



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

Measure DD Community Coalition Meeting Notes for July 19, 2021

The virtual meeting was called to order over Zoom at 7:10 p.m.

[Meeting video, chat, and captions available here.](#)

Adrian Cotter chaired the meeting. Mike Perlmutter took notes and hosted the zoom.

1. Measure DD Coalition attendance list:

Adrian Cotter – Coalition for Lake Merritt

Jennie Gerard – Lake Merritt Weed Warriors, Lake Merritt Advocates

Naomi Schiff – Coalition of Advocates for Lake Merritt, Oakland Heritage Alliance

James Vann – Coalition of Advocates for Lake Merritt

Bob Redman – Essex Community Action Committee

Virginia Row – East Bay Rowing Club

Rick Rickard – East Bay Regional Park Advisory Committee, Bike East Bay

David Ralston – Oakland Bicycle Advisory Commission

Hank Ackerman – Alameda County Flood Control, Program Manager

James Robinson – Lake Merritt Institute

John Bowers – Lake Merritt Institute

Katie Noonan – Lake Merritt Institute, Rotary Nature Center Friends

Dave Wofford – Rotary Nature Center Friends

Susan Viet – Gardens at Lake Merritt

Janet Roth – Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt

Mandolin Kadera-Redmond – Oakland Parks & Recreation Foundation

Mike Udkow – Friends of Joaquin Miller Park

Theresa Nelson – FROG Park

Interested citizens

- Bill Threllfall
- Myra Redman
- Sam Burd
- Vince Geronimo
- Charles
- Carol G

City of Oakland

- Kristin Hathaway – OPW Watershed and Stormwater Division and DD Program Manager
- Mike Perlmutter – OPW, Watershed and Stormwater Management Division
- Richard Battersby – OPW Assistant Director
- Craig Pon – OPW Capital Improvement Project Coordinator, Facilities Services

2. Agenda adopted without revision.

3. Minutes of 5/17/2021 were approved.

4. Decomposed Granite (DG) Path Repair: update. Craig Pon, CIP Coordinator

Part of the epoxied decomposed granite (DG) running path along Lakeshore near Lake Merritt has degraded and weathered. With \$300k in Measure Q funds in the City's adopted FY '21 – '23 policy budget, the City is working on a repair of this path. The path will need to be milled, meaning removal of the old material down to the base material. There's usually 3-6 inches of path on top of 3-6 inches of base material. The repair will be evaluated as a pilot, potentially to serve as a model for repair of other such paths in the City. Craig Pon is working with two vendors to scope and source materials and to train City staff in Department of Transportation (DOT) who will do the repair. DOT equipment is mostly for other type of projects (streets and sidewalks – which are typically wider). This project will build capacity for the City to complete other such projects in house. Staff would like to evaluate the repaired paths performance in wet weather, but due to time constraints, may need to obtain evaluations from other agencies who have implemented these materials and techniques. Timing TBD, hoped for a month or two. Craig was invited to return to the Coalition's September meeting to provide an update on the project.

5. Measure DD Project Updates – Kristin Hathaway

Kristin commented on the status of most projects, with her remarks very closely following the notes in the project status column of the [July 19, 2021 Project Status Summary](#) spreadsheet.

- Lake Merritt – Ali Schwartz retired
- Garden Center project closing out
- Snow Park in plant establishment phase and closing in spring of 2022. Jennie is concerned about who is making sure that the contractor is being held to high standards. Kristin will find out who is the Construction Manager overseeing the contractor.
- Estuary and Waterfront Trails – extending design consultant's contract. Union Point Park to 23rd Ave, has had challenges with access through private properties. Adding new right of way sub consultant. 1 of 3 owners have allowed access. Work in progress.
- Harbormaster Trail – completed as of May 14, 2021. Design is mainly signage and way finding so that trail users can easily navigate. Design went around the marina.
- Waterfront Trail at High St Bridge – considering design to accommodate land crossing. Moffat and Nicol preparing the 30% design. Coast Guard,

Alameda County, and East Bay Regional Park District are supportive of design. Permits will be sought.

