



SHORE LINES

News from Citizens for East Shore Parks · Fall 2016

McLaughlin Eastshore State Park Major Progress

1) **Albany** - New trails out to the Bulb completed by East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) - beautiful access trails on the Albany Neck and Bulb.

2) **Berkeley** - Soil grading and seeding of the Berkeley Brickyard (University Ave.) has finally been done. The dirt mound has been repurposed and seeds will do their work.

3) **Berkeley/Albany Bay Trail over Golden Gate Fields** (GGF). This ribbon of trail was promised repeatedly by GGF management to CESP in return for CESP's help at various times. But GGF continually dragged its feet and eventually reneged entirely on its agreement. Finally CESP and EBRPD got fed up with broken promises and the Park District filed an eminent domain lawsuit to get the trail spur. Result: GGF is now cooperating with the construction of the trail across its waterfront. 4,200 feet of San Francisco Bay Trail will be added.

4) **Boat Launch** - A non-motorized small watercraft launch will be built in Phase 2, Albany Beach Restoration.

5) **Bird Survey completed.** - CESP collaborated with Golden Gate Audubon Society and California Native Plant Society conducting the Albany Neck and Bulb Bird Survey (June 2015-June 2016) funded by California State Parks Foundation. Study data will facilitate habitat protection and the Albany Bulb Transition. The report will be available online.

6) **Albany Beach Habitat Restoration and Access** Phase 1 completed; Phases 2 and 3 scheduled for 2017/2018. Phase 2 includes beach, dune enhancement; restroom construction; non-motorized watercraft launch; parking, and approximately 800 feet of new San Francisco Bay Trail at Albany Beach.

7) **Albany Bulb/ McLaughlin Eastshore State Park** Albany and EBRPD have negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to include Albany Bulb as part of the MESP for management and maintenance by the EBRPD. The MOU outlines pathway to turn over the Bulb to the EBRPD for management with Albany continuing police and fire support; and both collaborating on getting the grants to complete recreation enhancements. Albany hopefully will sign MOU in October 2016.



Point Molate Shoreline photo by Patricia Jones

Richmond Point Molate

Brief History: CESP has pushed for a major park installation at Point Molate for years. Point Molate (just north of the Richmond/San Rafael Bridge) is a spectacular undeveloped stretch along the shoreline. About ten years ago CESP presented the **first \$80 million package** to Richmond to accept the property (paid for by Chevron but turned over to EBRPD) turning Point Molate largely into a park. Richmond rejected this package by one vote, favoring instead a casino package. CESP sued to stop this casino pact.

Per Court Ordered settlement discussions, CESP then sought to protect Point Molate in the event Richmond approved the casino project. CESP negotiated a **second \$80 million package** for Richmond that protected 75% of Point Molate as parkland (shore and upland); got a permanent stream of revenue from the casino resort to purchase shoreline parcels in Richmond for a continuous shoreline park; got iron clad protections for habitat, eel grass beds, for replacing invasive plants with natives, for the watershed along the south of Point Molate. CESP also got a job creation and training program for Richmond residents. The developer signed off on all of this to settle the CESP Lawsuit. The City Council rejected this second \$80 million package—there had been a shift in the city against the casino project.

On Sept. 13, 2016 Richmond approved three public hearings to discuss options for Point Molate. CESP will be working with park advocates to maximize parkland on the site.



**Citizens for
East Shore Parks**
PO Box 6087
Albany, CA 94706
www.eastshorepark.org
510-524-5000

Richmond Terminal One is a shoreline property east of Miller/Knox Regional Shoreline and adjacent to the Brickyard Cove neighborhood, the site of a planned housing development. The Richmond City Council approved a large multi-family complex blocking views of the shoreline, and an environmental impact report and rezoning for project on July 5. CESP stood with Brickyard Cove Alliance for Responsible Development (BCARD) to oppose the development project which has many deficiencies. CESP is working with BCARD to see what can be done about this flawed project. BCARD has filed a CEQA lawsuit to block this plan and any like it in the future.



CESP Board and Staff tour Oro Loma Sanitary District
photo by Lana Husser

Event Calendar

Berkeley Path Wanderers Association Sylvia McLaughlin Memorial Walk

Thursday, December 15 | 10:00 am
Start: Sea Breeze Deli, 598 University Ave., Berkeley

Explore McLaughlin Eastshore State Park at a King Tide, talking about the park's history, rising sea levels. 2-2.5 hour walk. Leaders: Susan Schwartz, Friends of Five Creeks; Robert Cheasty, CESP; Doris Sloan, CESP

Email Cameron to get involved:
cespmanager@eastshorepark.org.

Planning for a Resilient Shore in SF Bay

The East Bay needs to create a Resilient Shoreline to handle the predicted two-meter sea rise in San Francisco Bay, and to be able to manage increasingly forceful king tides. If we start now we can adjust in time to save our shoreline, our habitats and parks along the Bay shore.

CESP has launched a tour of mayors and stakeholders to build a Grand Coalition, large enough to raise the awareness of the problem and to form the juggernaut needed to protect the shoreline. We have a simple message:

1. No further construction along the shoreline.
2. Create parkland buffer between the shore and the bayside communities.
3. We need to restore the wetlands to protect Bay shore from water intrusion.
4. We need to form a Grand Coalition to get the funding on the federal, state and local levels to start the shoreline transformation now.

The urgency is already being felt—each city we have visited has listened eagerly. Other organizations that are looking at this problem have and continue to develop the science and engineering options to study. We are making allies as we speak to them.

Everyone recognizes that we should start immediately - momentum is starting to build. Even those who in the past were slow to understand the value of shoreline parks now see the tie in with resilient shoreline.

Cities like Albany, Berkeley, El Cerrito, Emeryville, Hayward, Oakland, Richmond, Pinole, as well as the Citizens Committee to Complete the Refuge and Oro Loma Sanitary District are supporting.

We are joined by BCDC Commissioner Jim McGrath and Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia and by the major environmental organizations that formed CESP. This is a critical project. We will keep you informed as we update the website.

Visit CESP'S New WordPress Website

Thanks to Board Member and Fundraising Committee Chair Roberta Wyn, for the insight to submit a pro bono project via Taproot and to WordPress expert Susan Metz who found our project and expertly guided the transition from the website to the WordPress platform. Today we have a fresh and interactive website with streamlined navigation that highlights CESP's 3 project areas: Completing McLaughlin Eastshore State Park; Expanding the Park through Richmond North; and Establishing a Resilient Shoreline to protect against sea level rise. Visit: www.eastshorepark.org to see the new website.