George Miller – A Trailblazer for Conservation

First elected in 1974, Congressman George Miller has been the lead author in many federal conservation and environmental laws and helped to expand, protect and provide public access to regional parks and trails in Contra Costa County, the state and nation. Congressman Miller has been a champion for federal funding and legislation to support the Park District’s mission to protect open spaces. He has also been a visionary and author of major laws to improve education and health policy.

In October 2010, the Park District, with the leadership of Congressman Miller, secured a $10.2 million award from the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER II) grant program – the largest grant ever received by the Park District. The TIGER II grant was used for six trail improvement projects to close critical gaps in the nearly 200-mile paved regional trail system, including this Martinez Intermodal to Crockett segment of trail that has been named in Congressman Miller’s honor.

Congressman Miller has been instrumental in supporting the East Bay Regional Park District in the following ways:

- Securing an additional amount of $900,000 for this section of the San Francisco Bay Trail in the 2005 Federal Transportation Bill
- Authoring legislation that established the Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial and advocated for the National Park Service and Park District to jointly establish a visitor center within the future Concord Hills Regional Park
- Securing a $1.5 million grant in 2012 from the US Environmental Protection Agency for the Breuner Marsh Restoration Project in Richmond
- Securing two grants for the Point Pinole Regional Shoreline Atlas Road Bridge project in Richmond
- Strongly supporting environmental education efforts at the national level and supporting the Park District’s Community Transformation Grant proposal to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

“George has been a steadfast supporter for parks and trails his entire career.”

– Director Ted Radke, EBRPD