

San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Implementation Meeting #27 – September 14, 2018

AGENDA

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Location

Elihu M. Harris State Office Building
1515 Clay Street, 2nd Floor, Room 7
Oakland, California

Attendees

Water Trail Staff: Ben Botkin (MTC/ABAG)

Project Management Team: Avra Heller (SCC), Laura Thompson (MTC/ABAG), Cheryl Essex (CA State Parks), Matthew Trujillo (BCDC)

Advisory Committee: Penny Wells (BASK), Tom Boone (USCG), Kevin Takei (EBRPD), Wendy Proctor (Port of SF), Ted Choi (City Kayak), Joy Dryden (Accessibility Expert), Kevin Takei (EBRPD), Yiwei Wang (SFBBO)

Presenters and members of the Public: Kevin Parker (Westpoint Harbor), Lina Velasco (City of Richmond), Matt Gerhart (SCC/SFBRA), Maureen Gaffney (MTC/ABAG), Bo Barnes (Kayaks Unlimited), Ralph Mihan (kayaker), Fran Sticha (BASK)

Outcome of Meeting:

- Attendees were informed of Water Trail-related activities, progress, and accomplishments.
- After receiving Advisory Committee guidance, Project Management Team conditionally designated Westpoint Harbor.
- Attendees were informed of San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority planning efforts, recent grant awards, and upcoming grant opportunity.
- Attendees provided input on Draft Water Trail Design Guidelines.
- Attendees informed about planning process for Point Molate, Richmond

Updates and Announcements from Water Trail Staff, Project Management Team, and Advisory Committee Members – [Presentation linked here.](#)

- Next meeting will be held on Dec 14 at the CA State Building, 1515 Clay Street, Oakland, CA

PLANNING

- **Baywinds** - Stakeholder meeting in July – Supervisor Pine, Foster City will lead project, Task Force to include, Water Trail, San Mateo County, Water Trail, SF Boardsailing Association, State Coastal Conservancy

- **BCDC + CA Coastal Commission** – Environmental Justice Forum – updating EJ and Access guidelines
- **Water Trail working with ART Bay Area** – sea level rise vulnerability mapping + water trail
- **Estuary Park** - Key stakeholder kick off meeting late August – reps from boating community and city planners, trying to complete planning by close of 2018

WATER TRAIL SITE UPDATES

- **Point Isabel** currently under construction – est. completion Fall 2018
- **Berkeley Marina Gangway** – moving slowly – replacing 2 docks this fall, separate bid for gangway – hoping to install in the spring
- **Petaluma Small Craft Center** – piles driven, and docks installed in September restroom coming online shortly – accessed at the Turning Basin off of 3rd Street
- **Port of SF** removed creosote piles on Islais creek (funded by – Coastal Conservancy grant – BCDC mitigation funds) putting in an ADA composting toilet open during daylight hours, on an accessible path of travel close to the street, with an asphalt pad – easy access for regular service contractor.
- **Encinal Beach and Boat Launch** implementing measure AA restoration funds
- **Albany Beach** is under construction – dune restoration and accessible access paths across the beach

