

**Approved Meeting Minutes**  
**PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
June 26, 2017

ATTENDING: Best, Bueren, Kern, Gregory, Ho, Rickard, Sanwong, Skaredoff, Trotter, Madsen, Robinson, Volin

NOT ATTENDING: Mercurio, Thompson, Palacios, Godfrey, Wilkins, Yee

STAFF ATTENDING: Auker, Baldinger, Balingit, Bondurant, Johnson, O'Connor, Strawson-O'Hara, Pfuehler, Love, Mason, Rasmussen, Ciaburro

GUESTS: Board Member Ayn Wieskamp

PUBLIC: Kelly Abreu, Kathy Roth, Marla Schmale, Emily Rosenberg, Kiko Malin, Debbie Foster, Al Eisenberg

The meeting began at 7:03 p.m.

1. **Approval of the May 22, 2017 Minutes:** The May 22, 2017 minutes were approved. The motion to approve was moved by PAC member Skaredoff. PAC member Rickard seconded approval of the minutes. PAC Chair Kern abstained due to being absent.
2. **Introductions:** Kern asked PAC members, staff and the public to introduce themselves.
3. **Board Member Comments:**

Director Wieskamp shared an update about Ward 5 projects in progress. Wieskamp reported the District is working with Dumbarton Quarry & Associates to develop the Dumbarton Campground at Coyote Hills. Construction has resumed since the heavy rains stopped. It is anticipated the campground will open in the fall of 2018.

Wieskamp reported in early October the first new cabins will open at Del Valle. Wieskamp noted most trails are now open in Del Valle after the flood damage closed a number of them. Wieskamp stated Pleasanton Ridge has several projects in progress; one is new access located through the Castle Ridge property by the City's Alviso Adobe. The District is working with the City of Pleasanton and good progress is being made. The anticipated date for project completion and opening of the trail is fall of 2017. This new trail will lead to the ridge where park users can enjoy the splendid view.

Wieskamp stated a special barbecue was held for staff at Del Valle in appreciation of their hard work to restore the park after the floods caused by the winter storms. Wieskamp expressed her appreciation to the Park Advisory Committee members for their dedication.
4. **Foundation Update:** Erich Pfuehler, Government Affairs Manager provided an update on behalf of Juliana Schirmer, Foundation Development Director about Foundation activities. Pfuehler reported on July 8, there will be a fundraiser, *What's Brewing in the Parks*. It will be held at Tilden near the Little Farm.

The Foundation will host an event with Senator Bob Wieckowski (D-Fremont) on July 25, 10:00 am at REI to honor his work on climate change and on behalf of the Park District. Pfuehler reported Director Wieskamp has begun conversations with Page Mill Winery in Livermore to host a Foundation event.

Carol Johnson, AGM of Public Affairs announced there are two new board members for the Foundation. One is a senior vice president with the GAP and the other is from Chevron.

**5. Public Comments:**

Marla Schmale stated she was moved by the sentiment expressed at the last PAC meeting about the parks being for everyone. She commented education in the parks is important, and an ideal place to build community. Kelly Abreu discussed Ohlone College charging parking fees on Sunday.

**6. Presentations:**

Chair Kern changed the order of the presentations and moved *Planning for Dogs in the Park* as the first presentation.

**(I) c. Planning for Dogs in the Parks – Julie Bondurant, Acting Chief of Planning**

Julie Bondurant, Acting Chief of Planning presented a PowerPoint about planning for dogs in the Parks. Bondurant discussed factors taken into consideration when making a determination about when and how to accommodate dogs in District Parklands. She outlined the Master Plan policy on dogs stating where possible and appropriate, the District will consider providing multiple-use facilities to serve recreational needs.

Bondurant discussed Ordinance 38 and dogs, and cited case studies as examples. Bondurant discussed factors considered to establish dog use. Some specific rules apply, for example dogs must be leashed on the Bay Trail, in developed picnic areas, within 200 feet of any developed area or within 200 feet of any parking lot, trailhead or staging area. Dogs are also prohibited in the wetlands, marshes, designated nature study areas, and in wildlife protection areas, swimming pools, golf courses and where a conservation easement management plan or permit specifically prohibits them. In addition, the Board of Directors may designate specific parks or areas of parks where dogs aren't allowed. The General Manager also has the authority to temporarily suspend or modify provisions for public health or safety reasons.

