

AGENDA  
REGULAR MEETINGS  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, September 5, 2017

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

6. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Board Legislative Committee (6.16.17) (Corbett)

Present

Board: Ellen Corbett, Dennis Waespi, Beverly Lane

Staff: Robert Doyle, Ana Alvarez, Erich Pfuehler, Xiaoning Huang, Rachel Sater, Mimi Waluch, Debra Auken, Bob Nisbet

Consultants: none

Public: Rick Rickard

This meeting was called to order at 12:37 pm.

I. STATE LEGISLATION / ISSUES

A. NEW LEGISLATION

**I. AJR 15 (Aguiar-Curry D-Winters) – Protecting California’s National Monuments**

Government Affairs Manager Erich Pfuehler shared this state resolution supports National Monuments designated in California. As the President has issued an Executive Order to review all National Monuments, this resolution expresses the sense of the legislature that National Monuments in California are to remain protected. The resolution was submitted on the anniversary of the Antiquities Act, stating that California is opposed to rescinding National Monument designation.

The Board Legislative Committee voted unanimously to SUPPORT.

B. ISSUES

**I. Park Bond Update**

General Manager Robert E. Doyle announced SB 5 and AB 18 are being discussed among the legislative leadership. The process to reconcile the bills is moving forward. It is likely SB 5 will be the vehicle and the Park District will advocate for parts of AB 18 to be integrated. In SB 5, per capita and State Park funding has increased. Stakeholder groups have begun meeting regarding a citizen initiative. Assembly Member Eduardo Garcia, author of AB 18, has been present for two of these meetings. The citizen initiative could put pressure on the Governor and could be as high as \$7 billion. Assembly Member Garcia supports increasing per capita funding in the initiative process, if that’s the direction the park bond takes. Park District staff met with Mike Mantell, Joe Caves and others who represent and support the initiative. The initiative supporters cited polling which led them to the conclusion “water”

needs to be emphasized. The Park District will continue to push for more park funding. Other park agencies have not been at the initiative table. Doyle noted there is still an unspent \$3 billion water bond, which raises the question about whether it is the polling or funders pushing the water issue. Pfuehler added the Sacramento meetings also made it clear some of the funders understand the need for urban and disadvantaged communities to receive funding. Pfuehler shared an extension of cap-and-trade was not included in the budget. The Governor has floated the idea of an initiative to extend cap-and-trade. This may be an opportunity to blend some park bond elements into an extension. All measures have \$800 million proposed for underserved / park poor communities. These are defined as high density, low income, park poor areas. The way the formula is applied the Bay Area does not compete well. President Beverly Lane commented at Assembly Member Catharine Baker's Environmental Committee this morning, the State Park Bond was discussed. She shared Deb Callahan, Bay Area Open Space Council (BAOSC) Executive Director, noted her priorities for the bond are per capita and the San Francisco Bay Program of the Coastal Conservancy. Assembly Member Baker spoke about the need to fund agencies which manage state parks, such as the Park District. She also added the Bay Area Caucus discussion focused mainly on Regional Measure 3 and cap-and-trade, and not the park bond. Deb Callahan requested the park bond be added to the next caucus meeting agenda. Director Ellen Corbett asked when the Sacramento meetings took place. Pfuehler responded last Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Corbett asked if the bills are in conference. Doyle shared Advocate Doug Houston informed him the Speaker and Pro Tempore met and agreed on a path forward to reconcile the two bonds. Corbett asked if the Park District should present to the Bay Area Caucus. Doyle responded in affirmation and shared he recently met with Phil Ting to make such a request. Corbett asked if San Francisco is impacted similar to the East Bay with regard to park poor communities. Doyle stated San Francisco probably does a little better.

## **2. Other Issues**

President Lane shared Deb Callahan, BAOSC, sent a letter with regard to Regional Measure 3 to the Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA). She asked if the Park District has seen this letter. Pfuehler has only seen a bike stakeholder letter, but will request to see BAOSC's. Doyle said BATA has requested District input directly. At this time, Senator Nancy Skinner and Assembly Member Rob Bonta are advocating for an East Bay focused expenditure plan based off toll statistics. Regional Measure 2 was a blend of projects from legislators and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC).

## **II. FEDERAL LEGISLATION / ISSUES**

### **A. NEW LEGISLATION – N/A**

### **B. ISSUES**

#### **I. Other Issues**

Pfuehler reported the President has proposed cutting the National Park Service budget by 11%. This includes an 85% cut in land acquisition and the laying off of 1,242 employees. Infrastructure conversations last week were focused less on money and more on permitting. It was noted Representative Barbra Lee is on the subcommittee for military appropriations and is interested in an Alameda park for veterans.

## **III. MEASURE CC UPDATE**

Doyle shared Board Members recently met for an update about Measure CC. Pfuehler provided a presentation about Measure CC's history and current status. Corbett asked about the process for modifying a Measure CC project, if deemed infeasible. Assistant General Manager / CFO, Finance and Management Services Debra Auker shared annually the Measure CC expenditure plan goes to the Finance Committee and Park Advisory Committee (PAC). Over the last two to three years modifications to project descriptions have been discussed and approved. Pfuehler shared for extension of Measure CC there is interest in creating a Project Advisory Working Group which could consist of

twelve Stakeholders. These stakeholders would provide insight from an external perspective about potential projects and commitments to be included in the extension.

#### IV. RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE PARIS CLIMATE ACCORD

Pfuehler spoke about the draft resolution. The District's vision includes an environmental ethic and the 2013 Master Plan integrates plans for a changing climate. In the last year, under Deputy General Manager Dr. Ana M. Alvarez, the Park District has adopted a policy framework for looking at resiliency, green infrastructure benefits and climate in all policies. As a national leader, the District has had opportunities to present these efforts across the country. A study last year to assess carbon sequestration, found District lands sequester over 300,000 tonnes of CO2 annually. The Shadow Cliffs solar array makes the District net neutral for energy. A number of climate mitigation projects are in the pipeline. There are future plans for a fuel efficient fleet and water reduction across the District. Corbett expressed wholehearted appreciation for this action and asked for sea level rise to be added to the resolution. She also requested the District pursue press opportunities once the resolution is adopted.

The Board Legislative Committee voted unanimously to SUPPORT.

#### V. ARTICLES

#### VI. OPEN FORUM PUBLIC COMMENT

#### VII. BOARD COMMENTS

Director Dennis Waespi shared he attended an interesting meeting with Assembly Member Catharine Baker this morning.

President Lane noted her attendance at Assembly Member Catharine Baker's Walk and Talk in Walnut Creek, in cooperation with Save Mt. Diablo.

Director Corbett attended a Mayors Conference on Wednesday evening at which she spoke to many mayors about the importance of Measure CC and its renewal.

This meeting adjourned at 3:53 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lisa Baldinger  
Legislative Assistant

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