



Oakland Measure DD Trust for Clean Water and Safe Parks Community Coalition

Meeting minutes - March 21, 2022, 7:10 p.m.

A [video recording of this meeting is available here](#)

Additional [meeting files are available here](#)

Welcome by outgoing Committee Agenda member Jennie Gerard. Recognition of other outgoing Agenda Committee members: Adrian Cotter and David Wofford.

Review of Zoom meeting protocol: recording, chat, mute, raise hand and transcription.

1. Introductions of Coalition meeting participants [Note: Coalition is open to the public]

David Wofford	Rotary Nature Center Friends, DD Agenda Committee
Adrian Cotter	Community for Lake Merritt, DD Agenda Committee
Colette Lucas-Cornwell	East Bay Rowing Club
James Vann	Coalition of Advocates for Lake Merritt
Tony Bald	St. Paul's Episcopal School faculty, Rotary Nature Center Friends, Lake Merritt Institute
Myra Redman	Lake Merritt Institute, Lake Merritt Weed Warriors
Bob Redman	Essex Community Action Committee
Sam Burd	Essex Community Action Committee
Bill Threlfall	Waterfront Action
Sandy Threlfall	Waterfront Action
Katie Noonan	Rotary Nature Center Friends, Lake Merritt Institute
Rick Rickard	Bike East Bay, East Bay Regional Parks District Advisory Council
John Bowers	Lake Merritt Institute
Mandolin Kadera-Redmond	Oakland Parks and Recreation Foundation, DD Coalition administrator
Bret Peterson	
Jennie Gerard	Lake Merritt Weed Warriors, Lake Merritt Advocates
Charles	
Na Oa	
Robert Kidd	

City of Oakland Attendees

Jennifer Stern	Watershed Division, Oakland Public Works
Mike Perlmutter	Watershed Division, Oakland Public Works
Terri Fashing	Watershed Division, Oakland Public Works, Acting Manager
Craig Pon	Facilities, Oakland Public Works
Rebecca Darr	Capital Improvement Project Delivery, Oakland Public Works
Gilbert Gong	Lincoln Square Recreation Center, OPRYD

2. Review Final Minutes of January, 17 2022 [PDF](#), [Live on website](#) were adopted without revisions.

3. Lake Merritt Signage: update Jen Stern, OPW, Watershed and

Jen provided an update on the six new interpretive signs planned for Lake Merritt. The signs celebrate the nature, history, and stewardship of Lake Merritt. [See the designs here](#) and planned placement of the signs on [this map](#). Response to [public comment on previous drafts is documented here](#). Installation is anticipated for June.

4. Decomposed Granite (DG) Path Repair: update Craig Pon, OPW, Capital Improvements Project Coordinator, Facilities Services Division

Craig provided an update to the Decomposed Granite (DG) Path Repair [the pathway parallel to Lakeshore Ave, closest and adjacent to Lake Merritt at Brooklyn Avenue](#). The Elephant Armor pilot will assess the material's performance through winter and over time. The material is also being tested for curb and driveway repair at the Oakland's Municipal Service Center and its corporation yard

Material costs are high, though hopefully the material will last longer, be easier to maintain, and easier to apply on other repair sites, especially since it can be applied on top of existing paths.

Coloring of material is also being tested.

Impact to runners is also a consideration.

The Department of Transportation and Park facilities are also considering the material in their plans.

The Coalition recommended that Craig move ahead with the path repair within available funding and application process.

The Coalition is interested in seeing a map of current and planned patches to paths.

5. DD Program Manager: report Mike Perlmutter, OPW, Watershed Program Specialist, Watershed and Stormwater Management Division, with Rebecca Darr, OPW, Project Delivery Division

Mike and Terri covering for Kristin. [March 21 Project Summary Report](#) and [Project Summary Report Table](#)

- Lake Merritt Improvement Project /Garden Center & Grande Ave entrance - COMPLETE
- Snow Park/Lakeside Green Street Project – Will be complete this spring once plant establishment period concludes.
- Harbor Master Trail Connection - COMPLETE
- Lake Merritt Channel at 10th Street - Rebecca Darr explained the history of the area and current fencing installed to protect Peralta Park wetlands along Merritt Channel from encroachment by homeless encampments. Rebecca recruited volunteers to help clean up the site. Replanting of marsh may be needed in fall of 2022.
- Union Point Park to 23rd Avenue Trail aka Miller Milling to Cemex E. 7th St to 23rd/29th Aves - Contract extension due to delays. There was a short discussion about eminent domain that included the cost prohibitive aspects and historical position of the City.