- Waterfront Trail at Fruitvale Bridge – Trail easement secured behind old Fair and Swanson building. 2022 anticipated for construction. DOT planning a new Fruitvale streetscape, which will be aligned with this project.
- Estuary Park. Christine Reid is the new project manager. City is trying to maximize remediation as part of Brooklyn Basin project. Revised concept design expected by October.
- Lake Merritt Channel at 10th St. Concern about homeless impacts on wetland. Higher fencing is on wish list
- 7th St Flood Control Facility – maintaining flood control objectives, with water quality considerations. Alameda County reviewing protocol draft.
- 7th St Crosswalk is nearly completed. Several small items for contract to complete. Estimated to be done by 1st week of August
- Courtland Creek – City conducting racial equity-focused public engagement process. Stakeholder meeting occurred July 10. Next public meetings July 29 and 31. City applied for three grants to cover the remaining ~\$1.5 million needed. Latest grant application was to the Ocean Protection Council. Hope to hear about funding by fall.
- Glen Echo Creek Restoration along Richmond Blvd – Preliminary design phase. Restoration Design Group (RDG) retained as contractor to assist with the conceptual plan. Project is to restore habitat and address erosion control concerns. Project is ranked sixth on the DD Project Priority list.
- DD Acquisition – Staff is pursuing conservation easement and land purchase of creekside parcels City-wide. Staff developing scope of work for consultant strategy assistance. Looking into options at Country Club Branch of Arroyo Viejo Creek, Sausal Creek, Derby Creek, and Peralta Creek parcels.

- Jack London Aquatic Center (JLAC) – public restrooms and landscaping associated with Embarcadero bridge rebuild has not been maintained. New design is planned.

Several questions followed Kristin’s report:

Measure Q money for water quality and litter control – primarily geared towards trash capture devices to meet regulatory requirements. Measure Q funding not available for bear-proof trash cans at Estuary Park. Funding for litter capture where trash levels entering storm water are highest.

Snow Park homeless encampments. Encampments are prohibited within 50’ of waterways but enforcement hindered because there are not enough places to

relocate existing encampments. Report homeless encampment concerns to the Encampment Management Team (EMT) at homelessness@oaklandca.gov.

6. Review of Measure [DD Wishlist](#) – Kristin Hathaway

Kristin summarized how much funding is available in various categories. Lake Merritt –\$1.3 million left remaining, + another \$637k to be sold in series D.

- Lake Merritt Channel – CIP project never uploaded, but since Council took action to approve Series C bond sale, OPW Fiscal has stated the projects do not need to go back to Council. Watershed staff will follow up to confirm this is accurate.
- Adrian shared the proposed list of paths to improve around Lake Merritt. List was developed over 3-4 meetings. Adrian to send Lake Merritt list around for next meeting.
https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1jrYOH0o-9HEcyUyIXsWjF-vCsBgem5kH390YLsrGQeU/edit?q=measure+dd#slide=id.gc44bbe07d2_0_34
- Kristin will get cost estimates from a project manager to see what is feasible, although the timeline to get this assigned to a project manager who can perform that assessment is unknown.
- Regarding discussion at a previous Coalition meeting about a restroom in the vicinity of Saturn Tot-lot, the outdoor accessible restroom at Rotary Nature is now open, so now there is a restroom in vicinity. Unisex. Open 6/7 in the morning to that time in evening.
- 10th street project – An effort is needed to help meet regulatory requirements for marsh restoration at the site. Fencing is an option to limit access and use of the site as a latrine. Since the project has not been finalized due to regulatory needs, the fence could be funded by the project. Measure Q homelessness funds might be possible source as well via EMT. Coalition gives thumbs up and Kristin will work with existing project manager to discuss timeline for advancing the project. Kristin will ask project manager Ha Nguyen to move ahead with fence design.

7. Review of Measure DD Series 2017 C Audit Report (see [comments](#)) - Bill Threlfall

Bill presented the audit of Measure DD bond spending. The audit goes through January 2020, though prior to that there are many gaps in reporting. Bill asked if more complete reporting is available. Kristin mentioned that there is not a comprehensive report, though more details can be obtained for particular projects of interest. Bill noted the concern that the longer a project takes, the more staff time gets charged to it, driving up the cost. Kristin stated that the City tries to keep soft costs (staff and benefits) ≤ 30%. Naomi recommends a report showing how much outside funding has been leveraged by DD fund as well as accomplishments of the program to help demonstrate the value of this bond measure to the public.

