

# Measure DD wishlist

Measure DD was passed in 2002. The voters approved \$198 million in bond funds in order (in the words of the bond measure) “to improve water quality; provide educational and recreational facilities for children; clean up Lake Merritt; restore Oakland's creeks, waterfront and Estuary; preserve and acquire open space; renovate parks; provide safe public spaces”

Nearly 20 years later, Oakland Public Works is near finishing many of the projects originally listed in the measure. The results of many of these are on display at Lake Merritt. There are now still funds left over in various portions of the bond measure (which was divided into various categories). Looking at the category that addressed the Lake, the Measure DD Coalition is looking to use the leftover money from this category to further other improvements.

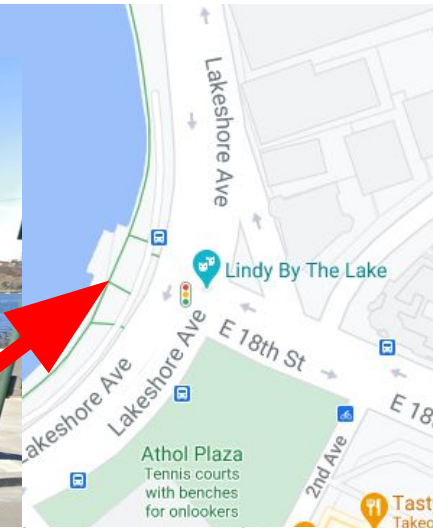
# Goals for this presentation

1. Are these the right priorities? The right order
2. Is there anything missing?
3. If come to agreement, discuss next steps with Kristin

## Finalize East 18th St Pier as originally intended

[Survey score: 47]

- Add signage that the committee decided on a design for in Sept 2013, which says:  
“East 18th Street  
PIER  
1928”
- Add a 4th bench in the NorthEast corner.



RECOMMENDATION OF MEASURE DD COMMUNITY COALITION

FINALIZATION OF THE RE-STORED PIER AT E 18TH STREET & LAKESHORE AVENUE

## Improved paths from the Green Monster from beach up toward Sail Boat House

[Survey score: 46]

- There are various community paths that climb up from the beach near the Green Monster up to the paths leading to the Sail Boat house.
- The one closest to the lake is fairly eroded and is impacting tree roots which may present a liability to the city.

Needs: Good (ADA accessible?) paths that people will use, and not take as many shortcuts.



## Improve paths around the Rotary Nature Center, Geodesic dome, and wildlife viewing area

[Survey score: 44]

- Dilapidated pathways in vicinity of the Rotary Nature Center detract from the usefulness of this asset for public enjoyment and education. Upgrade needs to be coordinated with planning for renewed operation of the RNC as an interpretive center.
- Seating is old, oddly designed, and some deteriorated. Still used.
- Safety issues.

Needs:

Redesign paths for better pedestrian traffic flow.  
Improve paths in front and around Rotary nature center.

Some money could be raised here for commemorative benches -- though the problem with that approach might be too many benches!



Old Dilapidated paths

Congested paths

One of the few Interpretive signs now Behind fence.

Path around dome fenced off.  
Crumbling into water

## Upgrade of children's playground by Rotary Nature Center

[Survey score: 41]

Super heavily used... it might be worth asking people there what they would want. It is fairly minimal at the moment. Park originally built from money raised in the community. Lake Merritt Breakfast Club or Rotary Club might be willing to help fund.

Possibility of making it nature themed, relating to wildlife refuge (the playground in the Oakland zoo's new California section might be a great model)?