Bondurant outlined the project in progress at Oyster Bay. A future 25- acre dog play area will be created. Factors considered for establishing future dog use for the park include dogs must be leashed: At the staging area off Davis Street, on the existing Bay Trail, in the developed picnic area, in the bicycle skills area, and within 200 feet of any developed area or within 200 feet of any parking lot, trailhead or staging area. Because of community input the dog area has increased from 10 acres to 25 acres.

PAC member Gregory asked the approximate acreage of Point Isabel compared to Oyster Bay. Bondurant replied it is smaller. Skaredoff asked to see where on the map the disc golf area at Oyster Bay is located. Bondurant showed him the area, and explained it is adjacent to the dog play area. Design features being considered are fencing and/or vegetation to assist with keeping dogs within the area.

**Recommendation:** None. This was an informational item.

**(R) a. CAFR – Debra Auker, AGM/CFO Finance and Management Services**

PAC member Best introduced Debra Auker, AGM/ CFO Finance and Management Services. Auker explained an independent firm audits the District annually. Auker reported the District is in sound financial condition. The District's total net position is \$754.2 million, an increase of \$ 19.4 million from 2016. The complete reconciliation of the 2016 fiscal year, as recorded in detail in the draft CAFR, demonstrates the continuing effectiveness of the District's conservative financial approach, as well as the strong support of the Board of Directors toward financial transparency and long-term planning. The CAFR records the continuing commitment of public funds to providing services through expenditures on land acquisition, development projects, staff wages and benefits, debt service on bonds, and all required and recommended governmental activities necessary to operate the District. These year-end financial results will be used as the basis for making recommendations to the Board of Directors for future budgets.

This is the first year a pollution remediation liability has been recorded. In 2016, it was known the Board was interested in closing the Anthony Chabot Marksmanship Range. The gun club closed their doors in September 5, 2016. There is a preliminary report by a consultant that outlines the costs for remediation. A 4-5 million liability for remediation of the Chabot Gun Club was recorded, but it could increase based on the type of remediation.

**Recommendation:** By motion of PAC Member Best, and seconded by PAC Member Bueren, the Park Advisory Committee voted to approve the acceptance of the 2016 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report to the Board of Directors.

**(R) b. Measure CC Spending Plan and Budget – Jeff Rasmussen, Assistant Finance Officer**

Auker introduced Jeff Rasmussen, Assistant Finance Officer. Rasmussen provided a PowerPoint update about the Measure CC 2018 spending plan. Rasmussen reported Measure CC is a \$12 per year parcel tax that funds critical upgrades at the East Bay Regional Park District's oldest and busiest parks. Passed by a 67.6% majority in 2004, Measure CC funds are invested in 20 parks in western Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. The measure raises about \$3 million annually for important park improvements in nine communities including: Richmond, Oakland, Berkeley, Albany, Emeryville, San Pablo, El Cerrito, Alameda and Piedmont. Measure CC sunsets in 2020.

Rasmussen reported Measure CC funded projects include trail improvements, fire hazard reduction, shoreline restoration and infrastructure repairs. Approximately \$25 million has been spent to date on 46 projects and staffing within the CC zone.

Rasmussen explained Measure CC encompasses 20 regional parks. The total project count is 83. Rasmussen listed a few notable projects and explained 33 projects are still in progress. Staffing has been funded by Measure CC. Over \$10.2 million from Measure CC has been dedicated toward fuels management projects. 10% of Measure CC was set aside by the Board as contingency.

Rasmussen discussed projects being considered for “modification” which could allow funding to be redistributed to other projects.

Rickard asked for clarification regarding the project on Brooks Island. Rasmussen replied the money allotted is not enough to enhance the Caspian Tern nesting area. Rasmussen suggested the money may be allocated instead to the Tilden Nature Area.

PAC member Volin asked how essential it is for the projects to be completed by 2020. Auker replied it is not essential for the projects to be completed by 2020, it is just when the revenue stops.

**Recommendation:** By motion of PAC member Volin, and seconded by PAC member Best, the Park Advisory Committee voted to approve the acceptance of the Measure CC spending plan and budget; including the annual operating and project expenditures of \$2,153,815 and the \$1,090,055 in reserve funds to remain unallocated for future high priority opportunities as determined by the Board of Directors.

