

AGENDA

ALAMEDA COUNTY/EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING

Friday, October 29, 2010

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

County Administrator's Office

Board of Supervisors Conference Room

1221 Oak Street, Suite 536, Oakland, CA

<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
1. Altamont Landfill Settlement Land Acquisition Funding Update (EBRPD/County	(I)
2. Update on San Francisco Public Utility Projects Including Impacts on Sunol (EBRPD)	(I)
3. Public Comments	
4. Set Date for Next Meeting	
(I) Information	
(D) Discussion	
(R) Recommendation	

Distribution List

Packet:

Liaison Committee Members:

Doug Siden, John Sutter, Ayn Wieskamp

Pat O'Brien, General Manager, EBRPD

Rosemary Cameron, AGM, Public Affairs

Carol Johnson, Manager, Community Relations

Allen Pulido, Clerk of the Board, EBRPD

Nancy Wenninger, Manager, Land Acquisition

John Escobar, AGM, Operations

Brad Olson, Environmental Program Manager

Agenda Only:

AGMs

Yolande Barial, Clerk of the Board's Office

Sgt. Tyrone Davis, Public Safety

Dave Kalahela, President, Local 2428

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF BOARD MEMBERS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

January 11, 2011

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

5. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Alameda County/EBRPD Liaison Committee (10/29/10) (Siden)

Attendees:

Contra Costa County:
Supervisors:

Gail Steele, Scott Haggerty

Staff:

Mark Wienberger, Legislative Affairs Aide; Chris Gray, Chief of Staff, Supervisor Haggerty's Office; Liz McElligott, Assistant Planning Director, Community Development Agency; Rich Conway, Management Analyst, CAO; Art Carrera, Principal Civil Engineer, ACPWA; , County Administrators Office

East Bay Regional
Park District

Board members:

Ayn Wieskamp, John Sutter

Staff:

Rosemary Cameron, AGM, Public Affairs; Jim Townsend, Trail Development Program Manager, Land Division; John Escobar, AGM, Operations; Carol Johnson, Community Relations Manager; Sue Rogers, Confidential Secretary, General Manager's Office

Guests:

None

Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty's Chief of Staff Chris Gray called the meeting to order at 9:44 a.m.

I. Altamont Landfill Settlement Land Acquisition Funding Update

EBRPD AGM of Public Affairs, Rosemary Cameron commented that the Park District understood this project will be on the Board of Supervisors agenda soon. She showed a PowerPoint presentation to update the County on the 640-acre Schmitz property located in Doolan Canyon, an unincorporated area between the cities of Dublin and Livermore. Acquisition of the subject property will provide the cornerstone for the

Park District's new "Doolan Canyon Regional Preserve." The property is rolling grasslands typical of East Alameda County, contains a lake, and is used for grazing. Besides protecting important habitat for rare plants and protected species such as the California tiger salamander, burrowing owls, California red-legged frog, and San Joaquin kit fox, Doolan Canyon provides an excellent opportunity to build a scenic ridgeline trail system for hikers, equestrians, and mountain bikers and has potential picnic and camping areas. This purchase will also permanently preserve the open space buffer between the two cities.

EBRPD staff has negotiated the acquisition of the property for \$6.4 million with escrow scheduled to close by the end of December 2010. Sources of funding are as follows: \$2.4 million from EBRPD's Measure WW and \$2 million from the City of Livermore as mitigation for two public projects. The remaining \$2 million is being requested from the Alameda County Altamont Landfill Open Space Fund. The grant award must be approved by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, Livermore City Council, and the Sierra Club.

Alameda County Assistant Planning Director, Liz McElligott stated that this item was going before the Board of Supervisors at the November 9th planning meeting. Supervisor Haggerty's Chief of Staff Chris Gray added that if the project meets all criteria it should pass and he suggested that the Park District have a staff person at the meeting to discuss the project if needed. EBRPD Board member Ayn Wieskamp offered to host a tour of the property for members of the Board of Supervisors and County staff.

