



**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT  
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE  
AGENDA STAFF REPORT**

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<b>DATE</b>	April 10, 2024
<b>TITLE</b>	Approval of the Minutes for the Board Legislative Committee Meeting March 13, 2024
<b>DIVISION</b>	General Manager's Office
<b>FROM</b>	Debra Fuller, Recording Clerk

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**RECOMMENDATION**

Recommend approval of the minutes for the Board Legislative Committee Meeting of March 13, 2024.

**COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The March 13, 2024 Board Legislative Committee meeting was held in-person and via video conference pursuant to the Brown Act, as amended by AB 2449.

Members of the public can watch the meeting on the Park District's website here:

<https://www.ebparks.org/calendar/public-meetings>.

Attendees:

Board: Chair Dennis Waespi, Director Colin Coffey, and Director Elizabeth Echols

Staff: Dr. Ana Alvarez, Jason Rosenberg, Erich Pfuehler, Lisa Baldinger, Brian Holt and Katy Hornbeck, Debra Fuller

Consultants: Abigail Smet, Environmental and Energy Consulting

Public: Members of the public were able to access the meeting via live video stream.

This meeting was called to order at 10:36 AM.

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**Items discussed:**

1. Roll Call  
Debra Fuller, Assistant Clerk of the Board, conducted a roll call of Board Legislative Committee Directors and staff.
2. Approval of December 15, 2023 Board Legislative Committee Minutes  
Vote: Director Coffey made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Chair Waespi. The motion passed with approval by Chair Waespi and Director Coffey and an abstention by Director Echols.

Chair Waespi moved consideration of the January 10, 2024 Board Legislative Committee Minutes to a future committee agenda for consideration once they were added to the printed packet. No objections were made.

3. Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda

No Public Comment

4. Action Items

a. Recommendation to Sponsor AB 2091 (Grayson D – Concord) Existing Trails for Nature Access

Lisa Baldinger, Legislative and Policy Management Analyst provided an introduction of AB 2091 including the Park District's role in initiating the legislation and providing testimony in future Senate committees.

Jason Rosenberg, Assistant General Counsel addressed the need to provide public access more quickly on certain Park District properties and the partnership with Assemblymember Grayson's office to introduce this legislation.

Director Echols indicated her familiarity with the legislation and thanked staff. She asked whether the Park District would be able to pull sponsorship of the bill if unfavorable future amendments were added. Baldinger responded the author would likely explore what is possible in future proposals if amendments were made that the Park District was not comfortable with.

Director Coffey shared appreciation for connecting with Assemblymember Grayson in Sacramento and appreciated the bill's progress.

Chair Waespi inquired whether staff would be providing testimony. Baldinger confirmed a group of staff would attend testimony on March 19<sup>th</sup>. Chair Waespi also inquired who will work to seek support for this bill. Baldinger indicated letters of support are being collected.

Director Coffey asked whether any opposition was anticipated and how to preempt potential issues. Baldinger indicated the Park District is working with organizations.

Public comment: None.

Vote:

Motion: Director Echols Second: Director Coffey Vote: Passed unanimously

b. Recommendation to Support State Legislation

Lisa Baldinger, Legislative and Policy Management Analyst presented state legislation recommended for support:

**AB 437 (Jackson D-Riverside) State Government Chief Equity Officer** aligns with the advocacy goal of green jobs. This legislation would establish the position of Chief Equity Officer appointed by and serving at the request of the Governor. The position would support actions to improve equity and inclusion across state agencies and departments. This position is similar to the Park District's Equity Officer and could support shared best practices across the state.

**AB 637 (Jackson D-Riverside) Zero Emissions Vehicle Rental Program** aligns with the advocacy goal of climate-friendly transportation. If the State Air Resources Board requires a fleet owner to acquire zero-emission vehicles as part of its fleet, this legislation would authorize the rental of a zero-emission vehicle or vehicles in response to state fleet

requirements. The benefit of this is to allow public agencies to test vehicles for their specific and unique service needs. For example, the Park District would have the opportunity to rent electric vehicles, including yard tractors, for use in regular duties before making a larger investment. This legislation has the potential to result in cost savings as the trial period for vehicles can guide informed decision making for public dollars.

