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## San Francisco Bay Trail at Carquinez Strait

## COMING SOON:

Another Green Transportation Connection in the Regional Trail System







**Above:** Views of the severely eroded and hazardous Carquinez Scenic Drive.

**n June 2013,** the Park District began a project to construct the 1.7-mile Martinez Intermodal to Crockett segment of the San Francisco Bay Trail along Carquinez Scenic Drive.

Once repaired from extensive erosion along the road, the Bay Trail segment of the Carquinez Scenic Drive will once again become a vital and vibrant community resource:

- A publicly accessible trail connection linking the communities of Martinez, Port Costa and Crockett for bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian users, offering vistas of the Bay and Carquinez Strait.
- A way to access parkland in the Martinez/Briones and Crockett/Rodeo areas.
- An enhanced, safe route for the approximately 2,400 county residents who commute to work by bicycle, and an incentive for others to join them.
- A way for commuters to safely access the Martinez intermodal Center from Crockett.
- An alternative emergency vehicle and evacuation route for the three communities along the shoreline.

Construction will include stabilization of embankments and cut slopes with retaining walls and debris walls; installation of new and repair of existing drainage systems; and rehabilitation and the conversion of the old roadway to a multi-use, Class I bicycle/pedestrian trail. While this county roadway has officially been closed to the public due to its ongoing slides and erosion challenges, walkers and bikers have continued to use it at their own risk. However, during the nearly two-year construction project, the site will remain closed and fenced off to all public access, including pedestrians, for safety.

During a planned seasonal suspension of construction work between October 2013 and April 2014, the area will remain closed to public use. This is a condition of the Fish and Wildlife Service permit. Work will continue in dry seasons, and the project is expected to be complete and the trail reopened in fall 2014.

Carquinez Shoreline Drive was a county road that was closed in the 1980s, when landslides made it impassable to automobiles. In the early 2000s the Park District entered into negotiations with Contra Costa County to convert the road back to a trail. A trail easement was acquired from Contra Costa County in December 2012.

**Funding:** Project funding for the estimated \$5.5 million project includes federal funds from the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER II) grant and SAFETEA-LU, State Coastal Conservancy, Contra Costa Transportation Authority Measure J and the Park District's Measure WW Development funds.



**Project Overview:** When complete, the San Francisco Bay Trail will be a continuous 500-mile recreational corridor that will encircle the entire Bay Area, connecting communities to each other and to the Bay. It will link the shorelines of all nine counties in the Bay Area and 47 of its cities. As of May 2013, 310 miles of the Bay Trail have been completed, a lot of it through the East Bay Regional Parks.

**Information/Questions:** If you have questions about this project, please refer to the District's website www.ebparks.org, contact Resident Engineer Mike Berger, P.E. at 925-756-2381, or Trails Development Program Manager Jim Townsend, 510-544-2602.

