




Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR

June 23, 2015

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From:  Christine Daniel, City Manager

Submitted by: Scott Ferris, Director, Parks Recreation & Waterfront Department

Subject: Designating Two Sites at the Berkeley Marina as Trailheads for the San Francisco Bay Water Trail and Submitting a Grant Application for Site Improvements

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution designating two sites at the Berkeley Marina as trailheads for the San Francisco Bay Water Trail (the South Sailing Cove docks and the Northside Public Launch Ramp), and authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application for Water Trail grant funding for site improvements, to accept the grant, to execute any grant agreement and amendments, and authorizes the implementation of the projects and appropriation of funding for related expenses, subject to securing the grant.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

There are no fiscal impacts associated with the designation of two sites at the Berkeley Marina as trailheads for the San Francisco Bay Water Trail. The main requirement as a trailhead is to display a Water Trail sign, which is provided by the Water Trail Program. Once these sites have been designated, the City is eligible to apply for funding from the San Francisco Bay Water Trail grant program for site improvements. The City will apply for up to \$80,000, which will be appropriated in an amendment to the Appropriations Ordinance for FY 2016, if awarded funding.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City was recently contacted by staff at the San Francisco Bay Water Trail to designate two sites at the Berkeley Marina as trailheads for the Water Trail (the South Sailing Cove docks and the Northside Public Launch Ramp). This designation would allow the Water Trail program to include the Berkeley sites on its map of a growing network of trailhead access points throughout the Bay Area. It would also make the City eligible to apply for funding from the San Francisco Bay Water Trail grant program for site improvements. Discussions with Water Trail staff identified that a new accessible ramp at the Middle Dock at the South Sailing Cove docks as the most appropriate site

improvement project for a grant funding application. The cost estimate for the new ramp is \$80,000.

BACKGROUND

The San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail (Water Trail) is a voluntary, planned network of access sites, or “trailheads,” designed to make it easier for people using non-motorized small boats (NMSBs) or boards (such as kayaks, sailboards, dragon boats, and stand up paddleboards) to safely enjoy the historic, scenic, cultural, and environmental richness of San Francisco Bay through single and multiple-day trips. This nine-county program is being implemented under the leadership of the Coastal Conservancy (Conservancy) in close collaboration with the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC), and the Division of Boating and Waterways of California State Parks and Recreation (Cal Boating), (together comprising the Project Management Team), plus an advisory committee representing a broad range of interests and expertise. The Water Trail program was created by legislation (2005, Hancock, AB 1296), and based upon the vision of the non-profit Bay Access, Inc. and a plan developed by BCDC.

The competing pressures of increased NMSB use and increased development in the Bay Area point to the need for a planned and coordinated approach to NMSB access and use around the Bay. Natural deterioration and a lack of funding to pay for repairs could lead to the loss of existing NMSB access locations over time. Without an overarching program, such as the Water Trail, to help find funding to replace or improve deteriorating sites, additional access sites may be lost. The Berkeley Marina is in a unique position to have trailheads for both the Water Trail and the land-based Bay Trail.

The basic eligibility criteria to become a Water Trail site are:

- Water Trail-related facilities must be open to the public
- No major management or health issue such as poor water quality or wildlife disturbances
- Installation of a Water Trail sign (includes Water Trail logo and website address) identifying site as part of the Water Trail
- Include Water Trail educational messaging on sign at site (either owner's sign or Water Trail sign).

More information about the Water Trail, including maps, can be found at the following webpage: <http://sfbaywatertrail.org/>

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Designating the two sites at the Berkeley Marina as part of the San Francisco Bay Water Trail will promote nonmotorized boating activities, which foster a sense of environmental stewardship of the Bay, while at the same time promotes recreational

activities with a reduced carbon footprint that is consistent with the overall goals of the City's Climate Action Plan.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Berkeley Marina is a popular and well-used public access site for non-motorized boating activities on the San Francisco Bay that include sailing, windsurfing, kayaking, canoeing, nature viewing, and paddle boarding. Designating two sites at the Berkeley Marina as trailheads for the Water Trail (the South Sailing Cove docks and the Northside Public Launch Ramp) would allow the Water Trail program to include the Berkeley sites on its map of a growing network of trailhead access points throughout the Bay Area. It would also make the City eligible to apply for funding from the San Francisco Bay Water Trail grant program for site improvements.

CONTACT PERSON

Roger Miller, Acting Waterfront Manager, 981-6737

Attachments:

- 1: Resolution
- 2: San Francisco Bay Water Trail Map

RESOLUTION NO. -N.S.

DESIGNATING TWO SITES AT THE BERKELEY MARINA AS TRAILHEADS FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY WATER TRAIL AND SUBMITTING A GRANT APPLICATION FOR SITE IMPROVEMENTS

WHEREAS, the Berkeley Marina is a popular and well-used public access site for non-motorized boating activities on the San Francisco Bay that include sailing, windsurfing, kayaking, canoeing, nature viewing, and paddle boarding; and

WHEREAS, designating two sites at the Berkeley Marina as trailheads for the Water Trail (the South Sailing Cove docks and the Northside Public Launch Ramp) would allow the Water Trail program to include the Berkeley sites on its map of a growing network of trailhead access points throughout the Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, it would also make the City eligible to apply for funding from the San Francisco Bay Water Trail grant program for site improvements; and

WHEREAS, there are no fiscal impacts associated with the designation of two sites at the Berkeley Marina as trailheads for the San Francisco Bay Water Trail. The main requirement as a trailhead is to display a Water Trail sign, which is provided by the Water Trail Program; and

WHEREAS, once these sites have been designated, the City is eligible to apply for funding from the San Francisco Bay Water Trail grant program for site improvements. It is anticipated that the City will submit an application for a new accessible ramp at the Middle Dock at the South Sailing Cove docks at a cost of \$80,000.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City hereby designates two sites at the Berkeley Marina as trailheads for the San Francisco Bay Water Trail (the South Sailing Cove docks and the Northside Public Launch Ramp); and authorizes the City Manager or her designee to submit a grant application to the Water Trail Grant Program, to accept the grant, to execute any grant agreement and amendments; and authorizes the implementation of the projects and appropriation of funding for related expenses, subject to securing the grant. A record signature copy of said agreements and any amendments to be on file in the grantee's Office of the City Clerk.