**AB 1798 (Papan D-San Mateo) Stormwater Runoff for the Protection of Salmon and Steelhead Trout** aligns with the advocacy goal of ecosystem stewardship. This legislation would develop a formal review process to prevent toxic substances from entering surface waters. To support mitigation of toxins, it would advance a pilot project for bioretention and biofiltration aimed at exploring how to prevent contamination of surface waters. This legislation compliments legislation previously supported by the Park District, AB 809 (Bennett D-Oxnard) California Salmonid Monitoring Program Fund, which was chaptered in 2023. Protection of salmon and steelhead trout is important to the Park District as Reinhardt Redwood Regional Park, Sibley Volcanic Regional Preserve and Wildcat Canyon Regional Park serve as home to these important species.

**AB 1889 (Friedman D-Burbank) Wildlife Connectivity Elements in General Plans** aligns with the advocacy goal of ecosystem stewardship. This legislation would require cities and counties to include wildlife connectivity elements into their general plans. Specifically, cities and counties would be required to adopt goals, policies, and objectives related to the awareness and protection of species within their jurisdiction. The intent of this legislation is to support a better understanding of habitat and biodiversity needs in a changing climate. As Alameda and Contra Costa County, as well as East Bay cities, begin analyzing and documenting wildlife connectivity in the region, this information will support and benefit the work of the Park District. There will likely be opportunity to collaborate in the approach.

**AB 2124 (Davies R-Laguna Niguel) Outdoor Swim Lessons** aligns with the advocacy goal of community health. This legislation proposes the establishment of a program aimed at increasing access to swimming lessons for children and their families. Such lessons would take place in outdoor locations, such as parks and other public areas, and align with the Department of Parks and Recreation's outdoor education goals. Specifically, this program would focus on underserved and at-risk populations. This program would benefit and complement the efforts of the Park District's Public Safety Lifeguard Services teams in supporting safe outdoor swimming opportunities for all.

**AB 2285 (Rendon D-Lakewood) 30x30 Urban Nature-Based Investments** aligns with the advocacy goal of community health. For efforts to invest in and advance the goals of 30x30, this legislation would encourage the state to provide sufficient funding allocations to urban areas for nature-based projects on degraded lands. Within the *Pathways to 30x30* document the state expresses three key goals including to support environmental conservation, protection of biodiversity and expansion of outdoor access. This legislation would better ensure these actions occur within urban areas where nature-based investments can significantly enhance quality of life for community members.

**AB 2330 (Holden D-Pasadena) Streamlining of Routine Vegetation Management** aligns with the advocacy goal of wildfire resilience. This legislation proposes a revised review timeline for the taking of endangered, threatened or candidate species within high fire severity zones adjacent to wildland-urban interface fire areas. Specifically, this legislation would require review by the Department of Fish and Wildlife within 90 days of receiving an application to advance wildfire mitigation work within a qualifying zone. If such a review does not occur, it would then permit 30 days for the State Fire Marshal to review the proposal. The intention is to streamline applications for critically needed vegetation management work. As the Park

District operates within the wildland-urban interface and the majority of lands are within state designated high fire severity zones, this streamline of review could benefit the project timeline of the agency's vegetation management work, result in cost savings, and improve service delivery.

**AB 2440 (Reyes D-San Bernadino) Advancing 30x30 State Investments** aligns with the advocacy goal of ecosystem stewardship. This legislation would require reporting on the ways in which state funding has invested in furthering the goals of 30x30. Information in these reports would include how investments were guided toward conservation, protection of biodiversity and expanding equitable access to open space. Such reports could benefit the Park District as it would highlight state priorities related to land and water conservation, science, and research, as well as work to manage, monitor and restore conserved lands and waters. The Park District would be able to leverage this information for future policy, legislation, and grant work.