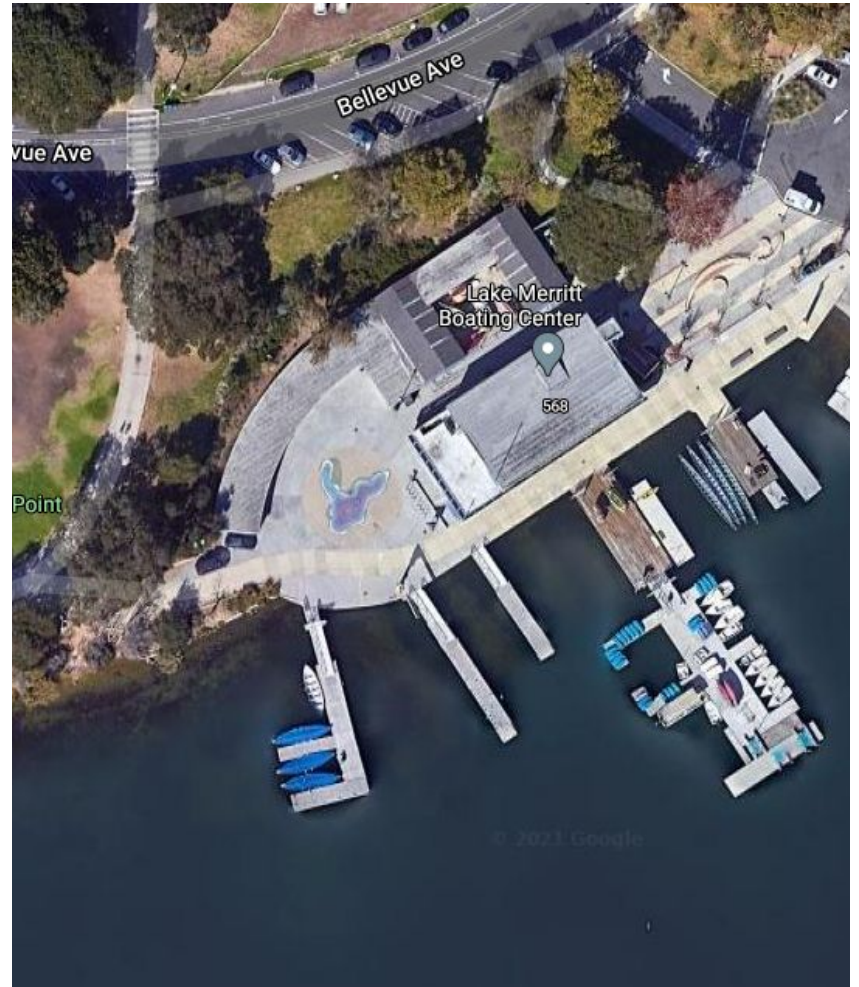


## Sailboat house rental facilities

[Survey score: 41]

The upstairs of the Sailboat house is a rental facility.

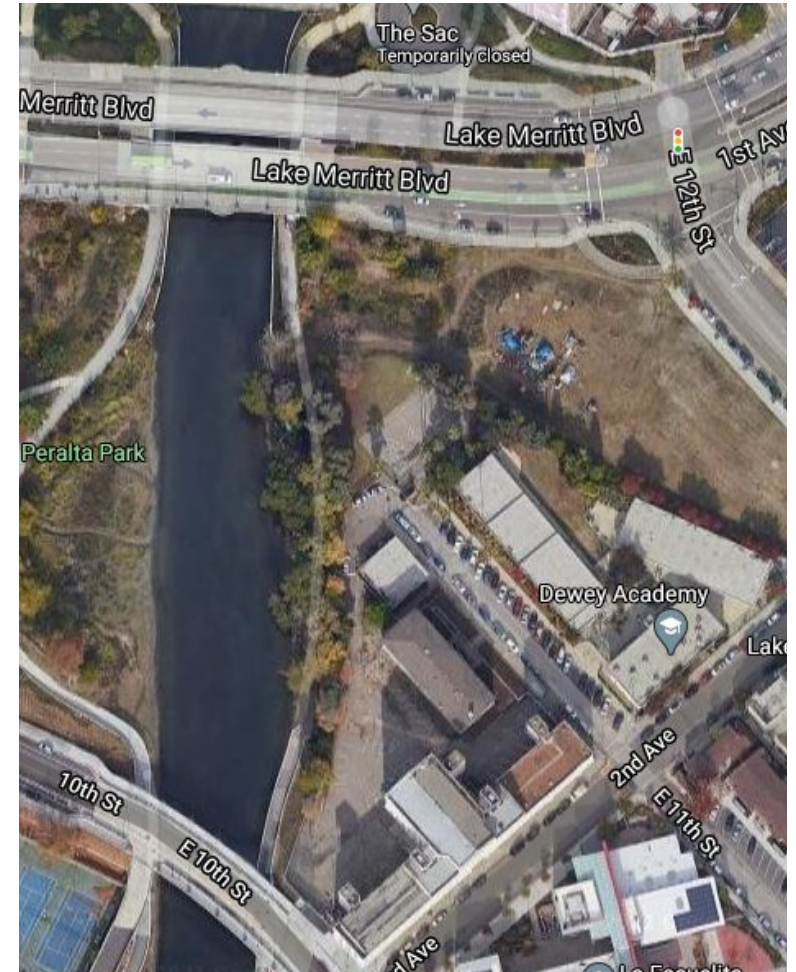
It does get used for parties and weddings, but seemingly infrequently. Is this space being promoted properly to generate income for parks, and to optimize community use? Are facilities adequate for income and accessibility?



## Improve path on East Oakland side of channel between 10th and 12th.

[Paths, score: 41]

- This is a channel project that did not make it to our Channel submission, though perhaps it could still happen as an extension of the proposal submitted through public works CIP.
- There was no agreement of committee members about whether it should be paved or not. There has been a significant impact on the landscaping by campers. The public seems to generally seem to avoid that bank now.
- Invasive pampas grass removal should be part of any upgrade. Proximity to the bird marsh would suggest coordinating with other groups to maximize habitat usefulness. (Audubon, LM Institute, Friends of Rotary Nature Center, Coastal Conservancy)





## More shade trees for the Lake Merritt Amphitheater

[Enjoyment score: 38]

- Additional shade trees along 12th street, and then ones along the paths.
- Would this have any impact on the Kaiser Auditorium project.
- Species selection would be important. Would trees be deciduous? How tall? Consider views from and to auditorium.



