

To: Bay Trail Board of Directors
From: Laura Thompson
Date: May 6, 2014
Subject: Spring 2014 Bay Trail Board Meeting

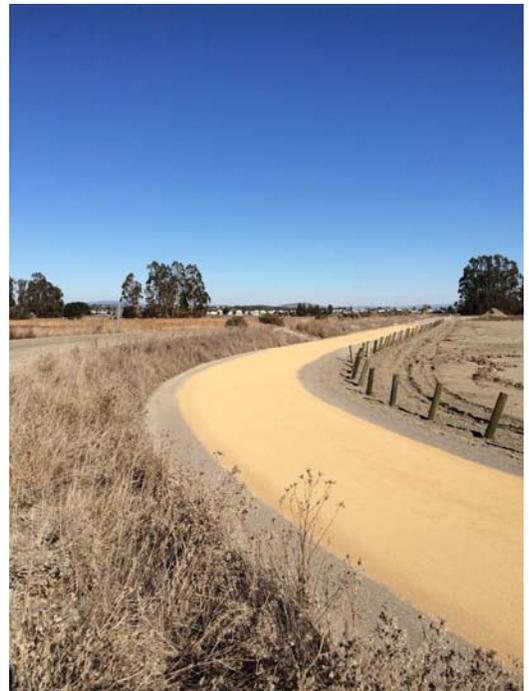
Welcome back to Novato! The Bay Trail Board of Directors last met along the edge of the Hamilton Wetland Restoration Area in fall of 2005 when restoration of the former airfield and shoreline trail were still future concepts. On April 25 the Coastal Conservancy and the Army Corps of Engineers breached the levee and the new 2.7-mile segment of the **Hamilton Bay Trail** along the edge of the restoration area is now complete. An official trail ribbon-cutting along with the launch of one of four new smart phone applications will take place on June 26. This is an exciting new segment of the Bay Trail and we hope you can join us for a walk after the meeting to see the trail and test the app.

Several people interested in joining the Bay Trail Board of Directors will be attending our meeting as guests. I will introduce them at the meeting so you have a chance to learn about their work and their interest in contributing to the Bay Trail nonprofit.

Our agenda features two presentations. First, we welcome Ann Buell of the Coastal Conservancy and Galli Basson of ABAG for an update on our sister trail, the **San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail**. The Water Trail has come into its own and is making great strides with site designations, a grant program, a fun and informative website, new site identification and educational signs, a Water Trail brochure, sponsored coastal cleanups, expanding connections with the boating community and official resolutions of support from shoreline public agencies.

Second, Maggie Wenger of BCDC will join us with an overview of BCDC's **Adapting to Rising Tides** program. BCDC is leading an effort to bring shoreline agencies and organizations together to increase preparedness to sea level rise and storm events. She has been working with Bay Trail staff on the future vulnerability of the Bay Trail to sea level rise and her presentation will focus on

The board will consider the appointment of **Betsy Wilson**, Coastal Conservancy Project Manager, to replace **Ann Buell** as a member of the Board of Directors and the Steering Committee. The Board and staff will recognize Ann's contribution to the Bay Trail during her 4 years of service to the project.





Agenda

San Francisco Bay Trail Spring Board Meeting

Thursday, May 15, 2014 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Hamilton Community Center, War Room, 2nd Floor
500 Palm Drive, Hamilton Field, Novato, CA
(Map Enclosed)

The Board may act on any item on the agenda

Agenda topics

Noon

Lunch

1:00 p.m.

Business Meeting Call to Order

Chair/Board/Staff

Introductions / Agenda

- Adopt agenda
- Adopt December 12, 2013 meeting minutes*
- Board announcements
- Staff announcements

1:20 p.m.

City of Novato Welcome

Pam Shinault, City of Novato Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services, will welcome the Board to Novato.

1:30 p.m.