**AB 2509 (Kalra D-San Jose) Integrated Pest Management** aligns with the advocacy goal of ecosystem stewardship. This bill would require the Invasive Species Council of California to prioritize the principles of integrated pest management in all of its activities. Within this bill, integrated pest management is defined as a sustainable approach to managing pests by combining biological, cultural, physical, and chemical tools in a way which minimizes economic, health and environmental risks. This definition aligns with the work of the Park District and would support shared resources and best practices across the state.

**AB 2682 (Kalra D-San Jose) Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority** aligns with the advocacy goal of community health. This legislation seeks to support the administrative functions of the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority (SCVOSA) through refined public resources code language. Specifically, this legislation would increase the thresholds related to formal bidding and contracts to improve and expedite service delivery. The SCVOSA is a strong partner of the Park District. Their work to conserve and protect Coyote Valley contributes to the health of the greater Diablo Range ecosystem in connection with the Park District's lands.

**AB 2869 (Friedman D-Burbank) Trail Access Projects** aligns with the advocacy goal of climate-friendly transportation. This bill would require the Department of Transportation to mitigate the impact of infrastructure projects which interfere with or eliminate trail access to parks and recreational areas. Specifically, this mitigation would be achieved by establishing alternative safe access to parks and recreational areas for any routes impacted. This legislation would benefit the work of the Park District where regional trails abut state roads which may require improvements in response to sea level rise projections, or other impacts.

**ACA 16 (Bryan D-Los Angeles) The Right to Clean Air, Water and a Healthy Environment** aligns with the advocacy goal of community health. This legislation proposes the California Constitution officially declare the right of residents to clean air and water, and a healthy environment. Such a declaration would further codify the importance of the Park District's work in supporting healthy communities across the state.

**SB 925 (Wiener D-San Francisco) Regional Transportation Measure** aligns with the advocacy goal of climate-friendly transportation. This legislation proposes a revenue measure be advanced to the San Francisco Bay Area voters for consideration to fund transportation related investment. It is likely such a measure will include active transportation investments for which the Park District could qualify.

**SB 1029 (Min D-Irvine) Advance Payments for the Regional Forest and Fire**

**Capacity Program** aligns with the advocacy goal of wildfire resilience. As proposed, this legislation would allow for advanced payments to entities who qualify for Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program grants. The Park District has previously received funding from this program for work in Tilden Regional Park. A unique aspect of this program is its requirement for partners to advance the project work collaboratively. An advance payment mechanism would expand opportunities for future project partners.

**SB 1159 (Dodd D-Napa) Expediting Roadside Wildfire Risk Reduction** aligns with the advocacy goal of wildfire resilience. This legislation would require the California Natural Resources Agency Secretary to consider providing a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exemption for roadside projects undertaken for the purpose of wildfire risk reduction. This legislation would benefit the work of the Park District to advance critically needed mitigation on grassland and forest areas.

**SB 1402 (Min D-Irvine) Activating 30x30 Goals in State Strategic Plans** aligns with the advocacy goal of ecosystem stewardship. This bill would require all state agencies, departments, boards, offices, commissions, and conferences to take 30x30 goals into consideration when adopting, revising, or establishing plans, policies, and regulations. This action would formalize the goals of the report within state level strategic planning documents. By doing so, this action would activate the goals to protect biodiversity, conserve lands and expand equitable access to the outdoors in multiple state programs.

Director Coffey inquired what the constitutional declaration of the right to clean air and water, and a healthy environment would do. Baldinger indicated the amendment would create the foundation for future actions. It codifies the goals of the State of California so actionable items can gain traction. Director Coffey asked whether the program to create access to swim lessons for underserved families carried any funding. Baldinger answered the program would establish a grant program across the state.

