Regional Parks – John Sutter

Friends of Sausal Creek – Dee Rosario

Lake Merritt Institute – Charles Brooks III

Oakland Heritage Alliance – Naomi Schiff

Oakland Parks & Recreation Foundation – Mike Udkow

The Garden Center Inc. – Susan Veit

Urban Permaculture Institute – Nancy Sherman

Waterfront Action – Bill Threlfall, Sandy Threlfall

Wowhaus – Ene Osteraas-Constable

Interested Citizens – Carolyn Burd, Sam Burd, Jennie Gerard, Joel Peter, Steve Rochon
City of Oakland

Measure DD Program Manager – Lesley Estes

Public Art Project Manager – Kristen Zarembo

2. By consensus the draft agenda was modified, moving the Shoreline Park presentation to 7:15.

3. Minutes of 1/13/2016 were approved.

4. Presentation: Shoreline Park Design – Patrick Van Ness, Signature Development

Patrick provided an informational overview of the revised design that was approved by the City Planning Commission on Wednesday, December 16, 2015. Using printed handouts, he highlighted the new elements and features of the plan prepared by Einwiller Kuehl Landscape Architecture, which replaced the poorly received drafts from Roma Design Group. The handout contained pages excerpted from [this plan document submitted to the Planning Commission](#). (pdf, 50MB file)

| The project will soon move to "schematic design", and then "permitting." The hope is to start demolition of the majority of the 9th Avenue Terminal building sometime this year and to finish the project by early 2018.

5. Measure DD Project Update – Lesley Estes

Award to Sailboat House Shoreline Project

Lesley described this award, which is described in [this City of Oakland press release](#).

10th Street Project

Minor permit changes will not affect the overall project schedule.

Lakeside Green Street

The project will go to bid in the week of March 28, 2016. Though originally not fully funded by Measure DD bond allocations, the project has received a \$9m Caltrans grant, which will "free-up" limited funds for use in other projects. Coalition participants expressed interest in those funds and asked Lesley to assist in tracking them as we go forward.

Bellevue/Grand Entryway Project

Project is completing the approval process for an \$800K Caltrans grant.

Bellevue Avenue (through Lakeside Park) Project

The bid award has been approved by Council and the construction contract is in the process of being executed. Construction is scheduled to begin in April.

Bay Trail Improvements on Port Land

The plans and related Port-City agreements for three of the sites will go before the Board of Port Commissioners March 24, 2016, and then to BCDC for approval. In response to a question from a Coalition participant, Lesley noted that she was aware that the Port's Real Estate Division was in discussions about a hotel being developed on one of the sites. BCDC would then obligate the developer to build a permanent Bay Trail segment in front of the hotel. She noted she would try to learn more about the status of this potential project. Depending on the project timing, Measure DD might elect not to construct an interim trail segment there, saving funds for other estuary projects.

Accrued Interest on Measure DD Bond Funds

Lesley noted that she has been advised that all accrued interest must be spent before Series C bonds can be sold. This requirement contrasts with previous City practice and creates an unexpected administrative challenge. Approximately \$3.1M interest remains unspent, and the plan is to spend these funds as soon as possible on current projects.

Coalition participants expressed disquiet about possible adverse impacts of this situation and offered to express their concern in writing to the Public Works Committee, which meets April 26, 2016 and must approve the spending of the remaining interest. However, no specific correspondence plan was set.

6. Presentation: Art for Lakeside Green Streets Project – Kristen Zaremba

Kristen introduced Ene Osteraas-Constable of Wowhaus, who passed around an etched granite sample and showed slides illustrating the design elements in planning. The [Makkeweks page on the Wowhaus web site](#) includes some of these elements. Ene noted that the art installation schedule will conform to the overall project schedule.

7. DD-Related Projects and Matters:

Remainder Parcel at E 12th St & Lake Merritt Boulevard. Lesley noted that UrbanCore-Integral, LLC has been selected as developer.

Kaiser Convention Center rehabilitation. Lesley stated that Orton Development has been selected and has entered into an Exclusive Negotiating Agreement with the City. Orton is collecting community input to help shape their plans.

BCDC permitting of Crowley, Livingston, and Embarcadero Cove. Lesley advised that the Bay Conservation and Development Commission is ready to approve permits pending action by the Board of Port Commissioners.

