

Approved Meeting Minutes
PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE
November 27, 2017

ATTENDING: Best, Brubaker, Bueren, Kern, Ho, Mercurio, Rickard, Sanwong, Skaredoff, Trotter, Palacios, Robinson Thompson, Tsutsui, Volin, Yee

NOT ATTENDING: Gregory, Godfrey, Madsen, Wilkins

STAFF ATTENDING: O'Connor, Pfuehler, Koh, Lavallo, Thai, Rasmussen, Auken, Bondurant, Love, Margulici, Padmore

GUESTS: Board Member Colin Coffey

PUBLIC: Cathy Brown, Emily Rosenberg, Bill Carmen, Kelly Abreu, William Yragui

The meeting began at 7:02 p.m.

1. **Approval of the October 23, 2017 Minutes:** The October 23, 2017 minutes were approved. The motion to approve was moved by PAC member Brubaker. PAC member Volin seconded approval of the minutes. PAC members Robinson, Best and Bueren abstained due to being absent from the October meeting.
2. **Introductions:** PAC Chair Kern asked PAC members, staff and the public to introduce themselves.
3. **Board Member Comments:**
Director Coffey stated he was glad to be back before the Park Advisory Committee. Director Coffey commented he sat on the PAC for thirteen years serving under Director Radke's appointment for eight years, and for five years he was appointed by the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors.

Director Coffey spoke about his transition from the PAC to the Board the Directors. He commented that what stands out the most is the depth, scope, resources and workforce contained within the District. The Park District is a large municipal enterprise. Coffey explained he has gained an appreciation about how a \$200 million per year agency is managed. Coffey mentioned the genius the founders had in creating an independent agency with its own tax base, dedicated to park, recreation and open space preservation. Coffey remarked about how the Park District has grown to become the largest local government in the country devoted to parks and recreation.

Coffey discussed the importance of the Park District's Advanced Planning Department. Coffey described how staff checks to see if proposed projects by cities, counties and special districts will impact the District's trails, parklands, or how it could enhance District parklands through mitigation measures, or easements. The District also watches and tracks all the submissions to state and federal agencies that may involve discretionary approvals in which the District would be impacted.

4. **Foundation Update:** Erich Pfuehler, Government Affairs Manager reported about ways to donate to the Foundation through gift memberships, One-In-A-Million Sustainers, Send a Kid to Camp, Legacy Giving and Vehicle Donations. Pfuehler stated the Foundation is supporting the Park Bond and Measure CC Extension.
5. **Public Comments:** William Yragui from Mission Peak Conservancy discussed issues at Mission Peak. Kelly Abreu from Mission Peak Conservancy discussed issues at Mission Peak.
6. **Presentations:**
 - (I) a. **Measure WW Update – Debra Auker, Assistant General Manager/CFO of Finance and Management Services; Tiffany Margulici, Grants Manager**
Debra Auker, Assistant General Manager/CFO of Finance and Management Services provided an update about Measure WW.

Auker explained in 2008, the voters approved \$500-million-dollar authorization for capital bonds for the Park District. Of the \$500 million, 25% was allocated to local grant programs for local agencies throughout the two counties, and 75% to the District’s capital program. To date, \$80 million of bonds were issued in 2009, and another \$80 million in 2013. Measure WW seeks to balance the proceeds among three metro areas—South, West and Diablo metros. These metros cover the majority of the two counties, except Murray Township (Livermore).

Auker introduced Tiffany Margulici, Grants Manager. Margulici explained the District is in its ninth year of the Measure WW Local Grant Program. The program is set to expire on December 31, 2018. Staff has received numerous extension requests from local agencies. Staff suggests authorizing a three-year extension through December 31, 2021. Staff will bring a formal request to the Board at next year’s annual WW update in May 2018.

Through the end of the 2016 year, 264 projects valued at \$113.3 million or 90% of the total \$125 million program (including the District’s administrative fee) have been approved and are being undertaken by local agencies.

Of the 264 approved projects, 144 have been completed. The application, review and reimbursement process has proceeded smoothly. Approximately \$80 million has been reimbursed to local agencies during the first seven years of the program.

The District has issued \$164.4 million in Measure WW bonds to date. At this time, Measure WW appropriations, including Local Grant projects, total over \$208.7 million.

PAC member Trotter inquired if there are any cities in Contra Costa County that haven’t used their allocation yet. Auker directed Trotter to an exhibit in the packet that shows the allocations to the cities, their projects and the funds spent to date.

PAC member Tsutsui asked where the funds go from the Local Grant Program if a city doesn’t spend their allocation or request and extension. Margulici replied staff will recommend the entire program be extended to give the agencies more time to complete their projects. Auker stated it is the District’s goal to make sure all the different agencies have the opportunity to utilize their

funding. If it did get to a point where an agency said they didn't have way to spend it, then the Board would have to find a way to reallocate it within the guidelines of the bond.

