


**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
AGENDA STAFF REPORT**

DATE	April 3, 2024
TITLE	Informational Update on TOGETHER Bay Area Partnership
DIVISION	General Manager's Office
FROM	Erich Pfuehler, Chief of Government and Legislative Affairs Dr. Ana Alvarez, Deputy General Manager
APPROVED	Sabrina Landreth, General Manager 

RECOMMENDATION

None. This is an informational item.

BACKGROUND

TOGETHER Bay Area is a coalition formed in the footprint of the Bay Area Open Space Council. The Council was formed in 1990 by Bay Area leaders. The organization played a prominent role in the creation of the San Francisco Bay Program managed by the State Coastal Conservancy which has contributed over \$300 million to help fund over 425 fish and wildlife habitat, public access and open space, and environmental education projects. The organization also has launched the Conservation Lands Network to support regional conservation strategies. Importantly, the organization connects Bay Area land agencies and organizations across the San Francisco Bay Area with each other through gatherings, conferences and events. In March 2020, a group of member organizations launched TOGETHER Bay Area with a refined mission, vision and Framework for Justice, Equity, and Belonging:

Our mission is to be the champion and regional voice of the resilient lands that are integral to a thriving Bay Area and all people who live here.

Our vision is a Bay Area that is home to healthy lands, healthy people, and healthy communities where we address the impacts of climate change through collaboration. We live in a just and equitable society where we live in relationship with the land that sustains us now and will sustain future generations.

As an original founder of the organization in 1990, the East Bay Regional Park District has had a seat at the Bay Area Open Space tables in support of advocacy and convening.

In November 2023, TOGETHER Bay Area finalized a strategic plan titled, “Hope Action Together – Strategic Direction 2024 – 2028” which formalizes the organization’s five-year priorities. These include:

1. Together we will conserve and steward 50% of the Bay Area lands by 2050.
2. Together we will build regional capacity for Native American tribal alliances.
3. Together we will secure significant and stable public funding that is equitably accessible and distributed.
4. Together we will build and nurture a social network of practitioners and professionals.
5. Together we will create and maintain a thriving organization.

Within the strategic direction document, each property has additional objectives identified which expand on the work of the organization. A copy of this document has been included as an attachment to this report.

This presentation will provide an update on East Bay Regional Park District's role in TOGETHER Bay Area and opportunities for the Board of Directors to engage in 2024.

ANALYSIS

None.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

ATTACHMENTS

TOGETHER Bay Area Strategic Plan
Pres TOGETHER Bay Area Update – April 2024