OUTREACH

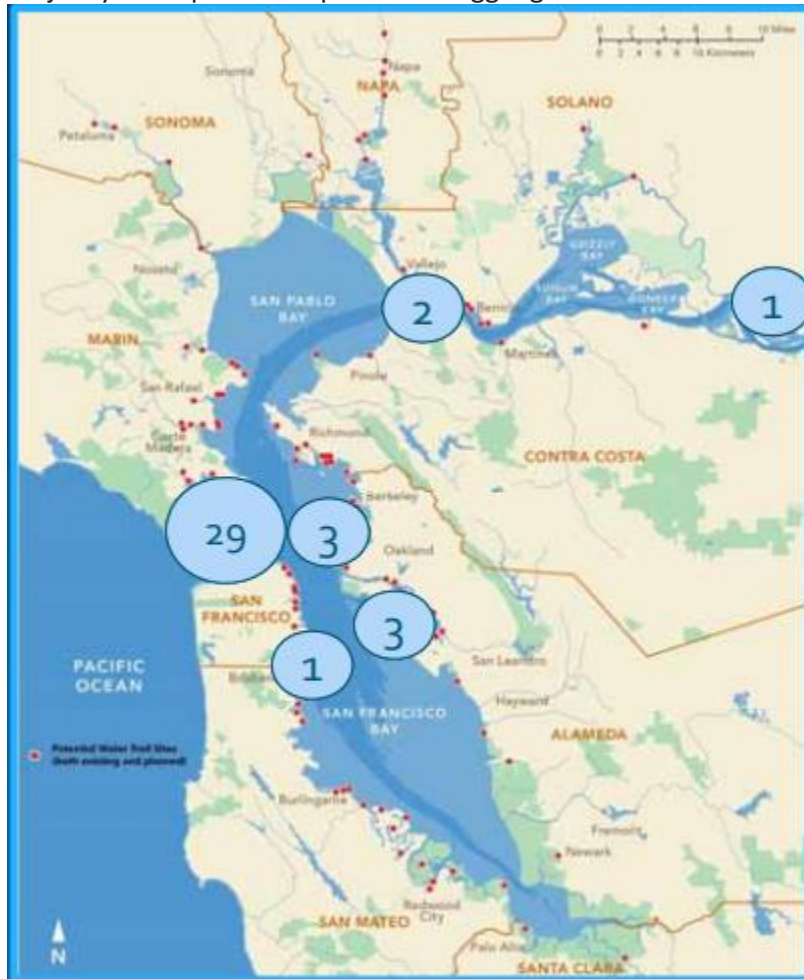
- Shorelines and Waterways Maps – Bay Trail and Water Trail added
- Kiteboarders developing a “beach docent” program to educate new kiteboarders on safety and etiquettes
- Alviso Salt Marsh Safari program

PMT and ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATES

- Boating and Waterways Committee will have a public meeting at Encinal Beach on the 14th and 15th of November, providing advice on a proposed \$1.45M rehabilitation grant.
- PMT member Cheryl Essex retiring – Boating and Waterways assessing staff and will ensure representative for future meetings.
- Candlestick Park opened on Thursday, September 21
- Interaction between the SF Bay Water Trail and Delta Water Trail
 - Delta Water Trail proposed in Recreation Proposal for Suisun marsh with links to SF Water Trail in Benicia
 - Glen Cove Marina Water Trail in Vallejo a potential stop
- Bay Day – Saturday October 6 kayak events at:
 - City Kayak – trip along the water front
 - Port of Redwood City
 - Vallejo Ferry Challenge
 - North Richmond Shoreline festival at Point Pinole – Groundwork Richmond bringing their kayaks for public use

SAFETY UPDATE

- US Coast Guard Responses: June 1 – August 27
 - Fatalities (2) – Kiteboarder @ Crown Beach – Outrigger @ Berkeley Marina
 - Downed / struggling kites (24)
 - Kayak overturned (4)
 - SUP/kayak distressed by wind (3)
- Majority of responses required – struggling kiteboarders off of Crissy Field



UPCOMING SITES:

- **Belden's Landing and Sandy Beach County Park** – Solano County
- **Point Pinole** – Request to fund engineering permitting and survey for launch site to EBRPD board in September.
- **Rush Ranch** – Solano Land Trust is hoping to include kayak launch as part of restoration project, eager to host folks overnight as well.
- **China Camp** – in conversation with CA State Parks

Trailhead Designation Consideration: Westpoint Harbor

Site Description linked above, presentation [linked here](#).