DD funds for 7th Street Pump Station & water quality upgrade. Upgrade project is on hold pending Series C funding.

Compensation for residual damage from Warrior Celebration at Lake Merritt Blvd. Lesley indicated that an invoice has been sent but no response has been received. The Warriors have now requested an itemized invoice with line-item charges, which can only be prepared after the work to repair the damages has been completed.

Status of Lake Merritt \$400K enhanced maintenance fund. Lesley noted that the City has now hired four Gardener II positions and is acquiring two electric carts.

Port Payments to City for maintenance of Tidelands Trust lands. Sandy Threlfall briefly reviewed the history and indicated a large share of the funds received from the Port goes to Parks and Recreation Department:

The 2014-2015 bill to the Port is as follows:

Lakeside Park Recreation Services (Inc. Boating) Recreation services:	\$480,633 (Parks & Rec)
Other Lakeside Park Grounds & Fac. Maintenance:	\$207,746(Parks & Rec)
Lake Merritt Security	\$201,836 (Police)

Total of Services provided in the Lake Merritt Tidelands Grant Area: \$1,401,073

She noted that annual charges to the Port include a line item for two police officer positions for Lake Merritt and that she has made a request to the Police department for confirmation. Coalition participants expressed uncertainty whether officers actually were assigned to the Lake area.

School district administration properties at 10th street. Naomi Schiff indicated that the school district seems to engage in little actual planning. She will continue to monitor the situation.

Campsite removal at the channel between 10th & 12th streets. Mike Udkow reported that the City took action on Tuesday, 3/15, with police moving the campers out and Public Works staff cleaning up the area. Unfortunately, some began moving back in soon thereafter. It was also noted that the City plan is to begin enforcing a sunset curfew within park boundaries.

8. Discussion: Coalition Statement of Purpose and Accomplishments

Bill Threlfall distributed copies of the [Coalition's Statement of Purpose](#), adopted by the Coalition at its April 12, 2003 meeting, together with this 3/21/2016 draft analysis of the [Coalition's Accomplishments and Missed Opportunities](#) in each functional area of the statement of purpose.

He expressed a personal view that the Coalition had done well overall but been weak on "oversight" and "monitoring financial accountability" and had missed several opportunities to better inform the public about Measure DD.

He urged those in attendance to review the material and consider how well the Coalition doing in achieving its purposes, expecting further discussion at the May 16 Coalition meeting.

9. Agenda Committee Guidelines and Membership

James presented a set of [guidelines pertaining to the Agenda Committee](#). After brief discussion, the guidelines were adopted by consensus with minor revisions and posted to the [Miscellaneous section of the Coalition's document archive](#).

Jennie Gerard and Joel Peter were then nominated from the floor to the incoming Agenda Committee and were approved by consensus. Subsequently, Nancy Sherman expressed interest in joining the committee.

10. Acknowledgement of Retirements

James noted the retirement of Jennie Gerard from her position as Chief of Staff to Councilman Abel J. Guillen, as well as the retirement of Naomi Schiff from Seventeenth Street Studios. Applause and words of congratulations were offered.

11. Maintenance and Announcements

Lake Merritt Weed Warriors Report

Jennie Gerard declared the next workday is March 26, 2016. She also noted that for Weed Warriors business, she can now be contacted at info@lakemerrittweedwarriors.org.

Channel Tidal Marsh Update

Joel reported that an impromptu work day was held Saturday, March 19, during which volunteers repaired fencing and cleaned up damage from campers. The result will be good as long as campers don't move back in.

12. Review of Work Assignments to Coalition Participants:

Mike Udkow mentioned that all participants were encouraged to prepare for discussion of the [Coalition's Accomplishments and Missed Opportunities](#).

13. Agenda Suggestions for May 16, 2016 Meeting:

The following topics were mentioned during the course of the meeting:

- Informational presentation by Orton re: auditorium plans
- Informational presentation re: Sausal Creek watershed walking tour – Dee Rosario
- Further discussion of Coalition Statement of Purpose, accomplishments, and missed opportunities

The next Coalition meeting will be May 16, 2016, at 7:10 p.m. at the Garden Center Ebell Room.

Adjourned at 9:02 p.m.