

Bayview Hunters Point Environmental Justice Response Task Force

*Part of the IVAN Network * Identifying Violations Affecting Neighborhoods*

Community Meeting, Wednesday, June 20, 2018

2:00 PM- 4:00 PM

Southeast Community Facility (Alex Pitcher Room)

1800 Oakdale, Bayview Hunters Point, San Francisco

Minutes

2:17pm **Welcome, Introduction, Agenda Review**

Facilitator: Sheridan Enomoto

Sheridan welcomes everyone and reviews meeting agenda.

2:19pm **Review Pollution Complaints Filed on bvhp-ivan.org website**

No complaints to be shared at this time.

2:21pm **Presentation: BCDC Environmental Justice Bay Plan Amendment**

Presenter: Clesi Bennett, Coastal Planner for BCDC

San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) is a state agency that was created in 1960s in response to the filling of the SF Bay.

The mission of BCDC is to protect and improve public access to the San Francisco Bay.

BCDC's permit jurisdiction is 100 feet of the Bay Shoreline.

SF City and County have more authority than BCDC.

Environmental Justice Amendment to the BCDC Bay Plan includes (permitting and planning) policies to address Environmental Justice and Social Equity.

There are currently no policies to address multi-lingual access.

When the amendment process was initiated, EJ was incorporated in the following areas:

Shoreline Protection (consider how communities experience flooding both now and in the future)

Public access (how folks are accessing the Bay)

Mitigation (making sure mitigation benefits communities impacted by development)

Policy (adding and defining EJ and Social Equity in the plan)

Design (design and signage guidelines)

Public Participation (improvements to community participation and inclusion)

BCDC Small Group Discussion

Small Group Discussion Questions:

Clesi/BCDC: What brings you here today?

Clesi/BCDC: What got you interested in EJ issues?

Clesi/BCDC: What would achieving EJ in BVHP look like?

Clesi/BCDC: What would we need to achieve that?

Participant Questions and Responses:

Participant: How are you identifying your informants?

Clesi/BCDC: By speaking with various community stakeholders and groups such as the air district, asking community groups for who to contact

Participant: The land before San Francisco was formerly Ohlone land. This question [What would achieving EJ in BVHP look

like?] needs to be more specific. Let's focus on how EJ would look in response to BCDC?

Participant: Most of the new development around Bayview is actually denying community access. Residents of Bayview have always gone to the coast. There is an assumption that current residents do not utilize the coast. These new "parks and open spaces" and landscapes reduce our access, our land use, our comfortability. The type of security that is being added reduces our uses and comfortability.

In many development renderings of the Bay coastline, we see piers and private yachts. Wealthy people in SF who can afford to have private boats/yachts need more space to maintain their boats. This is what they mean by providing access to the Bay.

Things like this is a slap in the face. Private restaurants, people who own boats make you feel like you are trespassing. What is considered inviting spaces to some people reduces our interest and increases anxiety when using those spaces.

Reducing access often removes homeless people. "Cleaning up" is another way of saying remove the homeless. Public access also means there needs to be more public restrooms for the homeless.

Participant: Does your org have EJ policy that defines what the public looks like? The public in Bayview Hunters Point looks different than the public in North Beach.

Participant: I have a pet peeve when people use language like "environmental justice". The first principle of EJ is that on all processes where EJ is implemented, the community leads. An outside organization coming in and taking notes to write policy is the exact opposite of true community-led process or environmental justice.

Big homes being built next to the projects. Twenty-five percent of new housing needs to be affordable housing but affordable housing is hella expensive now-not actually affordable.

We have a lot of luxury homes. Stop having developers say a luxury home is only thing they can offer.

Participant: Are you [BCDC] actually able to say no to city hall? If not your not doing anything for me.

Participant: EJ policy needs to have enforcement authority and not just put in public/community comment. The Bay Plan needs to include the ability for BCDC to enforce new EJ policies.

Participant: For every project you are ruling on, BCDC needs to have a person who is actually from the community. This is Environmental Justice.

Participant: Every year I keep hearing about untreated sewage coming out of Marin. The Bay seems to be cleaner than 25 years ago, but what is really going on? Also, places having sewage “accidents.” Whats is up with that?

Dirt that becomes fugitive dust, gets blown into the Bay. 300 acres of dirt blown into the Bay and silt going into Bay...

Javier from San Francisco Public Utilities Commission: The combined systems- rainwater and sewage systems-get treated. Stormwater runoff gets treated before being released into Bay. We process it. The water is tested 100 times per day to ensure it is safe before it is released into the Bay.

Participant: Is your [BCDC] goal to find a way to incorporate EJ?

BCDC/Clesi: This is my first time coming to talk to everyone, hopefully this is the start of many more conversations.

Participant: What would you like the Task Force for BCDC to do?

Could the Commission conduct their meetings in different neighborhoods? It's one thing is to have staff come out and report back to Commission but it would be different to have the Commission actually sit with the people and hear from the people.

Participant: Which EJ orgs have you worked with?

BCDC: There are three agencies [Lands Use Commission, Coastal Commission and BCDC] that are working to implement EJ into their policies.

Participant: In BVHP, we have seventeen languages. Language access is crucial. Only English, or having only English and Spanish is useless.

