

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF BOARD MEMBERS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

September 7, 2010

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

7. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Alameda County/EBRPD Liaison Committee (07/8/10) (Siden)

Attendees:

Contra Costa County:

Supervisors: Gail Steele

Staff:

Hank Ackerman, Flood Control Manager, Public Works Agency;
Rory MacNeil, Real Estate Division Chief, Public Works Agency;
Liz McElligott, Assistant Planning Director, Community
Development Agency; Louie Martinez, Administrative Analyst,
County Administrators Office

East Bay Regional
Park District

Board members: Doug Siden, Ayn Wieskamp, Carol Severin, John Sutter

Staff:

Rosemary Cameron, AGM, Public Affairs; Brad Olson,
Environmental Program Manager, Land Division; Nancy
Wenninger, Land Acquisition Manager, Land Division; Sue Rogers,
Confidential Secretary, General Manager's Office

Guests:

None

Alameda County Supervisor Gail Steele called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

I. Master License Agreements

a. Renewal of EBRPD's license at Coyote Hills which expired December 2008

Alameda County Flood Control Manager Hank Ackerman handed out a draft Master Agreement and indicated that the final document will be site specific and include information to clarify responsibility for County for the maintenance staff. The document will be one 25-year Master Agreement for Flood Control properties. Any new license

locations will become an amendment to the Master Agreement as a new site. Real Estate Division Chief, Public Works Agency Rory MacNeil suggested that, with current available technology and GIS availability by both agencies, it would be an advantage to show color lines to identify property lines on the maps.

EBRPD Board President Doug Siden thanked Mr. Ackerman's staff for putting this item into action. EBRPD Land Acquisition Manager Nancy Wenninger added that after the previous Alameda County Liaison meeting she had reviewed which licenses and leases EBRPD had with the County and noted that there were only a few and one does not expire until 2026. Mr. MacNeil indicated that the Master Agreement is only for the three major Flood Control agreements for Coyote Hills, Bay Trail, and Alameda Creek and the Cull and Don Castro reservoirs. Mr. Ackerman added that the Master Agreement will supersede all other agreements and continue for 25 years from the date of execution. Ms. Wenninger commented that Cull Canyon and Don Castro are due to expire in a year so this Master Agreement will take care of those licenses as well as the others that expired in 2008.

Alameda County Supervisor Gail Steele inquired how long it will take to complete the Master Agreement and Mr. Ackerman anticipated that it may take three months to be ready to execute. He added that the next piece to work on will be the maps and Ms. Wenninger offered that the Park District may already have the maps and will provide those to the County to review. Mr. Ackerman said that Mr. MacNeil will be the contact person for all GIS communications.

b. Renewal of EBRPD's license for portions of the Shoreline Trail along the Hayward Shoreline which expired December 2008

This item was covered under item 1.a

2. EBRPD'S Interest in Acquisition of a Portion of Road Right Of Way Along Fairmont Drive for a Trail Connection.

Mr. Mac Neil handed out aerial photos of the surplus parcel on Lake Chabot Road that the Park District had, at the last liaison committee meeting, stated its desire to acquire the rights to construct and maintain a trail extension and crossing. He reported that the survey shows the property to be approximately 70,000 square feet, zoned for agriculture. Mr. MacNeil provided a sample quit claim deed and indicated that he had recommended that the Director of Public Works make a conveyance to the Park District for a fee of \$25,000. Once the Director of Public Works agrees on the conveyance it will go to the Board of Supervisors for approval. Ms. Wenninger asked what the Park District needs to do next. Mr. Ackerman responded that once he has the Director's approval a contract and board resolution for the conveyance will be written. The only action the Park District will need to take is signing a formal letter of conveyance to be presented by the County.

