

**CITY OF FREMONT/EBRPD LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Minutes of Thursday, July 16, 2009**

The meeting was held at the Olive Hyde Art Center and Gallery, 123 Washington Boulevard, Fremont, California, and commenced at 6:00 p.m.

**Committee Members Present**

**City of Fremont:** Bill Harrison, Council Member; Frank Pirrone, Recreation Commissioner and Liaison Committee Alternate

**Eat Bay Regional Park District:** Board Members Carol Severin and Ayn Wieskamp

**Staff Present**

**City of Fremont:** Laurie Rogers, Recreation Superintendent, Scott Ruhland, Associate Planner

**East Bay Regional Park District:** John Escobar, Assistant General Manager, Operations; Mike Anderson, Assistant General Manager, Planning, Stewardship and Development; Rick Parmer, Chief, Interpretive and Recreation Services; Sara Rieck, Secretary, Interpretive and Recreation Services

**Public Attendees**

Art and Gail Noeth

1. **Introductions**

The meeting commenced with the introduction of those present.

2. **Select Citizen Advisory Member**

The Committee determined that an advisory member was not needed to address the items on the agenda.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the April 2, 2009 meeting were approved unanimously.

4. **Dumbarton Quarry Update**

Scott Ruhland, Associate Planner of the City of Fremont and Project Manager for the Dumbarton Quarry Reclamation Plan, reported that the quarry ceased operations in the summer of 2007. DeSilva Gates, operator of the quarry, is working with Alameda County Water District (ACWD) and Alameda County Flood Control (ACFC) to determine how to fill the quarry with water prior to finalizing the Plan. In the meantime, the City has been conducting annual inspections as dictated by the Reclamation Plan and the Surface Mining Reclamation Act. One option being proposed is to divert storm water from the P-line and the K-line. A second proposed option is to pump ground water into the P-line and augment it with storm water; however, ACWD

has reservations about using ground water from the aquifer for recreation. A third option, using the Alameda Creek channel as a source for water, was rejected because of issues related to the steelhead habitat protection. Responding to Carol Severin's query regarding the possibility of taking water from the bay to fill the quarry, Mike Anderson indicated that it is possible to fill the lower portion of a lake with salt water and float fresher water on top, but that he is skeptical about the feasibility of this approach.

In response to Bill Harrison's query, Mr. Anderson and Ayn Wieskamp reported that ultimately the lake will be used for fishing and non-motorized boating, in addition to providing an emergency water source.

At Mr. Harrison's suggestion, Ms. Wieskamp asked Mr. Ruhland to schedule a meeting to include a representative from EBRPD's Board of Directors, for the consultants to report on their progress. Rick Parmer suggested a meeting with the National Marine Fisheries (NMF) and ACFC to gain a clearer understanding of the water issues. He mentioned that Alameda Creek is designated a historic run for steelhead governed by the NMF and California Department of Fish & Game (CDFG) regulatory system, but noted that CDFG has issued permits to collect water from other historic runs during specific times of the year.

Mr. Ruhland guessed that the 10-15 feet water level is slowly rising as no pumps are currently operating. John Escobar cautioned that eventually there may not be an opportunity to fill the quarry with fresh water if it continues to fill with brackish water.

Art Noeth, a fisherman, noted that the only species that will not support the use of brackish water is trout. He remarked that local anglers would be happy with salt water fishing and that the cost of maintaining a salt water fishery is significantly less than bringing trout into the quarry. He added that if the water turns to pure salt it can still support a fishery, the bay being a prime example. Mr. Anderson indicated that he would discuss the feasibility of a salt water fishery with Pete Alexander, EBRPD Fisheries Manager. In closing the discussion, Mr. Harrison suggested that a meeting take place between the City, EBRPD and DeSilva Gates prior to discussion of the issue at the next Fremont/EBRPD Liaison Committee meeting in October.

##### 5. **Restroom Facility Needs Along Mission Peak**

John Escobar recalled that at a 2008 committee meeting Frank Pirrone brought the restroom needs of the Mission Peak trail to the Committee's attention. Mr. Escobar reported that staff recently placed two ADA accessible chemical toilets in the vicinity that will be serviced on an "as needed" basis. Mr. Escobar added that if the budget allows, in 2010 EBRPD plans to replace the two chemical toilets with a Cascadian Restroom from CXT. The Cascadian restroom, to be located near the park residence, has a thousand gallon tank that requires servicing only once per month. Its technology causes odors to be absorbed into a vent pipe, then superheated and released from the top of the pipe, the only drawback being that it needs a nearby water supply. Mr. Pirrone reiterated that the two existing chemical toilets are inconveniently located,

noting that 99% of trail users hike via the Stanford Staging area, not the Ohlone College Staging Area. He suggested that the new restroom be located where Peak Meadow Trail connects with Valley Trail, to which Mr. Escobar responded that getting water via a pipeline to that location may prove to be a challenge. Mr. Pirrone also noted that Mission Peak could use some improvements including additional picnic tables and a single track trail.

Ms. Wieskamp suggested that the Committee focus on the restroom facility and expansion of parking space for the time being.

#### **6. Public Comments**

Mr. Noeth indicated that Dr. Gearhart had suggested that the Committee discuss the Vargas Plateau. However, Mr. Noeth added that he and Dr. Gearhart do not agree on the issue, and that this was probably not the appropriate time to discuss the Vargas Plateau because he has not thoroughly researched the issue.

#### **7. Tour of Stanford Staging Area**

Committee members and staff toured Mission Peak's Stanford Staging Area to discuss expanding the parking facilities, and noted the number of people using the trail that evening.

Mr. Anderson suggested that approximately 75 parking stalls could be created by cutting and filling the area to the north of the current trail and flattening the area to no more than a 4% – 5% slope. Although no formal survey has been conducted, it is presumed that the road would need to be kept as far away as possible from the creek. Mr. Anderson added that this option presents the opportunity to add picnic tables and a restroom. A second option for creating additional parking is to access the flat area on the south side of the creek; however, Mr. Anderson noted that a bridge would need to be built and that some parking stalls would be visible by residents.

Mr. Anderson noted that along with additional parking, a two-lane road would need to be created which would be subject to provisions of local ordinances such as Measure T. Mr. Harrison commented that the City is using permeable asphalt in Irvington and that thus far it has performed well. Mr. Parmer noted that additional parking might present a public safety challenge, as the lot would not be visible from the main Staging Area. Ms. Wieskamp asked for an update of this issue at the next Fremont/EBRPD Liaison Committee meeting in October.

Ms. Wieskamp adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m. The next meeting of the Fremont/EBRPD Liaison Committee is scheduled for Thursday, October 1, 2009, at 6:00 p.m., in the Granary, Ardenwood Historic Farm.