Recommendation: None. This was an informational item.

(I) b. Southern Las Trampas LUPA- Julie Bondurant, Principal Planner, Neoma Lavalle, Planner, Kim Thai, Planner

Neoma Lavalle, Planner and Kim Thai, Planner presented this item. Lavalle explained this LUPA was conceived as a joint project between the two different planning departments; Advanced Planning and Current Planning. Lavalle stated Advanced Planning looks outside park boundaries, monitors what is happening in other agencies, how actions affect the Park District, and helps with the land acquisition process. Current PI

anning has traditionally been focused on properties the District owns and planning parks within existing boundaries. Lavalle provided an overview about the Southern Las Trampas LUPA. The primary purpose of the proposed project is to update the 1993 Land Use Plan (LUP) to accommodate new access points and trails on approximately 760 acres of new land acquisition in the southern portion of Las Trampas Wilderness Regional Preserve (Las Trampas) since the adoption of the 1993 LUP.

Las Trampas offers over 4,000 acres of open parkland, but 1,500 acres are still in land banked status and not open to the public. There are 40 miles of open trails and 11 access points that mainly serve the northern area of Danville and Alamo. At the end of the LUPA, 760 acres will be opened to the public. Of that 760 acres, 170 acres will be under conservation easement and have restrictions applied to them. There will also be 6.3 miles of public trail connections, and five additional access points. One staging area has already been opened.

Thai provided information and history about the five parcels to be added to Las Trampas, including three the District currently owns – Peter's Ranch, Chen and Elworthy.

Thai stated the Elworthy parcel is currently open to the public. Park visitors can access the Elworthy parcel from a 0.5-mile trail connector through a 182-acre Elworthy private property scenic easement. A 12-car staging area on the Elworthy scenic easement was constructed by the developer prior to District acceptance of the parcel. It was opened to the public in 2015. The Peter's Ranch and Chen parcels are currently land banked and are not open to the public.

Two additional parcels, Podva and Faria, will be dedicated to the District as mitigation for residential development projects. Thirty acres of the 96-acre Podva parcel will be under a conservation easement. Prior to District acceptance of the Podva parcel, the developer will construct a trailhead with on-street parking on one side of the street reserved for park visitors.

Lavalle reported the entire 144-acre Faria dedication will be under a conservation easement, with the exception of a trail connector to the Calaveras Ridge Trail, a trail loop on the

western portion and carve-outs for two six car trailhead parking areas. The long-term management plans associated with the conservation easements placed on these properties will be incorporated and referenced in the LUPA.

PAC member Mercurio asked when public access will be available. Lavalle replied some public access will be fairly soon, the trail on the Podva property will already be built when the property is dedicated to the District in mid-2018 and will be open immediately. The Elworthy parcel was opened to the public in 2015.

Brubaker asked what 'land banked' means. Thai explained it is land owned by the Park District, but not open to the public yet. Park staff maintain land banked property.

PAC member Skaredoff congratulated staff on their work.

Kern asked if there are plans to accommodate equestrians at the new staging areas. Lavalle replied the new staging areas aren't large enough.

Recommendation: None. This was an informational item.

7. PAC Member Comments

Trotter commented about the bike connection associated with the future Highway 4/Highway 680 interchange improvements. Trotter reported he brought it up at the CCTA Administration and Projects Committee meeting. At Trotter's request, they are developing a map of potential alternatives and options for access to the area. Trotter will report back to the PAC membership when the maps are complete.

PAC member Yee reported the Niles Canyon Roll and Stroll was well attended. The event was fun and went smooth.

PAC member Rickard attended a wrap-up meeting for the Roll and Stroll. There were an estimated 10,000 - 15,000 attendees. It was decided the Roll and Stroll will be held every other year in the month of October.

Brubaker reported the Park District's Mobile Fish Exhibit was at the North Richmond Shoreline Festival. It was a hit with the attendees.

8. Report from Chair – Kern passed out the draft PAC Goals and Objectives for 2018 and asked the members to review and provide comments to Pfuehler.

Kern explained the draft dog policy document should be ready in the next couple of weeks.

Kern reported Mercurio will chair the PAC Officer Nominating Committee. PAC members Volin and Palacios will participate on this committee.

9. Board Committee Reports – None.

10. Status of Recommendations – All recommendations have been approved and adopted by the Board of Directors.

11. Old Business – None.

12. New Business – Pfuehler announced public meetings for Measure CC will be held on October 26, November 4 and November 8. The Measure CC zone is Richmond to the San Leandro/Oakland boarder and west of the Oakland Hills.

13. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Summary of Actions:

- I. The PAC approved the October 23, 2017 minutes.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Clay
Confidential Secretary