Director Echols asked what SB 1159 Expediting Roadside Wildfire Risk Reduction would change and how it would work. Baldinger indicated the proposal is in draft form with the intent to streamline roadside mitigation projects. Further amendments are expected to refine and put structure around the process and who qualifies.

Chair Waespi indicated his appreciation for AB 637 and the opportunity to migrate to alternative and electric vehicles. He inquired whether this committee and the Park District Board of Directors had yet supported AB 817 to allow remote participation in meetings. Baldinger confirmed a support position was officially taken last year.

Public Comment: None.

Vote:

Motion: Director Echols Second: Director Coffey Vote: Passed unanimously

#### c. Recommendation to Support Federal Legislation

Erich Pfuehler, Chief of Government and Legislative Affairs presented Federal legislation recommended for support:

S. 3670 (Markey D-MA) and H.R. 7082 (Cohen D-TN) Complete Streets Act aligns with the advocacy goal of climate-friendly transportation. The Complete Streets Act would promote safer and more accessible transportation routes across the United States. A “complete street” is one designed to provide safe and accessible transportation options for multiple modes of travel, as

well as for people of all ages and abilities. Complete streets can accommodate pedestrians, bicyclists, and public transit users, not just cars and freight vehicles. A complete street is also safe for children, seniors, and individuals with disabilities.

This legislation would require states to set aside a portion of their Federal highway funding to create a grant program aimed at funding complete streets projects. Through this program, eligible local and regional entities will be able to apply for technical assistance and capital funding to build safe street projects – such as sidewalks, bike lanes, crosswalks, and bus stops.

Under the Complete Streets Act:

- States would be required to set aside five percent of their Federal highway money to create a “Complete Streets” program.
- Eligible entities would need to adopt a complete streets policy, participate in technical assistance, and create a prioritized plan for projects in their jurisdictions to access the funding.
- States and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) would be responsible for certifying complete streets policies meet minimum requirements set out by the United States Secretary of Transportation.

The U.S. Secretary of Transportation, States and MPOs would be required to adopt design standards for Federal surface transportation projects aimed at providing safe and adequate accommodation of all users. The standards would apply to all phases of project planning, development, and operation.

This legislation could be included as a provision in the next Federal Highway Administration Surface Transportation Reauthorization. The current authorization was included as part of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021. Authorization is through fiscal year 2026.

H.R. 6659 (Barragan D-CA) E-Bike Share Act aligns with the advocacy goal of climate-friendly transportation. This legislation would establish a program at the U.S. Department of Transportation (DoT) to provide grants for electric bike-sharing services in disadvantaged communities. Electric bike sales are surging, as the level of ridership has doubled nearly every year since 2015. However, the cost of ownership can be a barrier for low-income residents. Municipal bike-share systems are increasingly adopting electric bikes into their systems to grow their popularity. The proposed DoT grant program would accelerate this adoption and deploy an affordable, zero-emission alternative to driving for communities which need it the most. The E-Bike Share program would offer a zero-emission alternative to areas underserved by transit. The program could help connect disadvantaged communities to everyday destinations like parks, jobs, grocery stores and schools, to name a few. It could provide a viable option for accessing East Bay parks and trails.

This legislation could be included as a provision in the next Federal Highway Administration Surface Transportation Reauthorization. The current authorization was included as part of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021. Authorization is through fiscal year 2026. A support position for H.R. 6659 would be extended to a related or companion bill introduced in the Senate.

