

TRAC TURNS TWENTY! TWENTIETH BAY TRAIL IN RICHMOND NEW YEAR REPORT

This marks the 20th New Year Report by TRAC, the Trails for Richmond Action Committee. Richmond's Bay Trail has nearly tripled from 12 to 35 miles in the 20 years that TRAC has been working with the City of Richmond, East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD), and private developers to close gaps in the planned Bay Trail alignment. The Bay Trail built in Richmond represents almost 10% of the completed 355 miles of the planned 500-mile walking and cycling path encircling San Francisco and San Pablo Bays. Richmond has become the "Bay Trail City" with the trail playing an ever-increasing recreation and transportation role in the lives of those residing in Richmond and nearby communities.

This report highlights some of the 13 active projects underway to design and build the 7.5 miles of planned trail yet to be completed. Referring to the map on the last page of this report, most the unbuilt trail lies between The Plunge and the Point San Pablo Yacht Harbor. Work is underway to install protected bikeways, known as cycle tracks, on inland sections of Bay Trail to replace substandard bike lanes. Passage of State Proposition 68, Regional Measure 3 and EBRPD's Measure FF in the June and November elections should help provide funding for these projects.

Point Molate and the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge



The Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA) has construction underway to complete the Bay Trail between the bus stop at Castro Street and Tewksbury Avenue in Point Richmond, Stenmark Drive and across the Richmond-San Rafael (RSR) Bridge to E. Francisco Blvd. in San Rafael. Count on a big

celebration when this six miles of Bay Trail opens in Spring 2019! <u>CLICK HERE</u> for more information on this project converting the Bridge's top deck shoulder into a barrier-separated, ten-foot wide, bidirectional trail for use by pedestrians and cyclists traveling between the East Bay and North Bay.

Work also is underway on the Point Molate Bay Trail extending 2.5 miles from the RSR Bridge to the northern border of the City's Point Molate property. This includes one mile of trail on a shoreline easement donated by Chevron and 1.5 miles on the City's Point

Molate property. EBRPD has completed a 65% preliminary design and approved a Mitigated Negative Declaration under CEQA. Both the City and EBRPD are working to secure funds for construction. Click Here for a map and costs.



Going To The Next Level

The ideal Bay Trail is, of course, next to the Bay and also separated from motor vehicle roadways as exemplified in Marina Bay, as well as in Miller-Knox and Point Pinole Regional Shorelines. However, the route detours inland where there are port, boat repair and industrial facilities along the shoreline. Harbour Way South and Cutting Blvd. are examples of these inland detours where the Bay Trail simply takes the form of sidewalks and bicycle lanes. Anticipating a great increase in local and regional bicycle traffic with opening of the Bay Trail across the RSR Bridge and Richmond-San Francisco Ferry service, the City has launched projects to make these inland routes more attractive and safer for bicyclists.

Protected bikeways and other improvements are being designed, thanks to about \$1.3 million in funding by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, Contra Costa Transportation Authority and Caltrans. The western end of the Richmond Greenway will be extended along Ohio Ave. to reach the Bay Trail, and a route to the RSR Bridge will be designated through Point Richmond. Short term improvements such as way finding signs and pavement markings will be installed prior to opening the Bay Trail across the bridge, and an extensive public outreach process is being launched for designing long term improvements.

Heading North From Point Pinole

A mile of new Bay Trail soon will open running north from EBRPD's Atlas Rd. bridge entry to Point Pinole Regional Shoreline (PPRS). LDK Ventures' Bay Area Logistics Center project added 0.5 miles to a short section built by EBRPD. One Corp LLC recently extended this trail northward another 0.35 mile as part of Pinole Point Business Park Phase III and is working to complete a vista point. This sets the stage for EBRPD to begin planning to close the gap connectining PPRS with the <u>San Pablo Bay Trail</u> running through the cities of Pinole and Hercules to Lone Tree Point in Rodeo.



Thank you for supporting completion of the Bay Trail in Richmond. Please share this report with your friends and neighbors, encouraging them to join the Richmond Bay Trail Network at no cost by e-mailing tracbaytrail@earthlink.net. For maps, a calendar of events and other information about the Bay Trail in Richmond, visit http://pointrichmond.com/baytrail/. Please follow us on Instagram @tracbaytrail and on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/TrailsforRichmond/