3. Update on San Francisco Public Utility Projects Including Impacts on Sunol

EBRPD Environmental Program Manager, Land Division Brad Olson reported on the SFPUC's proposal to replace the existing earthen Calaveras Dam with a new seismically upgraded dam. He reported that a draft EIR was released for public comment in October 2009, however, the final EIR has not yet been released. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2011 and be completed in 2015. He further indicated that this is a large and complex project that could have human health impacts, traffic and circulation impacts, and could result in closure of portions or all of Sunol Regional Wilderness during the four-year construction period. The two key impacts to Sunol are:

- Airborne asbestos generated by the project may enter the park, especially during periods of later summer southerly winds. SFPUC believes that there will be no adverse effects to public health from potential asbestos exposure. However, this can only be demonstrated by air quality monitoring during project construction.
- The import of some 320,000 cubic-yards of fill material will require an estimated 16,000 truck trips on Calaveras Road, the sole point of vehicular access to the park. Road closures during a twenty-month period (total) for transportation of heavy equipment, road surface repair and repaving, and whenever airborne particulates exceed air quality standards. When the road is open, park visitors and bicyclists will need to share this narrow road with two-way heavy truck traffic. This will make road conditions unsafe and will discourage park usage.

Mr. Olson stated that the Park District has requested a number of measures to mitigate the significant impacts to human health, traffic and circulation, recreation and increased District costs during project construction. Thus far, SFPUC has not committed to the requested mitigation measures.

As a condition of its road closure permit, Alameda County will be requiring the SFPUC to dedicate right-of-way for construction of future bicycle lanes on Calaveras Road. SFPUC is also required to repave Calaveras Road after dam construction is completed. The Park District believes that SFPUC should also be required to construct the new bike lanes as a permit condition and project mitigation measure. This could be completed as part of the road repaving project.

Supervisor Steele asked if there has been an independent study done to determine the effects of the asbestos and determine the risks since it would be a huge disruption to close the park. Supervisor Steele pointed out that when the SFPUC met in Sunol regarding the dam project they stated what projects they would do for Sunol but never mentioned the risks of exposure to asbestos and she feels Sunol residents should know. Supervisor Steele said she will speak with Supervisor Haggerty and his Chief of Staff Chris Gray to inform them.

EBRPD Board member Carol Severin asked, if permission is granted for the project, will EBRPD close the park for four years based on the risk. Mr. Olson stated that since the bulk of the material will be moved in the first 12 to 18 months the District could close the park for a short duration and monitor air quality and traffic conditions to make a determination.

EBRPD Assistant General Manager, Public Affairs Rosemary Cameron asked if the county permit for the road resides with Public Works and Mr. Ackerman replied that it does and that he will pursue the Park District's recommendation to require bike lanes to be included in the road replacement condition.

4. Creation of a Committee to Continue the Children's Memorial Grove Project
Supervisor Gail Steel discussed her concerns for how best to keep the Children's Memorial Grove Project "alive" following her retirement from the Alameda County Board of Supervisors at the end of this year. Attendance at meetings has been down and there is need for participation from the County Administrator's office and the EBRPD Board. She intends to set up regular committee meetings limited to July, August, September, October, February, March and April and hopes to develop a core group of retired staff from the County and the Park District.

Supervisor Steele has received permission from the Alameda County Sheriff's department to receive coroner's reports, after her retirement, to track violent youth deaths. Committee meetings could be held at the County office and/or her home and the committee will work with the President of the Board of Supervisors. Funds have been raised from sale of flags by the Child Welfare League and perhaps these funds could be moved into a budget line item after her retirement. She feels it is critical to meet on a regular basis and for her to build relationships with parents and schools to increase attendance and participation by students. EBRPD Director Ayn Wieskamp inquired about the possibility of setting up a foundation which would exist outside of the County and attract interested participants as well as develop sources of funding.

Because the Fairmont Ridge Memorial Grove has run out of space for new trees Supervisor Steele would like to establish a grove, in a designated park within each city and unincorporated area, where the trees would be planted and cities could conduct their ceremonies. A nursery in Sunol is committed to donate trees. Supervisor Steele hopes to have some kind of signage for each memorial grove.

5. Potential Historic Designation of County Property Used by Pacific Locomotive Association

Mr. Ackerman reported that the County was taken by surprise when staff received a letter from the State Historical Society about the nomination of the County owned property in Sunol used by the Pacific Locomotive Society for historical designation. After some research County staff learned that the nomination was made by an individual not affiliated with the Pacific Locomotive Society and without that organization's

knowledge. Mr. Ackerman indicated that the application for historic designation is now moving forward with the County's endorsement.

Mr. Ackerman will find out the details of the designation and email the information to all concerned.

6. Public Comment

None

7. The date for the next meeting will be Wednesday, October 27th at 9:00 a.m.

Supervisor Steele adjourned the meeting at 11:37 a.m.