H.R. 6773 (Thompson D-CA) Senator Dianne Feinstein Memorial Trail aligns with the overarching principle of inclusive interpretation and educational opportunities. Along with Representative Jared Huffman, Representative Mike Thompson’s legislation would designate a trail in the Headwaters Forest Reserve in honor of the late Senator Dianne Feinstein. Senator Feinstein was the chief architect of the 1999 agreement which led to the creation of the Headwaters Forest Preserve after facilitating the sale of the land from Pacific Lumber to the

United States Government. The bill would rename the Elk River Trail in the Headwaters Forest Reserve to the Senator Dianne Feinstein Memorial Trail. Other examples of her dedication to conservation include preserving millions of acres of land in the State of California from the redwoods of Headwaters Forest to the San Francisco Bay and Lake Tahoe. She also provided leadership in the establishment of Death Valley National Park, Joshua Tree National Park, the Mojave National Preserve, the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, the Mojave Trails National Monument, the Sand to Snow National Monument and the Castle Mountains National Monument. The late Senator was historically supportive of the Park District particularly with regard to Wildfire Resilience and Sea Level Rise Preparedness, as well as supporting the creation of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority.

This legislation could be included as a provision in the next Omnibus Public Lands bill. The last such bill was the John D. Dingell Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act of 2019. A support position for H.R. 6773 would be extended to a related or companion bill introduced in the Senate.

H.R. 6841 (Levin D-CA) Coastal Resilience and Restoration Program aligns with the advocacy goal of sea level rise preparedness. This legislation amends the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 aimed at allowing the Secretary of Commerce to establish a Coast and Estuarine Resilience and Restoration Program. It calls on the Department of Commerce to work with state, regional and other units of government, and non-governmental organizations to protect coast and estuarine areas. Specifically, those which:

1. Have significant conservation, recreational, coastal access, ecological, historical, community protection or aesthetic value.
2. Are threatened by conversion from their natural, undeveloped, or recreational state to other uses.
3. Could be managed or restored to effectively conserve, enhance, or restore ecological function to mitigate climate change.

Priority is given to areas within or adjacent to a national wildlife refuge which would include Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge just south of Coyote Hills Regional Park. Priority is also given for the value of ecosystem services, including as a buffer for storm surge, habitat for economically valuable species and long-term carbon storage.

The bill also directs the Secretary of Commerce to designate at least five new National Estuarine Research Reserves. It authorizes \$47 million for each of the fiscal years 2024 through 2028 for the program.

This legislation could be included as a provision in the next round of amendments to the Coastal Zone Management Act. It has been amended 11 times since 1972, most recently in 2009. The act was provided an infusion of funding for habitat restoration projects as part of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021. \$207 million is provided over five years. A support position for H.R. 6841 would be extended to a related or companion bill introduced in the Senate.

H.R. 6882 (Cartwright D-PA) PREPARE Act aligns with the advocacy goal of sea level rise preparedness. The Preparedness and Risk management for Extreme weather Patterns Assuring Resilience and Effectiveness (PREPARE) Act would create an Interagency Council to provide government-wide recommendations on resilience and readiness for extreme weather. It would encourage communities to undertake efforts aimed at boosting resilience against natural disasters. The sponsor indicated every dollar spent on mitigation would save six dollars on the

averted potential recovery costs after a natural disaster. The Office of Management and Budget is tasked with ensuring each agency participating in the Council has adequate resources.

This legislation could be included as a provision in the next reauthorization of the Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act. Authorization is through fiscal year 2023. The current authorization includes the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Act. A support position for H.R. 6882 would be extended to a related or companion bill introduced in the Senate.

H.R. 6925 (Porter D-CA) Every Kid Outdoors Reauthorization Act aligns with the advocacy goal of community health. This legislation would permanently authorize the program which enables fourth graders and their families to visit National Parks for free. The program was established in March of 2019 when the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act was signed into law. H.R. 6925 would also expand the program to include fifth grade students. Without action by Congress, the Every Kid Outdoors program is set to expire in 2026.

This legislation could be included as a provision in the next Omnibus Public Lands bill. The last such bill was the John D. Dingell Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act of 2019. A support position for H.R. 6925 would be extended to a related or companion bill introduced in the Senate.

Director Echols thanked staff for the presentation.

Director Coffey inquired whether there were renewed threats to the wildlife conservation fund and if the Park District would join in advocacy efforts. Pfuehler stated the fund is part of several items being proposed for cuts in the House appropriations process. Cuts would be prevented if President Biden's deal reached with Congressional leadership last year stands. The Department of Interior update is being closely tracked by staff.

