



**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT  
PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
October 28, 2024**

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<b>DATE</b>	October 28, 2024
<b>TITLE</b>	Approval of the Minutes for the Board Park Advisory Committee Meeting September 23, 2024
<b>DIVISION</b>	General Manager's Office
<b>FROM</b>	Lisa Baldinger, Recording Clerk

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**RECOMMENDATION**

Recommend approval of the minutes for the Board Park Advisory Committee Meeting of September 23, 2024.

**COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The September 23, 2024 Board Park Advisory 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>

The meeting was called to order at 4:12 p.m.

**I. Roll Call**

Clerk Lisa Baldinger conducted a roll call. Present were the following Members and staff:

Members  
In Person: Susie Claxton, Linda Deschambault, Irene Dieter, Luana Espana, Casey Farmer,  
Bruce Henry, Francis Mendoza, Bob Peoples, Bob Reid, Bob Simmons, Igor Skaredoff, Neil  
Tsutsui, Ed Valenzuela, Roland Williams

Members  
Remote: Carlyn Obringer

Members  
Absent: James Chang, Corina Lopez, Dev Mahedevan, Dennisha Marsh

Staff: Katie Dignan, Katy Hornbeck, Sean Dougan, Brian Holt, Deborah Spaulding, Lisa Baldinger,  
Erich Pfuehler

Board: Director Dee Rosario

Vice Chair Espana read the Native American land acknowledgment.

Member Obringer confirmed no one over the age of 18 was present in the room at her remote location.

## **2. Approval of Minutes**

- a. August 26, 2024 – Park Advisory Committee Minutes

### **MOTION**

Member Obringer moved and Member Peoples seconded a motion to approve the August 26, 2024 Park Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes. The minutes were amended to expand the sentence, “In response to Member Dieter, Assistant Finance Officer Dignan explained the reporting on unappropriated funds for Measure WW and what completed projects means.” The revision is to read, “In response to Member Dieter, Assistant Finance Officer Dignan explained the reporting on unappropriated funds for Measure WW and what completed projects means that the funds have been spent.” The question was called and the motion carried.

## **3. Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda**

None.

## **4. Action items**

None.

## **5. Informational Items**

### **a. Board Member Comments**

Director Rosario thanked the Committee for its thoughts regarding Director Corbett. He provided updates on projects in Wards 2 and 4.

In response to Committee questions, Director Rosario discussed clean-up of the gun range and trail restoration in Lafayette.

Member Lopez thanked Director Rosario for his service to Ward 4.

### **b. Presentation(s)**

#### **I. Informational Update on Measure WW Local Grants Program**

Grants Manager Katy Hornbeck presented a PowerPoint outlining background on Measure WW; current status; projects in various jurisdictions; overview of the WW report; and Urban Creeks Update.

In response to Chair Tsutsui, Hornbeck explained the process for using remaining funds.

In response to Member Claxton, Hornbeck discussed the Vargas Plateau project.

In response to Member Simmons, Hornbeck explained that available funds for the Urban Creek Program could be issued as a second round of funding. Member Simmons asked if non-profits could receive funding. Hornbeck indicated funding was for municipalities.

## **2. Informational Update on the Park District's Trails Program**

Trail Development Program Manager Sean Dougan explained the Trails Program unit and provided an overview of ongoing trail projects.

In response to Chair Tsutsui, Dougan discussed contingency planning for sea level rise and the resiliency study on the Bay Trail. Chief of Planning, Trails and GIS Brian Holt explained the Bay Conservation Development Commission guidelines for shoreline development.

In response to Member Dieter, Dougan provided an update on the Wild Cat Bike Trail. Chief Holt discussed the existing land use plan, clarifying that mountain biking was an allowed use.

Vice Chair Espana requested additional information on the Ridge Trail extension. Dougan stated the California Public Utilities Commission had approved a new crossing and staff was currently preparing the application to the railroad.

Member Skaredoff discussed a road connection along the railroad tracks in Martinez and ask about efforts to make it more pedestrian friendly. Dougan discussed connections to the Waterbird area, and the need to raise the road.

In response to Member Valenzuela, Dougan discussed the Marsh Creek trail extension and need for \$5 million. Holt discussed potential long-range plans for the Roddy Ranch Property.

In response to Member Peoples, Dougan provided an update on the connection from Tassajara Creek Trail to Tassajara Ridge Trail.

In response to Member Deschambault, Dougan discussed the need to plan for future project contaminants. Holt discussed the District's legacy of working with brownfield sites.

In response to Member Obringer, Holt discussed prioritization of capital projects, work on Thurgood Marshal Regional Park - Home of the Port Chicago 50 and new parklands.

As a public comment, Bruce Ohlson stated cyclists would like Big Break Regional Trail extended to west to the Antioch Oakley Shoreline.

## **3. Informational Update on the 2025 Budget Process**

Assistant General Manager of Finance and Management Services Deborah Spaulding provided an overview of the Park District Operating Budget and Finances including a high-level explanation of the budget process, budget calendar; revenue and expenditures; Beacon Economics projections; and next steps.

Member Williams suggested a multi-year budget.

In response to Member Valenzuela, Spaulding explained the process for increasing staffing.

In response to Member Obringer, Spaulding discussed scoring of projects and funding, and the Board's prioritization discussion on October 4.

### **c. Report from Chair**

Chair Tsutsui announced the PAC field trip on November 16. Legislative and Policy Management Analyst Lisa Baldinger discussed the proposed tour in Tilden highlighting a strategic partnership project working on wildfire mitigation. She stated the carbonizer visit might occur in 2025.

Chair Tsutsui discussed selection of the Park Advisory Committee's 2025 Chair and Vice Chair.

## **6. Announcements**

### **PAC Member Comments**

Member Mendoza noted Hispanic Heritage Month and many celebrations within the Park District. He also noted Filipino American History Month in October and commended Director Rosario. He discussed Gathering of Ohlone Peoples on October 6 at Coyote Hills Regional Park in Fremont.

Vice Chair Espana thanked Member Mendoza for his service and announced the Bay Area Ridge Trail Annual Trail Service Day on November 2.

Member Reid announced his mom, Betty Reid Soskin turned 103. He discussed his participation in the 22nd Annual East Bay Hills Benefit Hike and Ride.

Member Valenzuela announced the Photo Exhibit from Oct 26 to November 9; and All Abilities Day on October 8.

Member Obringer thanked the Park District for attending the open house on Concord Naval Weapons Station and announced the update via Zoom on October 8.

Member Lopez announced the United Nations International Day of Peace at Lake Chabot on September 27.

## **7. Adjournment**

There being no further business, Chair Tsutsui declared the meeting adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Baldinger, Legislative and Policy Management Analyst