# Alternate Approaches

Lake Seating (bench suggestions around Rotary Nature Center, E 18th St Pier, and Boden Way) -- have a project to identify places to improve, add, and possibly remove seating, picnic tables, etc.

Lake Paths -- have a project to identify paths that were not improved by the original DD projects, systematically go through them in a prioritized way.

Landscaping -- identify landscaping issues that could be addressed, esp ones that might enhance Wildlife, Water Quality, and enjoyment (shade at the Amphitheater)

Facilities -- like the bathrooms by the playground, the playground, the sailboat house might be big enough projects on their own? Money towards improving the Rotary Nature Center itself?

## Other Ideas (receiving less than ½ of total possible “points” in the survey of Coalition members)

Improve paths east of the Rotary Nature Center towards the Pergola

[Paths, score: 37]

Members of the committee thought this just required maintenance work.

Improve picnic facilities at Adams Point Picnic Area between Bellevue Ave and Lake

[Enjoyment, score: 36]

Install a bench along the east side of the lake near the Boden Way crossing

[Enjoyment, score: 29]

More seating near the Bandstand Beach area

[Enjoyment, score: 29]

Improve picnic facilities in Empowerment park

[Enjoyment, score: 26]

Snack Shack on Bellevue

[Facilities, score: 17]

Improve labyrinth

[Enjoyment, score: 14]

Members of the committee didn't think this was worth additional expenditure.

# Additional monies

Not average wear and tear. Is the Coalition willing to spend additional monies on these things:

- \$ to improve Union Point Park
  - Is there money in the category
  - Is there interest money
  - Is there insurance money from the fire.
- \$ for robust fence along the channel
  - Part of our CIP proposal?

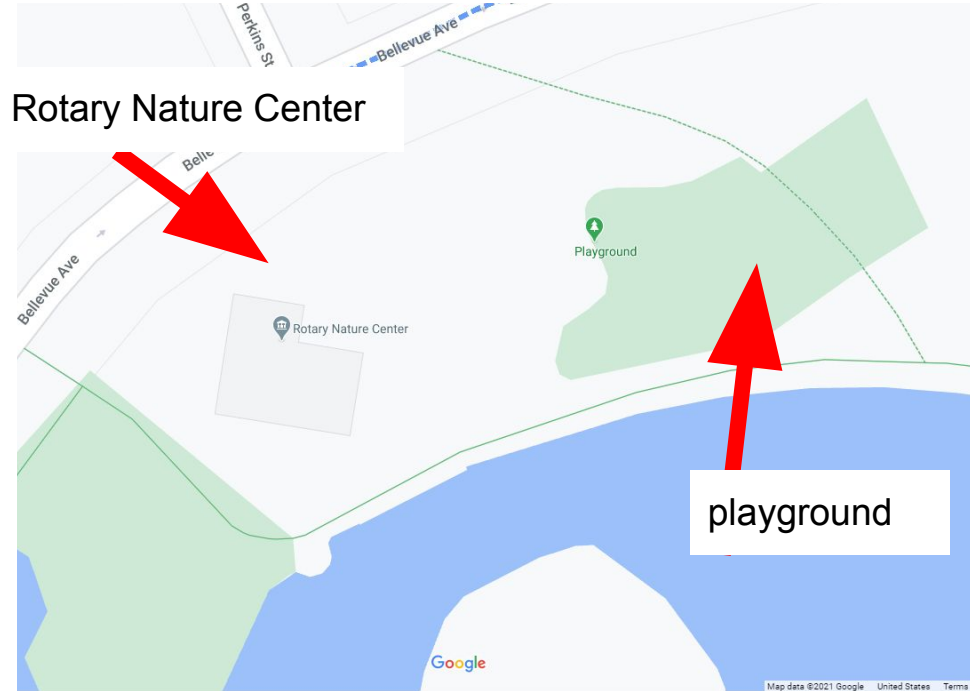
[no longer needed]

Public restrooms for the playground at or near the Rotary Nature Center.

[Survey score: 56]

- The Rotary Nature Center until a couple of years ago had restrooms on the outside. These were closed a year or two ago. One was refurbished but is now only available on the inside (and currently only open to staff). Waiting to hear back from the City on their status.
- The porta potties that were put up as temporary relief were rarely in good enough condition to use.
- The adjacent playground really have no good restroom options.

**A. Use measure DD funds to improve/rebuild the bathrooms at the Rotary Nature Center making them accessible to the public again.**



- If you table or work outside the Center, the #1 question one gets is “Where can I find a bathroom”.