Public Comment: None.

Vote:

Motion: Director Coffey Second: Director Echols Vote: Passed unanimously

## 5. Informational Items

### a. Update on Local Actions Taken By Other Jurisdictions

Brian Holt, Chief of Planning, Trails and GIS provided a presentation on regional planning throughout the East Bay area. He stated as a regional agency, the Park District is critical to the land use footprint in the region. Holt discussed various land use eras over the decades, urban land use in Contra Costa and Alameda County, Plan Bay Area 2050 and 30x30 initiatives.

Director Echols stated her appreciation for the presentation and learning about regional efforts.

Director Coffey inquired whether the Park District has submitted comments for Contra Costa County's General Plan Update. Holt indicated staff will work to ensure Park District existing and proposed lands are included on county maps moving forward. The Park District's interests are included in the County's plan. The Park District has not yet needed to submit comment. Coffey commented about the community profiles on which Contra Costa County is working and the overlap in efforts to create access for underserved communities.

Chair Waespi inquired whether Lake Del Valle was part of the water development emerging issues included in the presentation. Holt indicated he had not heard of active proposals.

Public Comment: None.

b. Update on Grants from December 21, 2023 to February 20, 2024

Katy Hornbeck, Grants Manager provided a briefing about recently applied and awarded grants. Hornbeck shared information about grants the Park District has applied for and three that have been awarded totaling \$7,450,000.

Director Coffey inquired what disappointments have arisen during the reporting period. Hornbeck indicated the Wildlife Conservation Board application for the Brook Road project was not selected for funding because the restoration component was not robust enough. However, the Board did select the Park District's Tidewater Project for a tentative \$2.6 million award. Coffey welcomed the good news and stated additional resources for grants staff are important. Hornbeck noted and appreciated the Board's approval of \$100,000 in the last budget cycle for grant writing services to assist with technical studies and benefit-cost analyses.

Chair Waespi stated his admiration for the work staff put into Park District grants. He inquired whether the Park District still receives grants under \$50,000. Hornbeck indicated these types of grants now go to stewardship and are a little more infrequent.

Public Comment: None.

c. 2024-25 Fiscal Year State Budget Review

Erich Pfuehler, Chief of Government and Legislative Affairs introduced the item and the presenter, Abigail Smet, Land Conservation, Biodiversity and Climate Specialist with Environmental and Energy Consulting. Smet shared information about the state budget, proposed budget solutions and previous surpluses carried over from Federal COVID-19 funds. 89% of the climate package is maintained. 87% of nature-based solutions funding are also maintained. The largest funding cut is \$392 million from the State Coastal Conservancy. The environmental community is maintaining its commitment to passing a climate bond in 2024.

Director Echols inquired whether the commitment to the climate bond would give the Governor more ability to cut back on some areas about which the Park District cares most. Pfuehler indicated the momentum for a climate bond is emerging, though the level of funding is uncertain. Some of the future steps will depend in part on Proposition I and the electorate's interest in bond proposals. The Park District is staying very actively engaged through Environmental Energy and Consulting and a recent legislative advocacy day with TOGETHER Bay Area. Smet agreed and indicated a lot more would be known once the results of Proposition I were certified.

Director Coffey asked if Proposition I was an issue because it will pull the Governor's attention away by making another attempt in November. Pfuehler indicated the proposition represents the state's appetite and attitude toward bonding authority or debt. Coffey encouraged moving strongly on a climate bond regardless of the recent low turnout in the primary election. Pfuehler agreed. Smet indicated the climate bond proposal would need to pass the legislature by the end of June to be placed on the November ballot. The Governor's Office may not be willing to focus on another bond if Proposition I does not move forward.