San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Update*

Ann Buell, Conservancy,
Water Trail Project
Manager

Ann Buell, Water Trail Project Manager, and Galli Basson, Water Trail Planner, will present an update on the Water Trail, including details about site designations, the grant program, outreach tools, site identification and educational signs, expanding partnerships and support from the boating community and shoreline public agencies.

Galli Basson, ABAG,
Water Trail Planner

2:05 p.m.

Sea Level Rise and the Bay Trail*

BCDC and NOAA are leading the Adapting to Rising Tides (ART) initiative, an effort to bring agencies and organizations together to increase preparedness and resilience to sea level rise and storm events. The board will hear an overview of the Adapting to Rising Tides Program with regards to the Bay Trail's participation in Alameda County projects and the future sea level rise vulnerability of the Bay Trail.

Maggie Wenger,
National Oceanic and
Atmospheric
Administration (NOAA)
Coastal Management
Fellow, BCDC

continued on next page

2:45 p.m.

Bay Trail Board Candidate*

Board/Staff

Consider appointment and vote for new Board member Betsy Wilson, Project Manager with the State Coastal Conservancy, replacing Ann Buell in this role.

3:00 p.m.

Adjourn Meeting

3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Walking Tour of the Hamilton Bay Trail

Join us for a walk along the new Hamilton Bay Trail with an option to use the new Bay Trail smart phone mobile application with human and natural history stories.

- ***Denotes agenda material attached**
- **Additional attachments:**
Meeting map and directions, RSVP form

RSVP



2014 Spring Bay Trail Board Meeting

May 15, 2014

Noon – 4:00 p.m.

Hamilton Community Center, War Room, 2nd Floor,
500 Palm Drive, Novato

Please fax, phone or e-mail your availability by **Monday, May 12.** Indicate attendance for each option below.

To: Laura Thompson
Phone: (510) 464-7935
Fax: (510) 433-5535
E-mail: laurat@abag.ca.gov

Name: _____

I will attend:

