

# THE EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

## Celebrating Nearly 75 Years of Dedicated Service

The East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) was founded in 1934, during the depths of the Great Depression, by active citizens concerned about protecting regional open space. For nearly 75 years EBRPD has been a major component of the East Bay's "quality of life" index, expanding, even during lean times, to meet the needs of East Bay residents. Today EBRPD is the largest regional park agency in the United States. It has preserved over 98,000 acres of open space in 65 regional parks serving over 2.4 million residents in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.

But, in 1988, with increasing urbanization in the East Bay and skyrocketing land prices, EBRPD struggled to keep pace with the growing population. To address the need to continue to preserve open space and create new regional parks for the public, EBRPD's Board of Directors asked the voters in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties to help. By a 2/3 vote, Measure AA, a \$225 million bond measure, was approved by voters that year. Over the last 20 years, Measure AA has made possible the preservation of 34,000 acres of some of the most beautiful and pristine East Bay land, creeks, and shoreline, and has added over 100 miles of trails.

It has also benefited community park and recreation facilities by providing \$60 million of this funding to local city park projects, meeting important local needs.

While much has been accomplished with the 1988 bond measure, there is still much to do. Measure AA funds have largely been expended and the last remaining funds have been fully allocated to complete promised projects. The population of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties continues to grow, and the Park District needs to preserve vanishing open space and shoreline to keep pace with the recreational needs of East Bay residents. To help address the need, the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District has placed Measure WW on the November 2008 ballot. Measure WW is an extension of Measure AA and would help EBRPD meet the increasing demand to preserve open space for recreation and wildlife habitat. And it would also provide funding directly to cities and special park districts for high priority community park projects. Because Measure WW is an extension, it would not raise the current tax rate.

East Bay   
Regional Park District

### Quick Facts

## MEASURE WW BOND EXTENSION

#### Amount:

- \$500 million bond extension must be approved by two-thirds of voters in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.

#### Cost:

- **This extension will not increase the tax rate above the present maximum rate of \$10 per year per \$100,000 of assessed valuation** (i.e., a home assessed at \$400,000 will pay \$40 per year).

#### Use of Funds:

- \$375 million (75%) of revenue will fund Regional Park acquisition and capital projects, with \$26.2 million (7%) of that amount held in reserve for unanticipated future needs and opportunities.
- \$125 million (25%) of proceeds will go to cities, special park and recreation districts, county service areas, and the Oakland Zoo for much-needed local park and recreation projects.

#### Accountability:

- The Park Advisory Committee will provide citizen oversight to monitor all bond expenditures.

Photo: Larry Tong



Eastshore State Park, Albany