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

EBRPD AGM of Operations John Escobar made the presentation stating that there are a number of San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) improvement projects in the Sunol Valley but the one the Park District is the most concerned with is the reconstruction of the new dam for the Calaveras Reservoir. The Park District submitted comments on the draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) by the deadline of December 2009. The final draft of the EIR for the project should be released by the end of 2010 or early 2011. The primary issues remain air quality and traffic on Calaveras Road.

He stated that there will be an initial hauling of 360,000 cubic yards of material along Calaveras Road which the Park District has calculated to be approximately 16,000 vehicle trips. No specific mitigation measures have been offered by the SFPUC. However, EBRPD staff continues to meet with SFPUC to discuss the likely effects of the planned dam construction on Sunol Regional Park. SFPUC hopes to begin the four-year construction project by summer of 2011. The Park District is concerned that the transportation of school children to the park for field trips is not compatible with trucks hauling six days a week during this period. The Park District may move its environmental education programs during the hauling period to another park. The Park District has discussed closing the park for the duration of the project. The SFPUC does not want a park closure.

Mr. Escobar indicated that air quality is another concern due to the naturally occurring asbestos in the Serpentine soils on the site. The SFPUC feels their mitigation measures on the site will completely control the asbestos and won't pose a risk to park visitors. Monitoring devices are in the park but at issue are the amount of material in the air and the length of time of exposure. The Park District is concerned for the exposure of the full-time park resident and staff in the park. The Park District has decided not to have anyone living in the residence and may move the staff offices out of the park to limit the risk of exposure.

During the four-year construction the SFPUC will replace the old bridge in the park and may build one or two other bridges over Alameda Creek to serve the needs of the dam.

The Park District will put together a list of improvements for the SFPUC to provide as part of the mitigation for this project which may include a water system for the park requiring a waterline from the treatment plant into the park that could be as much as \$2 million. Mr. Gray indicated that the SFPUC will repave all of Calaveras Road from the freeway all the way to Santa Clara County and will include a bicycle lane. Alameda County will assist in getting funding for the roadway. There may be some trail opportunities as well. In addition, the SFPUC will update the water system to the Town of Sunol. Supervisor Gail Steele commented that the asbestos issue was not previously mentioned to the Sunol Advisory Committee by the SFPUC and she felt the Park District's presentation on this issue was far superior. She appreciated Mr. Gray's negotiation in getting the hydrants into Sunol to prevent any future disaster.

Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty asked if there was a need for a meeting between the Park District, the County, and the SFPUC. Mr. Escobar responded not at this time but possibly in the future. EBPPD AGM of Public Affairs, Rosemary Cameron raised that at the last meeting District staff had asked the County to place requirements for the bike lane.

3. Public Comments

EBRPD Board member Ayn Wieskamp and Supervisor Steele opened a discussion on the Cal Trans project in Niles Canyon. Ms. Wieskamp asked for the County's position on the project. Supervisor Haggerty stated that he felt that the Board of Supervisors should not take a position due to liability issues and that the County has no jurisdiction since this is a Cal Trans project. Supervisor Steele stated her position that the Sunol and Niles community advisory boards are unified on not wanting the Niles Canyon roadway to be widened. Supervisor Haggerty strongly advised that that Board of Supervisors stay out of the discussions and let the state take the lead and work with Sunol. Supervisor Steele pointed out that the EIR allowed for public comment. EBRPD's Trail Development Program Manager Jim Townsend conveyed that the Park District did provide comments on the EIR and that there is potential impact on identified regional trail corridors along the canyon and the Park District has a meeting scheduled with Cal Trans on that subject. Chris Gray added that Supervisor Steele has asked staff to go to the communities to get more involvement and interest in the project.

Supervisor Steele closed by stating her appreciation for the Liaison Committee meetings which provide information on the Park District, that would not otherwise be readily available, and for the Park District's partnership on the Children's Memorial Grove.

Ms. Cameron thanked Supervisor Steele on behalf of the board and staff of the Park District for her support and involvement on the Liaison Committee and for the District and its parks which has been tremendous. EBRPD Director John Sutter added his thanks to Supervisor Steele for the many projects that would not be possible without the County's cooperation.

4. Next Meeting Date: Friday, March 25th at 9:30

The meeting was adjourned by Supervisor Scott Haggerty at 10:47 a.m.