_____ Lunch (12:00 PM – 1:00 PM)

_____ Board Meeting (1:00 PM – 3:00 PM)

_____ Walk along the Bay Trail / Experience the New Bay Trail Smart Phone Mobile App
(3:00 PM – 4:00 PM)

I cannot attend: _____

**Hamilton Community Center
War Room, 2nd Floor
500 Palm Drive, Hamilton Field, Novato**

DIRECTIONS

Driving

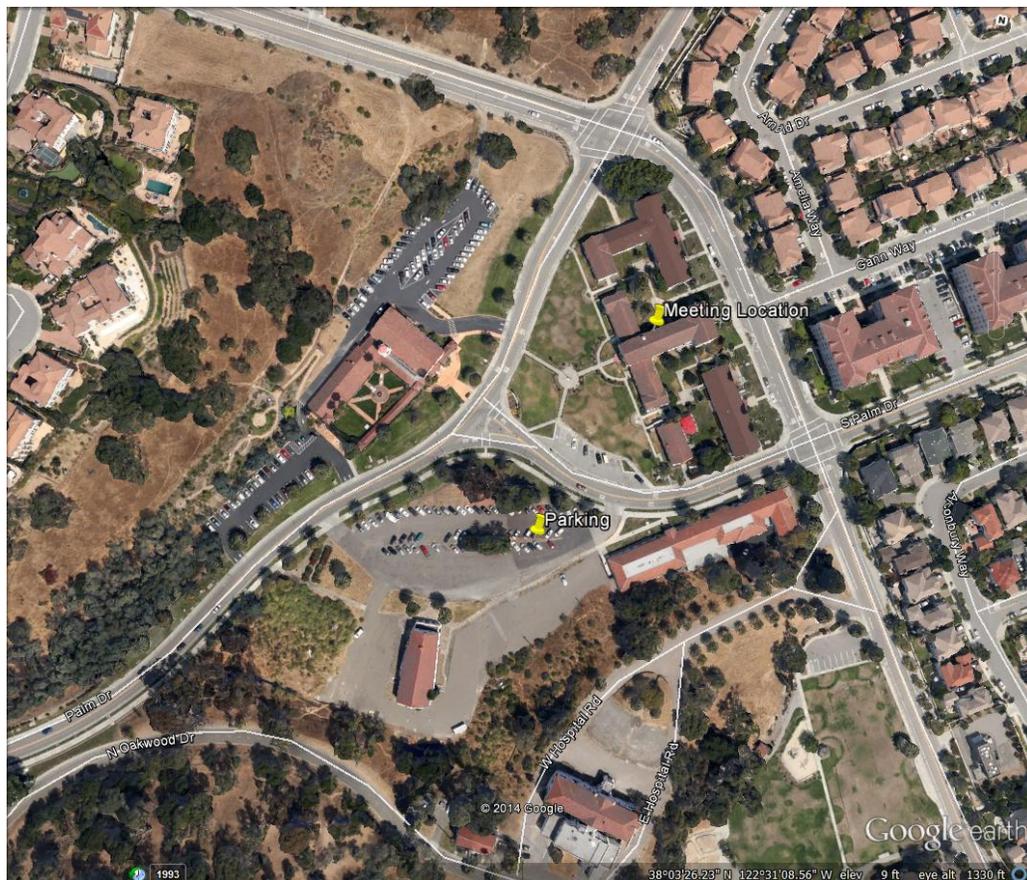
From Hwy 101 northbound, exit onto Nave Drive towards Hamilton Field. Merge onto Nave Drive. Turn right on Main Gate Road. Continue onto Palm Drive. At the fork in the road, veer right onto South Palm Drive. The parking lot is immediately on your right and the meeting room is across the street adjacent to the lawn.

From Hwy 101 southbound, take the Alameda del Prado exit. Turn left onto Alameda del Prado. Turn left onto Nave Drive. Turn right on Main Gate Road. Continue onto Palm Drive. At the fork in the road, veer right onto South Palm Drive. The parking lot is immediately on your right and the meeting room is across the street adjacent to the lawn.

See Google maps for complete driving directions.

Parking

Parking is available in a lot across the street along South Palm Drive.





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Email: staplan@sta-snci.com ♦ Website: sta.ca.gov

January 7, 2014

Laura Thompson
Bay Trail Project Manager
Association of Bay Area Governments
101 Eighth Street
Oakland, CA 94607

Dear Ms. Thompson,

I am writing to express my interest in joining the San Francisco Bay Trail Board of Directors. I have been a utilitarian and recreational cyclist for nearly 10 years and have advocated for bicycle and pedestrian access, facilities, and safety in the Bay Area and beyond. In addition, I am an Associate Planner at the Solano Transportation Authority (STA) where I work with local jurisdictions in Solano County to advance priority bicycle and pedestrian projects. Currently, the STA is partnering with the San Francisco Bay Trail and the Napa Valley Vine Trail to evaluate a gap closure opportunity in Vallejo that could eventually connect the two trails.

I value the work the San Francisco Bay Trail is doing with communities throughout the Bay Area to complete a high quality recreational trail encircling the Bay. Given my personal and professional experience, I believe I can make a positive contribution to the Bay Trail Project. I look forward to learning more about the Project and working with Bay Trail staff and the Board to move the project towards successful completion.

Best Regards,

Sofia Recalde

Sofia Recalde
Associate Planner
Solano Transportation Authority
(707) 399-3230
srecalde@sta-snci.com
smrecalde@gmail.com

**San Francisco Bay Trail
Winter 2013 Board Meeting Minutes
Cerruti Cellars, Oakland
December 12, 2013**

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

Attendance

Board Members

Bruce Beyaert	Ellen Johnck
Julie Bondurant	Joe LaClair
Ann Buell	Bill Long
Sean Co	Judith Malamut
Rosemary Corbin	Steven McAdam
Corinne DeBra	Rick Parmer
Leo DuBose	Don Weden
Minane Jameson	Brian Wiese, <i>Chair</i>
Betty Moose, <i>Alternate</i>	John Woodbury

Guests

Lee Taubenech, Caltrans

Staff

Laura Thompson, Project Manager
Maureen Gaffney, Bay Trail Planner
Lee Huo, Bay Trail Planner

Introductions / Agenda / Announcements

Wiese brought the Board meeting to order and introductions were made.

