

## In-Reach Overview

As a part of the Bay Trail Gap Closure Implementation Plan Equity Strategy, the project team collaborated with seven community based organizations (CBOs) to lead discussions with over 200 community members about the current and future use of the Bay Trail. These conversations were held in many formats, including bike rides, tabling, zoom meetings, farm gatherings, dinners, and picnics. There were 9 events in 7 counties, three of which were held in Spanish. Spanish translation was provided at all events.

Major takeaways and recurring themes from the community feedback include:

- Completing community connector trails and local bike and pedestrian networks is critical to the success of the Bay Trail and can provide opportunities for isolated communities to access recreation around the shoreline
- Address environmental justice concerns and avoid contaminated areas when routing new trail segments along the Bay
- Offer free events to get people using the trail more regularly and feeling comfortable being there (e.g. organize rides or walks)
- Improve bus connections to trailheads and increase spaces at parking lots

### Maintenance & Operations

- Maintain the trail (e.g. fill in potholes, clean up trash, and cut down overgrown bushes and weeds)
- Increase patrols to make trail users feel safer – particularly in remote areas and locations where unhoused community members have encampments

### Desired Amenities

- Directional signage to help with orientation on the trail and at the trailhead
- Lighting
- Bathrooms and clean the existing ones more regularly
- Trash cans, dog waste bags, and signs to remind dog owners to dispose of dog waste
- Trees and/or provide more shade
- Play structures for children
- Educational signs about animals and plants found along the trail
- Provide Bay Trail maps at local libraries
- Provide materials and signs in different languages

## Summary of Events

### El Concilio (East Palo Alto)

El Concilio hosted a pop-up meeting at the Cinco de Mayo Festival in East Palo Alto to discuss the Bay Trail Gap Closure Implementation Plan. Approximately 80 individuals of all ages connected with El Concilio at the event, and generally voiced concerns about trash, maintenance, and safety along the trails. Top priorities were bathrooms, shade, and trees.

#### High Priorities Gaps Discussed:

- 3002 - Segment of Baylands Nature Preserve Trail
- 3009 - Faber Place Road

### Rafiki Coalition / SF Bike Coalition / SF Parks Alliance (San Francisco)

Three local organizations collaborated to facilitate a listening session about the Bay Trail Gap Closure Implementation Plan and Equity Strategy: Rafiki Coalition, SF Bike Coalition, and SF Parks Alliance. 12 community members, mostly older adults, attended. Most people were familiar with the local spaces and areas discussed, but not necessarily the Bay Trail as a project. There was expressed enthusiasm for accessible, local outdoor spaces, but also major challenges regarding safety due to frequent car break-ins in the area and environmental hazards. Attendees expressed concern about the significant environmental health risks posed by the proposed Bay Trail route around the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard, which has been federally designated as a superfund site due to contamination that has significantly harmed the surrounding community (as evidenced by high rates of cancer, respiratory illnesses, and low birth rates).

#### High Priorities Gaps Discussed:

- 1027 - Contaminated Hunter's Point Naval Shipyard
- 2000, 2001, 1032 - Create more access to Candlestick Park
- 1026, 1029 - Existing social trail to connect Alice Gardens Apartments to Bay Trail at Candlestick park

### Green Hive (Vallejo)

Green Hive recruited residents and hosted an in-person MTC Bay Trail Gap Closure Equity Strategy focus group in Vallejo. There were 7 attendees, most of whom knew some of the trails in the area. Participants prioritized safe and clean trail connections in the Cal Maritime University area and to Mare Island. Safety was a top priority for all participants. Additionally, there was an overall sense that Vallejo needs improved infrastructure for pedestrians, bikes, and scooters to get around, most notably on Sonoma Boulevard.

#### High Priorities Gaps Discussed:

- 6021, 6019 - Cal Maritime University area
- 6034 - Safety concerns due to high traffic and crime on Sonoma Blvd

- Connector Trail to Mare Island

### Rich City Rides (Richmond)

Rich City Rides planned and designed two bike ride events to observe the Bay Trail and connector trails in the vicinity of Richmond, CA. In total, there were 32 participants, spanning multiple age groups. There was emphasis on addressing existing flood-prone areas, lighting and waste management improvements, as well as unanimous support for the completion of the trail and closing connector trail gaps.

#### High Priorities Gaps Discussed:

- 514 - 23rd St at Carlson Ave
- 500, 501 - Wildcat Creek Trail

### East Oakland Neighborhood Initiative (Oakland)

East Oakland Neighborhood Initiative (EONI) hosted two events: a bike party around the MLK shoreline and tabling at East Oakland Futures Festival (EOFF). Over half of the attendees of the bike party were youth community members and EOFF attendees spanned a wide range of ages. Over 50 people contributed comments about their current use and future vision for the Bay Trail and stressed the importance of completing regional connectors, such as the East Bay Greenway and the San Leandro Creek Trail. There was an expressed interest in signage improvements, amenities for children and dogs, and public art / interpretive elements.

#### High Priorities Gaps Discussed:

- Gaps between connector trails: East Bay Greenway and San Leandro Creek Trail
- 4057 - MLK Shoreline
- 4069, 4071 - Gap after the Tidewater Boating Center
- 405 - Bay Trail to Coliseum BART

### Canal Alliance (San Rafael)

Canal Alliance hosted a virtual meeting on Zoom to gather feedback and input from 24 adult community members on existing and proposed trails as presented by the Bay Trail Gap Closure Implementation Plan. Attendees across the meetings' three breakout rooms expressed a need and desire for more safe and accessible trails- improved signage and maps, rest areas for families, lighting, and improved maintenance were all emphasized.

#### High Priorities Gaps Discussed:

- 9023, 9032, 9034, 9035 - Connecting the Canal neighborhood to China Camp State Park
- 9122, 9043.2, 9043, 9038, 9039, 9044 - Connecting Pickleweed Park Section of Bay Trail to San Rafael High School

## Veggielution (San José)

Veggielution hosted a Bay Trail pop-up event outdoors at the Veggielution Community Farm pavilion. This event provided childcare and was attended by numerous families with young children. 13 community members attended and provided feedback and ideas for the project. A major discussion point was existing barriers to trail use and lack of communication about the trail, as many folks expressed that they did not know the trails existed, where they go, or if they are safe. The presence of encampments and lack of lighting were significant safety concerns. Increased maintenance was a suggestion to improve safety. 100% of participants believed it was important to have a link to the Bay Trail in East San José, and many participants said that the most important thing they learned at the workshop was that trails like the Bay Trail exist in the area.

### High Priorities Gaps Discussed:

- Coyote Creek Connector Trail Gaps: Willow and Almaden, Story and McLaughlin, Capitol and McKee, Evergreen and Capitol