- [Located](#) in South Bay, just south of Bair Island, east of Redwood City – near to Eden Landing, and Redwood City Marina
- Newest Harbor in SF Bay with state-of-the-art facilities (See Site Map on pg. XX of slide)
- Facilities include:
 - ADA parking, and path of travel
 - ADA restrooms with showers, restrooms are unlocked 8am-6pm
 - West Boat Launch
 - Low freeboard dock, ADA ramp – ADA slope at all tides
 - Vendor - 101 Surf Sports on site Friday-Sunday, signage for safe paddling
 - Free storage for nonmotorized users
 - Ladder to get in and out of water
 - Gear washing station
 - Developing a key-fob system to access locked gate
 - Eastern Boat Launch
 - Gangway to high freeboard dock + boat washing station
 - East ramp slope not ADA at all tides
 - BCDC enforcement note: public access hours and storage might be subject to change/update
- DESIGNATION CONDITIONS
 - Water Trail identification and education signs installed.
 - Water Trail education sign includes messages relevant to navigational safety (including wind conditions); appropriate distance boaters need to maintain from harbor seal haul outs; and directing users to only land on authorized launching/landing areas (particularly emphasizing that boaters should not get out of their boat in the marshes)

Discussion with Advisory Committee

- Need to emphasize importance of nearby biological resources on signage and web page, including that there are nesting egrets and herons on Bair and Greco Islands. Westpoint Harbor plans to install water trail signage at each launch
 - SFBBO will share updated nesting report for the South Bay
- Important to emphasize that garbage / trash from food etc. is really well-secured to crafts to not attract predators (gulls and ravens)
- Information from Westpoint Harbor Master
 - Harbor puts signs on vertical features (like fences) tries not to put on posts to not provide roosts for raptors
 - The site has cameras in parking lot, most kayakers padlock their boats to the free storage frame structure

- Future key fob plan – trusted kayaker program, apply to 101 surf sports and they applicant will be mailed a key fob which will log them in and out
- Additionally, the harbor house is fully staffed, and can provide access to the low-float dock for the general public
- “No boat, no problem” the harbor plans to build club house with view over Greco Island
- Free wi-fi
- Safety is a top concern – the harbor conducts monthly electricity leakage checks and management

Public comments

None

Advisory Committee consensus guidance to Project Management Team on trailhead designation:

- Likes the site, fairly well-protected from elements
- Requests that staff review Heron/Egret use locations and add that information to the water trail sign
- Potential to install more secure boat storage – Phase II of 101 Surf Sports relationship with the harbor includes plans to install a boat house, which would provide locked storage for a small fee
- Well thought out, good plan, in a good location
- Moved for approving the site

Project Management Team was unanimous in its decision to approve conditional designation with the inclusion of the following conditions:

- BCDC will keep staff and PMT informed of any public access updates
- Water trail staff will address Advisory Committee signage considerations, and submit signs for review to SFBBO

San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Presentation – Matt Gerhart, State Coastal Conservancy, SF Bay Program Manager

Overview of Restoration Authority program, recent grant awards, and selection criteria for upcoming grant round – Presentation [linked here](#).

Background:

The Bay is home to over a quarter of the State’s population, there is almost the same length shoreline within San Francisco Bay as there is along the whole coast of California, the Bay is home to a third of the wealth of the state, and two thirds of the wetlands that remain in the State of CA are found within the SF Bay Estuary, Sea Level Rise rates expected to increase drastically later in the century, studies have shown that we need to restore marshes by 2030 in order for them to have a chance to withstand rising seas. A guiding document for wetland restoration in the bay is the [Bay Ecosystem Habitat Goals Project](#) which

emphasizes the need to restore complete ecosystems (subtidal – upland), and to recreate self-sustaining environmental systems, including ensuring that creeks and streams are allowed to flow and carry sediment to the wetlands they feed.

The SF Bay Restoration Authority is a local agency staffed by program staff from the State Coastal Conservancy's SF Bay Program and staff from ABAG/MTC's SF Estuary Partnership. The agency was developed to respond to wetlands/shoreline habitat loss in the Bay (85-90% of certain shoreline habitats have been lost in the bay). ~13,000 acres of baylands have been restored in SF Bay to date, current restoration projects are addressing another ~35,000 acres.

Missing piece – We are clear on the science and much of the methodology, we are missing the funding necessary to complete all projects. Measure AA passed in November 2016, raises tax revenue for wetland restoration (the measure required over 70% support from all voters, and was first EVER 9 county ballot measure). The measure requires a \$12/year parcel tax which will provide \$500 million over 20 years for wetland restoration projects. This money will not cover all costs and is expected to be used to leverage state and federal funds to get to the totals needed for restoration.