Agenda/Minutes

ACTION: **Beyaert moved, Corbin seconded adoption of the 12/12/13 agenda and 06/27/13 minutes. The agenda and minutes were approved unanimously.**

Yes Votes:

Bruce Beyaert	Joe LaClair
Julie Bondurant	Bill Long
Ann Buell	Judith Malamut
Sean Co	Steven McAdam

Rosemary Corbin
Corinne DeBra
Leo DuBose
Minane Jameson

Rick Parmer
Don Weden
Brian Wiese
John Woodbury

No Votes: None
Abstentions: None

Board Announcements

- Beyaert Brickyard Cove Trail and Shipyard III trails are under construction. TRAC organized a tour of the Mountain Hardware offices in the Ford Assembly Building in Richmond. Ferry Point Tunnel is now open.

- Jameson Hayward Shoreline Interpretive Center is hosting an art exhibit "55 Inches" reception on January 25. *Global Weirdness* book for sale as a donation to the Interpretive Center.

- Parmer The Bay Delta Conservation Plan is now out for public review.

- McAdam Joined the Emeryville to Richmond bike ride with Sean in October. Congratulated the city of Richmond on the trail.

- Long The Bay Trail through Hamilton is almost finished in Novato. Will be open in a few weeks, and will breach the levees in a few months.

Staff Announcements

- Thompson Called to the attention of the Board the 2014 meeting schedule included in the packet. Announced that new Brown Act requirements are in affect that require us to record and publicly report in the minutes the vote or abstention on any action of each member present. Stressed the importance of signing the attendance sheet for this purpose. Brought to the Board's attention the Steering Committee's action on October 10 adopting a naming policy and guidelines for local jurisdictions and shoreline managers.

- Gaffney Bay Trail Project received an Explore the Coast grant from the Conservancy to create a mobile phone app. Canogle and Bay Trail staff will work with Doug McConnell on the audio portion of the tours. A West Span Bay Bridge brainstorming session will be held at the end of January.

- Huo The Lawrence Berkeley National Lab DEIR is open for public review. It is located along the Bay Trail spine and will have impacts on the trail. A new section of Bay Trail opened in the City of Berkeley, phase one at the Berkeley Marina between Seabreeze Café to Cal Sailing.

Consideration of San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Support

Thompson introduced the concept of the Restoration Authority, its history, partnerships and Bay Trail involvement. The Board was asked to consider formal support for the mission of the Restoration Authority to establish, at some time in the future, a regional funding stream for San Francisco Bay habitat, restoration, flood protection and shoreline public access.

ACTION: Corbin moved, McAdam seconded support for the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority concept. The vote was approved unanimously.

Yes Votes:

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Bruce Beyaert | Joe LaClair |
| Julie Bondurant | Bill Long |
| Ann Buell | Judith Malamut |
| Sean Co | Steven McAdam |
| Rosemary Corbin | Rick Parmer |
| Corinne DeBra | Don Weden |
| Leo DuBose | Brian Wiese |
| Minane Jameson | John Woodbury |

No Votes: None
Abstentions: None

Bay Trail Marketing Update

Thompson and DeBra provided an overview of the marketing plan and highlighted accomplishments over the course of 2013. An events page was added to the Bay Trail website that shares events along the Bay Trail throughout the region. A list of 50 organizations that regularly host events was distributed to the board with a request for board members to sign up and provide event links to staff. Tailored legislative reports are being developed for each shoreline Senator and Assembly Member district in preparation for meetings with legislators in 2014. A summary of accomplishments over the year was shared and will be provided to the board of directors at the end of each year.