8. DD Coalition administrative support update – Mike Perlmutter

The City is setting up the DD Coalition administrative support contract with the Oakland Parks and Recreation Foundation (OPRF). Kudos to Bill Threlfall for his work to date in this role, and appreciation for his continued participation with the DD Coalition! The contract has four main components: 1) Website development and upkeep 2) Meeting hosting, facilitation, and documentation, 3) Maintaining the email announcement system, and 4) Responding to public inquiries. Adrian Cotter, who works as a web developer, will assist with the website development. Mike will work with OPRF to onboard them, including providing orientation information from Bill Threlfall. Mandolin Kadera-Redmond, interim OPRF director, is excited for this new partnership and shared remarks at the meeting. We hope the new contract is in place soon and expect OPRF to be in place in advance of the September 20 meeting.

9. Future Coalition meeting format discussion – Jennie Gerard

The group discussed options going forward for meeting – in person, virtually, or hybrid. The group noted pros and cons of each format. Some participation has been made easier by the virtual format. The group took a poll and most by far were interested in a hybrid set up. Hybrid set up will require some thought and technology (computers, smart screen, microphone, etc.). Mike will ask in the City if there are resources to support this. The next meeting will be virtual. After that, to be determined.

10. Announcements and reports

- a) [Lake Merritt Advocates and Untrash the Planet's Summer of Sundays](https://www.lakemerritt.org/litter-sos.html). Cleanups continue Sunday evenings 6-7:30pm through September 5.
<https://www.lakemerritt.org/litter-sos.html>
- b) Creek to Bay month – 26th annual event. A month of watershed cleanups, education, and commitment to practices to keep our city and water clean, from creek to bay every day in September and beyond! www.oaklandcreektobay.org.
- c) Rotary Nature Center Friends on-line events. Past events viewable at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8zoh5C35Fbwo9s-czz1UXI7-L3wKlEf>
- d) Lake Merritt Weed Warriors – next workday, Saturday, July 31. Details at <https://www.lakemerritt.org/lm-weed-warriors.html>
- e) John Sutter memorial: Saturday, 24 July 2021, 2:00 pm, Judge John Sutter Regional Shoreline, Interurban Electric Railway Bridge Yard Shop at 210 Burma Road. Take Maritime St. northeast from 7th St.; turn left onto Burma. Please RSVP: <msalas@ebparks.org>. (Carpooling recommended!)
- f) Courtland Creek Public informational meetings July 29 6:30-8pm (virtual), Sat 31 10:30-noon in person meeting at Brookdale Park. Register at https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_a70LEPQJQSOSDyecFqspSA. More

information at <https://www.oaklandca.gov/projects/courtland-creek-restoration-project>

- g) Lake Merritt Breakfast Club – seeking volunteers to help clean graffiti and paint light posts. <https://www.lmbclub.org/event-details/necklace-of-lights-taskforce>

10. Review of work assignments to Coalition participants:

1. Kristin will find out who is the Construction Manager overseeing the contractor at Snow Park to ask about oversight for plant establishment.
2. Adrian to send [Lake Merritt wish list](#) around for next meeting.
3. Kristin will find out what the timeline is to get a project manager assigned who could create cost estimates to see what is feasible from wish list.
4. Kristin will confirm if projects that are not in the CIP have to return to Council for approval.
5. Kristin will speak to project manager to see if fencing limiting improper access at 10th St. marsh restoration can be added to existing 10th St project scope.
6. Mike and Mandolin working on setting up new DD Coalition Administration contract.
7. Mike to look into City resources for hybrid meetings.

11. Agenda suggestions for next Meeting:

1. Introduction of OPRF, new DD Coalition Contractor
2. Wish list
3. Format for November meeting
4. Follow-up on above assignment
5. Update from Craig on DG path repair

The next Coalition meeting will be September 20, 2021, at 7:10 p.m. over Zoom.

Adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m.