- Waterfront Trail Connections at Park and High Street Bridges - Seeking approval by the Coast Guard and County of Alameda County Public Works. Slated to head to design & permitting by late 2024. Construction completion is planned for late 2026.
- Waterfront Trail at Fruitvale (Fruitvale Bridge Gap Closure) - Permits in review with City of Oakland Building Department and Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC). Construction anticipated to begin spring 2024.
- Estuary Park -See in the [January DD Coalition minutes](#) the summary from project manager Chris Reed. Since then the Coalition formed an ad hoc committee, compiled feedback, and shared it with Chris. A draft of the Master Plan is expected at the end of March. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Addendum preparation in progress. Phase 1 construction planned for fall 2023.
- Crowley Trail (formerly known as Brooklyn Basin) Interim Trail East Bay Regional Park project. EBRPD is working with the Port of Oakland to develop the trail, with the original DD funding set aside for use by EBRPD to build a permanent trail. Estimated construction in 2023. [See page 3 in March 21 Waterfront Trails Update to City Council.](#)
- Tide Gate Operations Guidance for the 7th Street Flood Control Facility - Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District reviewed a draft of the memo commissioned by City of Oakland and prepared by Wood Rogers. District and City staff met on September 1, 2021 to discuss next steps. The Draft Memo suggests that only marginal water quality benefits are predicted from modifying the existing 7th Street pump station operations; rather it's thought that additional large capital improvements would be required to achieve further water quality enhancement.

The Coalition participants at the meeting believe this analysis to be incomplete and based on a faulty memo. See [minutes from the November 15, 2021 Measure DD Community Coalition meeting](#), which document some of these concerns. The Coalition formed an ad hoc committee that seeks to meet with the City about the document prepared by Wood Rogers and the City's next steps. Kristin Hathaway and Jeff Roubos who are managing the City participation in this issue are both expected to return from leave by mid-August, at which point the Coalition could revisit the issue with them.

The City is also seeking a contact at the Alameda County Flood Control District (District) to whom questions, concerns, and recommendations from the Coalition regarding the District's 7th Street Flood Control Station tide gate operations can be submitted.

- Lake Merritt Channel at 7th Street Pedestrian crosswalk – COMPLETED, then damaged in car accident and being repaired.
- Courtland Creek Restoration - 65% design plans under way as are permit applications. \$5.8 million needed has been raised via grants, most notably with the recent Caltrans awards: \$2.03 million Clean California grant and \$190,000 mitigation funds.
- Glen Echo Creek Restoration - Early planning and initial data gathering by consultant. Funding sought and public engagement is being planned. The project will stabilize and repair steep and eroding creek banks and restore native riparian vegetation along ~1,000 feet of open creek channel and will enhance Oak Glen Park.
- Creek Restoration of Beaconsfield Branch Sausal Creek - Early pre-design stage. Researching funding possibilities.

- Watershed Acquisition - City is pursuing acquisitions across Oakland, including at Arroyo Viejo Creek, Sausal Creek, near Claremont Canyon Regional Park, and Temescal Creek. Staff is engaging with many stakeholders including the Segorea Te Land Trust and East Bay Regional Park District. Staff is coordinating with City of Oakland Real Estate on conservation easements of certain City parcels. Staff is coordinating with various property owners on donation and/or sale of property and conservation easements.

6. Lake Merritt Channel Wish List: update Mike Perlmutter

Mike gave an overview of the Capital Improvement Project process for prioritizing City projects every two years. He addressed the question from the Coalition how to elevate Measure DD request confirmation. Terri will confer with the Project and Grants Management Division for more information about the process and how Measure DD funds are differentiated from non-DD projects. Staff will report back at next meeting.

7. Coalition administration transition: update Mike Perlmutter;

Kudos to Adrian Cotter for the huge lift to transfer past meeting materials and other information from the Waterfront Action website to the City of Oakland webpage! See www.oaklandca.gov/topics/measure-dd and www.oaklandca.gov/topics/measure-dd-community-coalition.

More website updates are in progress, as is connecting to the City YouTube page posting meeting recordings. The City is also setting up a new listserv for Measure DD Coalition correspondence.

Mandolin is facilitating meetings and developing plans for future website updates and communications including email distribution and filtering of questions from the public. The contract is being finalized between the City and Oakland Parks & Recreation Foundation.

8. Estuary Park Study Group: update Bill Threlfall

There's been some progress including providing comments in a single document to Chris Reed and inviting her back in May for updates.

9. Nomination and Election of Agenda Committee: Jennie Gerard

Continuation of item from the [January meeting](#). The slate was approved for renewing member Adrian Cotter, plus new Committee members Myra Redman and John Bowers.

10. Announcements

- a. Courtland Creek restoration project, Mandolin Kadera-Redmond
Friends of Courtland Creek will host Earth Day event the morning April 23rd
- b. Rotary Nature Center Friends on-line events: Katie Noonan, Rotary Nature Center Friends
Clean Up s every 3rd Saturday. Earth Day event planned for April 23.
- c. [Lakeside Chat #16 - Salmon in Lake Merritt? What are they doing here? Join Dr. Brian Allee to find out](#)
Donations can sent to P.O. Box 16203490 Lake Park Ave., Oakland, CA 94610
- d. Lake Merritt Weed Warriors: Jennie Gerard
Next workday, Saturday, March 26. Routinely meet at a Lake Merritt landscaped area on the last Saturday of each month.

11. Assigned tasks and agenda suggestions for next meeting

- a. Estuary Park update, Christine Reed
- b. Measure DD website update, Adrian Cotter
- c. Status on repair of decompressed granite (DG) Paths, Craig Pon
- d. Renovation project update from Orton Development regarding the land integration
- e. Clarification of CIP process for wish lists prepared by the Coalition, Terri Fashing

9:10pm Adjourn, **Next meeting, May 16, 2022, 7pm**