Adoption of 2014 Priority Tasks

Thompson presented the list of priority tasks that were developed as part of the adoption of the 5-year strategic plan. The Committee discussed the importance of the design guidelines; partnerships with new organizations such as corporations, wineries and adventure travel groups; focus on the Highway 37 corridor and north bay connections; BCDC’s adapting to rising tides initiative and sea level rise.

ACTION: Beyaert moved, Malamut seconded approval of the 2014 Bay Trail Priority Tasks. The vote was approved unanimously.

Yes Votes:

Bruce Beyaert	Joe LaClair
Julie Bondurant	Bill Long
Ann Buell	Judith Malamut
Sean Co	Steven McAdam
Rosemary Corbin	Rick Parmer
Corinne DeBra	Don Weden
Leo DuBose	Brian Wiese
Minane Jameson	John Woodbury

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

Board Composition

Thompson provided an overview of board composition and membership. She summarized the authorized number of board members and the organizational representation identified in the bylaws. She outlined the staff recommendation of recruiting additional representatives from: cities/counties, local advocates, public health organizations and corporations/local businesses.

Board discussion included emphasizing the importance of local government representation in key areas; flood control district representation and the Bay Area Flood Protection Agencies Association; finding a representative for Sonoma County; considering media representative; focusing new membership where there are gaps; and maintaining overall geographic representation.

It was also discussed that some of these representatives could become part of the Advisory Council.

There was general consensus that staff's proposed direction is following the right path.

Election of New Bay Trail Board Chair

Brian Wiese announced that he was stepping down from the board of directors and retiring from the East Bay Regional Park District. John Woodbury expressed interest in the position for a 2-year period.

ACTION: Wiese moved, McAdam seconded confirmation of John Woodbury as chair of the Bay Trail Board of Directors. The vote was approved unanimously.

Yes Votes:

Bruce Beyaert
Julie Bondurant
Ann Buell
Sean Co
Rosemary Corbin
Corinne DeBra
Leo DuBose
Minane Jameson

Ellen Johnck
Joe LaClair
Bill Long
Judith Malamut
Steven McAdam
Rick Parmer
Don Weden
Brian Wiese

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

Recognition of Brian Wiese's service to the Bay Trail Project

Board and staff recognized Brian for his many years of service to the Bay Trail Project, as a Bay Trail Planner with ABAG, as a Bay Trail board member, in his role at the East Bay Regional Park District and as chair of the Bay Trail Board of Directors.

Walking Tour of Jack London Square

Board members and staff strolled along the Bay Trail in Jack London Square guided by Sandy Threlfall of Waterfront Action. The group returned to Cerruti Cellars to celebrate Bay Trail accomplishments in 2013.

San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Overview for Bay Trail Board Members – May 15, 2014

The San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail (Water Trail or WT) is one among hundreds of water trails supporting non-motorized small boat (NMSB) use around the United States. It was established nine years ago through the efforts of the non-profit Bay Access, Inc. and the California legislature (San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Act – AB 1296, 2005). Potentially, more than 100 existing marinas, waterfront parks, and other public access areas along the shoreline of the nine-county Bay Area will become part of this new, regional trail system as designated Water Trail “trailheads.”

Site owners join the Water Trail network on a voluntary basis. The program is focused on preserving and improving access to the waters of San Francisco Bay for persons using these NMSBs: kayaks, canoes, whale boats, outrigger canoes, dragon boats, rowboats, rowing sculls, and the board sports: windsurfing, kite boarding, and stand up paddling.

Implementation of the Water Trail program is proceeding under the leadership of the State Coastal Conservancy (Conservancy), which is also its primary funder. The Project Management Team (PMT) comprises the Conservancy, the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC), and the Division of Boating and Waterways, or “Cal Boating” (under State Parks and Recreation). Project management benefits from the advice of an Advisory Committee (AC)¹, which meets with the PMT in a public forum at quarterly meetings, and an Accessibility Sub-Committee, which meets on an as-needed basis.