Funding can be provided for four program areas, and the program prioritizes projects which achieves multiple benefits

- Clean Water / Pollution prevention
- Habitat – species of concern, connectivity
- Natural Flood Protection
- Shoreline Public Access – public access projects HAVE to be tied to restoration or natural infrastructure projects.

The first round of approved projects can be found on the SFBRA website – sfbayrestore.org

Governance: SFBRA has a 7-member Authority Board made up of local elected officials. There is also a 34-member Advisory Committee made up of technical experts and community representatives, and an Oversight Committee to review agency expenditures.

AC/PMT/Public Questions:

Who is administering the program?

- SF Bay Restoration Authority - Independently appointed board – appointed by Chair of ABAG
- Advisory Committee
- Joint Powers Agreement SF Bay Conservancy Staff, and ABAG – SFEP
- ABAG responsible for all financial management
- SCC staffing the grant management

How many projects achieved the multi-benefit goals?

- Everything funded this past year had some mix of project types

- Authority planning to see what kinds of projects are applied for in the next few years, and then assess what might be missing – and if needed put out RFPs to fulfill specific program goals

Data for current sedimentation rates in the Bay?

- USGS long term data sets – SFEI working on site specific inputs – [SediMatch Tool](#)
- Various SF Bay conservation organizations and agencies are working on mobilizing beneficial sediment, shifting from taking dredged sediment to landfills to move sediment to restoration sites

Public feedback about first round of public?

- Good press coverage – KQED covered all 9 projects – those stories can be found [here](#)

Community engagement on new projects – design and planning projects can include outreach/public forums:

- Advisory Committee really focused on environmental justice in terms of community engagement and providing resources to support community-accessible meetings
- Measure AA funding can be used for all aspects of a restoration project including public and stakeholder engagement, outreach, technical studies, etc.

Getting to the estimated \$2 billion needed to implement all projected SF Bay Wetland restoration projects?

- Prop 68 passed in June 2018, is a state bond that has \$20 million specifically included to match AA fundable projects
- Prop 3 on ballot in November – Water Bond includes \$200 million dollars for the Restoration Authority
- EPA GAO report recommending in investing and study
- Shoreline Study (Alviso/San Jose) Federal Disaster Supplemental provided \$177 million federal dollars to fund entire project

How is money split between counties? – [SFBRA FAQs](#)

- 4 regions: North (Napa, Sonoma, Marin, Solano), East (Alameda, Contra Costa), West (SF, San Mateo), South (Santa Clara)
- ½ of the money spent equally per region
- ½ of the money spent per capita per region

Draft Water Trail Design Guidelines Discussion

General Outline:

- Consistent with all internal Water Trail guidance documents
- Introduction – Overview of the Water Trail program and intent of the guidelines
 - Accessibility Plan
 - Designation Process
 - Benefits of Designation

- Overview of types of crafts
- Design preferences
- DESIGN APPROCH including:
 - Site Selection
 - Current Uses
 - User Experience
 - Safety Experiences
 - Wildlife
 - Accessible Launch Design – focus on path of travel
 - Basic Facilities – launch types, restrooms, parking, staging areas, wash-downs, equipment storage, concessions/clubs
 - Overnight accommodations
 - Signage
- Launch Design Principles – types, existing locations, challenges/design considerations, examples of well-designed sites
 - Beach
 - Water Entry Paths
 - Ramps
 - High Free Board
 - Low Free Board
 - Low Freeboard dock attachments
- CASE STUDIES
 - Sensitive Habitat
 - Urban
 - Shoreline Park
 - Marinas
 - Program and Clubs
 - Mudflats
 - Sailboard/Windsurfing
 - Kiteboarding
- PROJECT COMPLETION
 - Public Outreach
 - Potential Funding Sources
 - Plans and Policies
 - Permitting Considerations
 - Additional Standards and Guidelines
- APPENDECIES
 - Project Design Checklist
 - Facility Costs