Director Echols indicated her hope that the mental health bond would pass, and a robust climate bond would happen. She asked how a climate bond would impact what the Governor would consider cutting within natural resources. Smet indicated there is a concern this bond would

be a way to backfill cuts to the general fund. Partners in the Senate and Assembly want to see environmental funding in the budget while adding additional funding through a bond.

Public Comment: None.

d. State Advocacy Conference Reflection

Erich Pfuehler, Chief of Government and Legislative Affairs shared his appreciation for the Board's participation in the January 30 and 31<sup>st</sup> conference. A presentation was shared as an overview of meetings during the conference. Lisa Baldinger, Legislative and Policy Management Analyst joined to discuss additional meetings with state legislators, agencies, and staff.

Director Echols inquired whether the Park District had submitted a letter to the full delegation outlining asks on the climate bond. Baldinger indicated the Park District has submitted the letter including four key priorities: wildfire mitigation, sea level rise preparedness, lake health and green jobs in the East Bay. A letter from the East Bay delegation to the author's office is in progress. Echols asked whether the full delegation is expected to support the Park District's four priorities. Baldinger answered each member is more likely to highlight their specific priorities and interests. Pfuehler shared an example of discussing the Park District's four key priorities with Assemblymember Lori Wilson's office which included the likelihood of her future advocacy for prescribed grazing and conservation corps issues. All four priorities will have support from some combination of the East Bay delegation.

Director Coffey stated how the presentation reinforced his memory of the experience in Sacramento and the support from each legislator. Assemblymember Grayson's efforts were of note. He also thanked staff for the follow-up with Assemblymember Lori Wilson's office as well. Baldinger shared the Wilson office's interest in continuing to work with the Park District.

Chair Waespi agreed and shared the experience was a strong team-building and learning exercise. He thanked Temporary Executive Assistant Lauren Blanchard for her organizational efforts. Waespi valued pitching a California Conservation Corps camp at Holly Court. He inquired about the timeline for finalizing a Corps spike camp. Pfuehler indicated a follow-up meeting is being scheduled with the Executive Director of the California Conservation Corps to iron out what is possible. Waespi asked whether it might take place this year. Pfuehler indicated there is a chance. The Corps is operating under funding from last year's budget until funds are available until June.

Director Coffey thanked the staff for an exceptionally well-organized conference. Pfuehler included his appreciation for Blanchard. Director Echols agreed and thanked staff for sharing materials in advance. She was glad to meet with legislators directly. Coffey also thanked Acting Legislative Assistant Ashley Grenier for her work. Deputy General Manager Dr. Ana Alvarez thanked committee members for acknowledging staff efforts. She shared her appreciation and indicated how meaningful the acknowledgment was.

Public Comment: None.

e. Update on Site Visits and Meetings

Erich Pfuehler, Chief of Government and Legislative Affairs presented on recent site visits and meetings.

Site Visits and Events recently hosted by the East Bay Regional Park District include:

- I. California Coastal Conservancy Staff Site Visit, Tidewater Boating Center, MLK Jr. Regional Shoreline, January 12

Park District staff including representation from Government and Legislative Affairs, Grants, Park Operations, and Design and Construction met with leadership from the California Coastal Conservancy, including their Executive Director, to discuss the future development of Tidewater Day Use Area Public Access Project.

2. California Coastal Conservancy & Parks California Site Visit, McLaughlin Eastshore State Park, March 1

Park District staff including representation from Government and Legislative Affairs, Grants, Park Operations, and Design and Construction met with the Executive Director of the California Coastal Conservancy and Parks California's President & CEO, to discuss the development of Brickyard Cove and Berkeley Meadow, as well as the future development of the North Basin Strip.

3. Civicorps Pittsburgh Satellite facility, March 7

Director Coffey and Park District staff including representation from Government and Legislative Affairs, and Park Operations, met with leadership and crew from Civicorps to tour their Pittsburg facility and discuss future partnerships.

Committee Member Comments: None.

Public Comments: None.

6. Announcements – None.
7. Adjournment – The Committee adjourned at 12:48 PM.