The Water Trail program is built on several significant planning efforts that resulted in the following guidance documents. They are the foundation of the designation process and management of the program. The first three are complete and the fourth is currently under review:

- (1) The WT Plan.** BCDC led the public process to develop the *San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Plan* (“WT Plan”) between 2005 and 2007. The WT Plan established criteria for potential inclusion in the network; identified 112 potential Water Trail trailheads; set out an organizational structure and evaluation process; goals for education, launch design, overnight accommodations; and issue areas that would require particular attention, such as wildlife and habitat protection, and navigational and personal safety. Twenty-four strategies were crafted to direct program development and management. Sites not identified in the WT Plan may still join the network.
- (2) The WT EIR.** In 2008, implementation of the WT Plan became the responsibility of the Conservancy, which needed to first evaluate the Plan under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). After broad public review and comment, the Conservancy certified the *San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Plan Environmental Impact Report* (WT EIR) in March

¹ The Advisory Committee includes representatives for: *accessibility for persons with disabilities; Bay Access, Inc.; CA Association of Harbor Masters & Port Captains; CA Department of Fish and Wildlife; CA Department of Parks and Recreation (“DPR”); county or local parks; East Bay Regional Park District; the hospitality industry; outfitter/tour guide businesses; National Park Service; U.S. Coast Guard; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and non-governmental wildlife and habitat protection organizations).*

2011. The WT EIR is programmatic. The CEQA process resulted in a small number of changes to the WT Plan in the form of four additional strategies. The Plan with these changes was adopted by the Conservancy as the *San Francisco Bay Area Enhanced Water Trail Plan* (Enhanced WT Plan).

(3) Education, Outreach, and Stewardship Plan. Prior to the first public meeting for designation of trailheads, an Education, Outreach, and Stewardship Plan was drafted by the Conservancy with the help of consultants from the Center for Collaborative Policy. This plan was reviewed by the PMT and AC during the first two public meetings in 2011 and finalized.

Designation. The first potential trailhead to be designated was Tidewater Boating Center in Oakland in late 2011, owned and managed by the East Bay Regional Park District. There are now 8 sites that are fully or conditionally designated. The designation process will be described in the presentation given at the May 15 Bay Trail Board Meeting.

(4) Accessibility Plan. After the first year of quarterly public meetings and the initiation of the site designation process, it became clear that carrying out Strategy 10 from the Enhanced WT Plan – Accessibility – required some research and a review of the whole set of potential sites for their relative accessibility to persons with disabilities. The *San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Accessibility Plan* recently went out for Administrative Review and is expected to go out for public review in early August of this year.

Funding. The Conservancy is directed by the WT Act to be “the lead agency in the funding and development of projects implementing the San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Plan...” The Conservancy has been the primary funder of the project since 2008. In March 2011, the Conservancy authorized a grant of up to \$1 million to ABAG to work with the Conservancy and other parties on implementation of the Water Trail, particularly in the areas of education, outreach, and stewardship; and in management of Water Trail grants for capital outlay projects at designated Water Trail sites. Since that time, the Conservancy has augmented the grant to ABAG by \$750,000. Site owners and other funders, such as Cal Boating, have provided and are expected to continue to provide matching or primary funding for site-specific improvements. Project collaborators devote significant staff time to the program.

Opportunities and Challenges. Opportunities for enhancement of access to the Bay for recreation in NMSBs exist all around the Bay. Water Trail program outreach, thanks to staff at ABAG, has reached clubs, organizations, colleges, outfitters, site owners, site managers, and local and regional government. Water Trail signs will soon be seen around the Bay Area, including well crafted educational messages, and brochures and posters are seen at retail outlets around the area. The Water Trail website (www.sfbaywatertrail.org) provides a wealth of information for trip planning.