AC/PMT/Public Review and Suggestions:

- HIGHLIGHT incentives upfront in BIG PRINT
- Design Considerations - text should be emphasized (black text white background)
- INCLUDE STAKEHOLDR SLIDE
- SHORELINE AND BAY – PERMITTING CONSIDERATIONS

- ADD CDFW/DFW
- ADD Harbor Safety Committee
- Add BCDC to Tidal Marsh permitting
- **Create consideration matrix for different crafts** (a la launch design matrix) - EG for Kiteboarding – Physical considerations/opportunities vehicle access, wind, certain launch area
- Highlight operators and value of non-profits as well (co-op, programs, stewardship, etc)
- Outreach/design considerations to introduce communities to various water crafts – PROGRAMS
- Including planning for stewardship and maintenance in Project Completion section.
- BCDC looking at signage guidelines – multi-lingual signage considerations
- SECURITY considerations for site managers

Point Molate Community Visioning – City of Richmond – Lena Velasco, Planning Manager City of Richmond

Overview of site history and planning process

- Navy base closed in 1989 – including fill on site
- Currently undergoing cleanup from Navy contamination
- Settlement Agreement finalized in April 2018 – will approve at least 670 residential units, and at least 70% of the site persevered for open space
- Don't have to develop 30% but have to provide opportunities for development for up to 30%
- RESPONSES – 3 community meetings
 - Ecology and habitat restoration and preservation very important
 - Publicly accessible open space – opening hill areas up to hiking potentially camping, providing kayaking opportunities, other park facilities
 - Completion of the Bay Trail through the site
 - Equity considerations
 - Programs and uses – public events and public arts
 - **Inclusive dense housing to ensure shoreline is not privatized (not large single-family homes)**
 - Youth Summit w/Groundwork Richmond – kayaking tour
 - Experiencing shoreline erosion at existing beach park
 - Site tours for the public – having boat rental and food facilities along the bay trail to activate the space
- The City of Richmond's planning team is working to gather some level of community consensus to provide the City Council with a land use plan to in order request bids for development based on that plan. The area of point Molate in discussion is broken into 3 parts (the Point and Pier, Wine Haven area, Uphill area), each with their own potential benefits and constraints.
- Recreating and Conservation opportunities – educational opportunities

- Providing opportunities for local employment, co-business spaces for local artists/entrepreneurs
- Future housing helps to achieve climate action goals – multi income, multi-generational, green streets
- Expand community-gathering spaces – provide opportunities for small boat access/kayaking access
- Maintained view corridors of the shoreline
- Preserve historic district - Chinese Shrimp Camp, Wine Haven, Navy Cabins, - provide interpretive information
- Interpretive Centers and visitor centers
- Sports fields, biking track
- Avoiding shoreline drives – keeping road in current place – not pushing road closer to the Bay – keeping shoreline a public space

Over next month project will shift from a visioning project to an RFD for a master developer to propose full design. - **Public can provide comment through the website -**

RichmondPointMolate.org

City agreed to discretionary approvals by April 2020 – entitlement to various entities will happen quickly.

Advisory Committee and public questions and discussion

- Kayak access at the pier would improve access to the Bay (mud, no beach at high tide)
- Similar to Presidio Trust project – recommend having conversations with Presidio, City of Richmond intends to sell most of the site, do not have the same funds available as to the Presidio, need to establish land trust partnership?
- What other services will be in the area – general plan polices – new communities should be complete communities – grocery stores, goal to provide improved access (include sidewalks and bike lanes on Stenmark), should have a TMA (circular shuttle), also using the Bay Trail as a corridor
- Negotiating maintenance with Master Developer – potential to partner with EBRPD, land trust, special use district
- No existing sewage infrastructure – Navy took all the infrastructure with them
- Exciting to see Bay and Water Trails included in the project
- Richmond – cultural historic water trail – include visitor centers and interpretive information along the shoreline
- Assess different uses to determine number of launch types needed
- Link kayaking to Winehaven commercial area

No general public comments.