Participant: What is the majority language spoken in BVHP?

Participant: Spanish. 42% are Asian languages but there are lots of different dialects. Muslim Chinese, Southeast Asian, and not just Vietnamese, not just Mandarin or Cantonese.

[BCDC] needs to be able to communicate with ALL of us.

3:20pm Update: Bayview Hunters Point AB617 Proposal

Presenter: Sheridan Enomoto on behalf of Bradley Angel, Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice

Sheridan reads update written by Bradley Angel:

Bradley Angel will provide a detailed update at the next Task Force Meeting.

But we can say that Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice, in partnership with many community groups (BVHP Community Advocates, BVHP Mothers and Fathers Committee, Literacy for Environmental Justice, and Bayview Hill Neighborhood Association) has been notified by the California Air Resources Board that we are a proposed grantee from their AB 617 Community Air

Grants program to establish a Bayview Hunters Point Community Air Monitoring Program. The tentative grant is \$500,000 but this grant and similar ones to other groups around the state have not had the final step of legislative approval of the funding.

So when that happens, we can provide the exciting details.

David/Bay Area Air Quality Management District: AB 617 is a community oriented, community driven planning process to mitigate and improve air quality across state. Starting in the Bay-Oakland, Richmond, and then Bayview Hunters Point. There is a meeting tonight at 5:30pm on Beale Street/BAAQMD Office.

3:24pm Community Debrief for 6/13/18 Emergency Community Meeting

Participant: We wanted to check in with residents [of BVHP]. The demands have been fairly consistent from residents and EJ activists. 62 residents showed up. Several workers who work here [in BVHP], business owners, James Bryant, the Community Liaison for the Navy. 40 distinct demands came directly from the residents. There were lots of issues and concerns, strong marching orders of what we need to be asking of those responsible for the Shipyard. Not just asking of the Navy and subcontractors, but also asking of all politicians, various city agencies, commissions, supervisors, mayors, the media, federal elected officials, senators. Almost everyone requested that they wanted a strategy and for us to assign tasks of residents that are there. What can everyone do with their various skills? (i.e. I have nursing experience etc)

Participant: Going to where folks actually are [Huntersview] was terrific.

3:30pm Request for Task Force Support and Assistance

Karen/Bayview Hunters Point Advocates: If you are a community member and your willing to facilitate but reluctant because you feel you do not have skills, I do facilitation training.

We need facilitation to rotate across community members.

Participant: I encourage meetings at other locations in BVHP. To gather support in different parts of the community.

Sheridan/Greenaction: I believe there will be additional funding set aside to support IVAN Task Force Meetings.

3:37pm Public Comments & New Pollution Complaints

Lindy Lowe/Port of San Francisco: I was hired to work for the Port of San Francisco in September to be the Director of the Resilience Program. There will be a community meeting regarding the Seawall tomorrow evening.

Regarding the SF Seawall: The current seawall in San Francisco Bay is three miles (underwater). The seawall is meant to create additional protection and emergency vehicle access for the city of San Francisco in case of a seismic emergency. There is currently a push for funding to strengthen the seawall but only for the current three miles. We need to expand beyond the three miles to seven miles south. In two years, we would like to create an adaptation plan that would include the expansion of the seawall but first we want to also better understand flood risk.

I have been meeting with communities to inform them of the seawall. Please let us know if there is is community you would like us to talk to. We are also willing to give tours.

Participant: What is the role around SWAC?

Lindy/Port of SF; The SWAC is a really important group whom we work with. The way resilience is envisioned often leaves people out.

Karen/BVHP Advocates: I am the co-chair of the SWAC, the Southern Waterfront Advisory Committee. I also serve on the Land Use Committee. The main focus of this Committee is to ensure equity is part of the process.

In an emergency, the southern waterfront plays a huge part in providing emergency response. If sea-level rise occurs the way it is projected to occur in the Bay this affects us directly.

Next Steps & Announcements

Participant: I like the idea about having the Task Force meeting at a different location. We have been using this space [Southeast Community Facility] monthly. The next evening meeting will be July 19th, a Thursday evening here in the Alex Pitcher Room.

We will be providing updated information and comments from the emergency community meeting.

Charles Bonner/Attorney: The attorney, Charle Bonner and various members of BVHP have filed a lawsuit against Tetra Tech.

We will be amending the lawsuit on July 2nd to include the two Tetra Tech supervisors who have plead guilty to falsifying soil samples. They have admitted to criminal conduct. Will be naming them as well as others responsible. If you have any questions about the lawsuit or if you would like to join the lawsuit please go online to hunterspointlawsuit.com

This Friday, the 22nd, there will be a townhall meeting at the Southeast Community Facility, Alex Pitcher Room.

David/BAAQMD: Please be on the lookout ins BVHP. As a part of the BVHP Mapping Project, we have a group of youth mapping community hazards.

3:58pm Meeting Adjourned

Requested Contact Information:

Bay Conservation Development Commission:

Clesi Bennett, Coastal Planner

Email: clesi.bennett@bcdcc.ca.gov

Port of San Francisco:

Lindy Lowe, Director of the Resilience Program

Email: lindy.lowe@sfport.com

Law Office of Charles Bonner:

Phone: 415-331-3070