**(I) c. Measure CC Public Education Plan – Carol Johnson, AGM Public Affairs**

Carol Johnson, AGM of Public Affairs presented a PowerPoint about the Measure CC public education plan. Johnson outlined the schedule for Measure CC renewal. Public Affairs will share existing Measure CC project successes using existing communication tools. They will develop a renewal communication plan and master calendar. Polling and surveys will also be conducted. Park signage is very important and there is currently park signage designating Measure CC projects.

Johnson explained Public Affairs will work on a community outreach plan, engage the PAC, engage Multi-Cultural Committee and establish a key stakeholder advisory group. Public Affairs will work on internal communications by selecting and training key management staff to present at community meetings. Johnson explained the District will host three community meetings where the public can provide their input about what projects they’d like the District to consider for the renewal.

Johnson commented there is a whole section on the District website focusing on Measure CC. Information can also be found in the RIN, e-news and the Leaf.

Johnson reported three board members, Directors Dotson, Corbett and Rosario represent the parks within the Measure CC zone, and will play a very significant role in the renewal efforts. They will be involved with the legal department to draft the ballot language and, most importantly, adopting the project list along with the rest of the Board.

Johnson touched on the master calendar and the milestones to be met throughout 2017. Johnson asked the PAC members to help by providing intelligence about relevant community issues, communicating about CC projects, participating in speakers’ bureau and to staff District informational tables at community events.

PAC member Trotter suggested the District provide outreach to city councils and the Contra Costa Mayors’ Conference. Gregory asked about current support. Pfuehler replied polling suggests support is close to that of ten years ago. Volin suggested it would be more effective to use the

wording 'Fire Safety' instead of 'Fuels Management' on Measure CC materials. Wieskamp stated the projects need to appeal to the public — like the Tilden Carousel.

**Recommendation:** None. This was an informational item.

### **Public Comments**

Marla Schmale commented education is important. Kathy Roth stated she would like the Park District to conduct a professionally produced survey without leading questions. Questions should be more open ended. Kiko Malin remarked she would like more off leash dog areas like Redwood Regional Park.

### **7. PAC Member Comments**

Bueren reported Contra Costa County held two celebrations for projects completed. On June 12, a dedication was held for a separate pedestrian path, tree planting and informational panel on the Iron Horse trail at the Hookston Station area. On June 16 in Alamo, there was a dedication of the completed bocce ball courts at Livorna Park. Director Beverly Lane was in attendance. On June 27, there will be a dedication for the completion of the Orwood Road Bridge.

PAC member Ho thanked the District for providing a naturalist to join Urban Tilth on their waterways bike trip from Richmond to the Dotson Marsh.

On June 14, PAC member Robinson attended a Land Use Planning meeting for Black Diamond Mines in Antioch. She was pleased to report there are some great additions planned for the park; including the proposed Clayton Ranch Recreation/Staging Unit that will provide vehicle access to the southern edge of the preserve at Marsh Creek Road.

PAC member Sanwong stated the Pleasanton Weekly awarded the District "Best Treasure of Pleasanton" in its Annual Reader's Choice awards.

- 8. Report from Chair** – Kern thanked Rickard for setting up a meeting with ODOG. Kern commented he would like to schedule more meetings with group leaders to discuss dog policies. Tentatively on July 12, 13 and 14 Lieutenant Alan Love and Kern will hold listening sessions with the professional dog walker community.

Kern reported he went to the Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail with Jim O'Connor, AGM of Operations to see the extensive trail damage adjacent to the Moraga County Club and Canyon Road bridge that has cut off the commuting trail which is a critical transportation link.

- 9. Board Committee Reports** – None.

- 10. Status of Recommendations** – None.

- 11. Old Business** – None.

- 12. New Business** – Kern reported the Annual PAC barbeque will be held on July 24 at Redwood Canyon Golf Course.

**13. Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Summary of Actions:

1. The PAC approved the June 24, 2017 minutes.
2. The PAC approved a motion to recommend to the Board of Directors the adoption of the draft CAFR.
3. The PAC voted to forward a recommendation to the Board to adopt the 2017 Measure CC Expenditure Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Clay  
Confidential Secretary