Completing the Ravenswood Bay Trail Connection
A Model Bay Trail Partnership

July 24, 2015
Bay Trail Board Meeting

City of East Palo Alto
City of Menlo Park
Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

And Many Others, including...
San Mateo County Parks Department
Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition
Facebook
Samtrans
Ravenswood Bay Trail Connection

- ½-mile gap in the Bay Trail
- located at the boundary of two cities: East Palo Alto and Menlo Park
- situated along an active transportation corridor serving major employers
- final gap in 80 miles of continuous trail linking three counties and a toll bridge
- lack of trail facility requires bicyclists and pedestrians to detour 2 miles on city streets
- one of the most complex Bay Trail gaps in the region:
  - existing wetlands
  - railroad line, activated in future
  - SF Public Utilities Commission land
  - adjacent residential neighborhood
  - nearby Hetch-Hetchy water pipes
  - South Bay Salt Pond restoration
  - former gun club, required clean-up
First Step: Alignment Study

- $46,000 Bay Trail/Coastal Conservancy planning grant awarded to the City of Menlo Park
- identified alignment alternatives, conducted topographical surveys and soil tests, and created construction cost estimates
- public workshops were held in partnership with the City of East Palo Alto
- a preferred alignment was identified and the final plan released in 2005
Moving the Alignment Study Forward

- $40,000 Bay Trail/Coastal Conservancy planning grant awarded to the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD) in 2010
- completed conceptual design, CEQA initial study and environmental review
- Working group included Menlo Park, East Palo Alto and SFPUC
- refined the original preferred alignment: combination of bike lanes, paved paths and raised boardwalk trail
- MROSD agreement with SF PUC on public access easement in exchange for land needed to underground Hetch Hetchy water pipes
- Cost estimate: $2.1 million
BAY TRAIL CONCEPT PLAN AT RAVENSWOOD
Trail Planning and CEQA Consulting
May 18, 2015

CONCEPTUAL TRAIL ALIGNMENT

LEGEND
- Existing SFPUC Service Road
- Existing Bike Lane
- Existing Multi-Use Bike Trail
- Parcel Line (Approximate)
- Coastal Marsh (Wetlands)

Preferred Alignment
- Trail Striped on SFPUC Service Road
- Paved Trail on Grassy Uplands
- Boardwalk-Style Raised Trail above Wetlands
- Bridge over Wetlands

Alternative Alignment
- Paved Trail on Grassy Uplands
- Bridge over Wetlands

UNIVERSITY VILLAGE (EAST PALO ALTO)
SFPUC STRUCTURE
BRIDGE AREA ENLARGEMENT
RAVENSWOOD OPEN SPACE PRESERVE (MROSD)

Callender Associates
Trail Planning and Implementation
www.callenderassociates.com

David J. Montes
Berk Resources Group
MEANWHILE . . .

- 2012: $400,000 awarded from Santa Clara County Stanford mitigation fund
- 2013: East Palo Alto finalized the Four Corners Transit-Oriented Development Specific Plan that includes the Ravenswood Bay Trail Connection
- 2014: Facebook agreed to construct a connecting Bay Trail segment along University Avenue between the Ravenswood Bay Trail Connection and Bayshore Highway. It was completed last year.
San Mateo County Measure A Funds

ABAG submitted a funding request on behalf of the partners and $1 million is in the process of being awarded to the project by San Mateo County!

• The application included letters of support from East Palo Alto, Menlo Park, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District and Facebook

• The funds will be applied to construction costs and an MOU will be signed by the three agencies. Additional needs will be covered by the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District’s Measure AA funds and/or Santa Clara County funds.

• San Mateo County Parks has incorporated this project into their Measure A budget and it is on track for formal approval by the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors in September.
Thank you to our public and private partners for their commitment to completing a critical gap in the Bay Trail system!