The breadth of interests represented on the AC and the directives of the Water Trail Act itself create a challenging but ultimately information-rich environment for consensus building and management decisions. Concerns about conflicts between NMSB users and other watercraft, personal boating safety, accessibility, recreational conflicts at sites (including with the Bay Trail), and possible impacts to wildlife and habitat are among the issue areas researched before designation consideration and discussed with site owners and managers, the PMT, AC members, and members of the public.



To: Bay Trail Board of Directors

From: Laura Thompson

Date: May 6, 2014

Subject: Adapting to Rising Tides

Maggie Wenger of BCDC will present information about Adapting to Rising Tides (ART), a collaborative planning project that is bringing shoreline stakeholders together to discuss the impacts of sea level rise and storm surge flooding to develop strategies to reduce and manage these impacts. Bay Trail staff has been involved since the project began in 2010 as a stakeholder representing the interest of protecting and preserving shoreline public access and the Bay Trail.

ART is currently working with stakeholders in focus areas along the East Bay shoreline in Alameda County, including the Hayward shoreline and the Oakland/Alameda shoreline near the Oakland Airport, Bay Farm Island, and Martin Luther King Regional Shoreline. These areas of shoreline have been selected for study because it is highly susceptible to sea level rise flooding and includes so many different land uses, shoreline configurations, jurisdictions, and responsible entities. For the Hayward area, three potential scenarios for addressing sea level rise are being explored: the traditional levee, a horizontal levee, and making room for the bay. You will learn about these scenarios and have a chance to provide feedback on them as they relate to the Bay Trail.

This will likely be the first of many discussions that we will have about sea level rise and its impacts on the Bay Trail. I encourage board members to think strategically about the role our organization can and should play in the coming years as local jurisdictions begin to make tough decisions about their changing shorelines.



April 23, 2014

Laura Thompson
San Francisco Bay Trail Project
Association of Bay Area Governments
P.O. Box 2050
Oakland, CA 94604

Re: Board Membership

Dear Laura,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve on the Bay Trail board for almost four years now. It has been a great pleasure and learning experience for me. I regret that I now need to step down from the position because I have reduced my work hours at the Conservancy and am passing the Bay Trail Block Grant baton on to my coworker, Betsy Wilson.

I recommend Betsy Wilson to the Bay Trail board with full confidence that she will be an excellent addition to an already outstanding group. Betsy is a bike rider herself and one of the most organized project managers I have ever met. Remarkable! She will undoubtedly bring insights and creative energy to the project.

If you have any questions about the transition of Conservancy Block Grant managers, please let me know.

Thank you again for the rewarding years on the Bay Trail board. I was proud to be part of such a great project and will miss the warm camaraderie of the group.

Sincerely,

Ann C. Buell
Project Manager
State Coastal Conservancy

1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, California 94612-2512
510-286-1015 Fax: 510-286-0470





March 17, 2014

Laura Thompson
Bay Trail Project Manager
Association of Bay Area Governments
101 Eighth Street
Oakland, CA 94607

Re: San Francisco Bay Trail Board of Directors – Letter of Interest

Dear Laura:

I am delighted to have been given the opportunity to replace Ann Buell as the Coastal Conservancy's project manager for the San Francisco Bay Trail project. I am very interested in replacing Ann on the Bay Trail Board of Directors as well.

Over the past eight years, I have had the opportunity to work with you and your staff on several San Francisco Bay Trail projects, including segments at the Hamilton Wetlands Restoration site and the Napa Sonoma Marshes. I have also managed a number of Bay Area Ridge Trail projects, through which I have gained an understanding of the challenges of planning and implementing a regional trail. I look forward to helping the Bay Trail project continue to make progress and meet the recreation and access needs of the San Francisco Bay Area.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Betsy Wilson
Project Manager
San Francisco Bay Area Program
State Coastal Conservancy

1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, California 94612-2512
510-286-1015 Fax: 510-286-0470

