



# MONTHLY UPDATE

EBATC Announcements, Meeting Minutes, News: May 2002

EBATC website: <http://www.ebtrails.org>

East Bay Area Trails Council  
2950 Peralta Oaks Court  
Oakland, California  
94605

The EBATC is composed of public agencies, equestrians, hikers, bicyclists, and conservationists who are committed to furthering the protection of the scenic and recreational resources of the East Bay.

## TRI-VALLEY NEWS

Lots is happening in the Tri Valley area with multiuse trail development. The EBATC meeting on May 15 at the Garms ranch on Foothill Rd. in Pleasanton will focus on key issues important to trails. Our TCLAV quest has been to draw public and agency attention to long term trail plans and lines on maps which have not been completed. As a trail advocacy group we have focused exclusively on completing and connecting multiuse trail opportunities within Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and recently Sunol. While we are pleased with the Pleasanton success our work will not be complete until the trails are open and we plan to stay involved with the various public agencies involved. Zone 7 flood control, EBRPD, Pleasanton Parks and Recreation have all worked together, and progress will continue as other communities become more involved.

Brushy Peak Regional Preserve in North Livermore offers 2,000 acres and over 10 miles of new trail with important connectors to Los Vaqueros watershed, Morgan Territory, Vasco Caves. A May 2 public meeting asked for input, and Board approval is scheduled for June 18, 2002. Livermore Area Park and Recreation District own the 500 acre Brushy Peak itself and will have their own operational plan.

Other Tri-Valley trail discussion will focus on the Sycamore Grove Regional Park-Study Plan by LARPD. This 1,500 acre park offers trail regional connectivity between Del Valle, Shadow Cliffs, Pleasanton, and the Ridge and Sunol. We will also discuss the Bernal property in Pleasanton, the Niles Rail trail issues, Shadow Cliffs land use plan review, the LARPD suit of Dublin for planning development in their District impacting 1,400 acres.

On April 18th EBRPD and TCLAV had side by side information tables staffed by Joseph Jones, Jamie at the Hacienda Transportation fair in Pleasanton. Joseph created the TCLAV web site and has been the web master. You can visit it at <http://www.tclav.org>. I am convinced the TCLAV web site contributed to our recent success story with approval of the Pleasanton master plan update.

## EBATC MAY MEETING

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

7:15 to 9:30 pm

Garms Ranch, Pleasanton Ridge  
Regional Park, 4440 Foothill Road,  
Pleasanton, CA  
Telephone (510) 635-0135

## Meeting Location Change

Directions: From I-580 take Foothill Road south. After crossing W. Las Positas Blvd (traffic signal) turn right at next driveway. Look for green mailbox with Park District logo decal. Follow driveway for .4 mile and park on the right side of the service road in flat area below building which will be on the left. Do not park in the service yard.

## Agenda: May 15, 2002 Meeting

- Call to order: 7:15 p.m.  
Approval of Agenda: Action  
Approval of Nov. 2001 Minutes: Action
- Reports and Updates:
 

Treasurer's Report	Report
Governance/officers	Report
Bay Area Ridge Trail Issues	Report
California Trail Days and National Trail Days	Report
Membership Report	Report
- New Business  
Tri-Valley Update Report
- Future Agenda  
Field Trips, Hikes and Rides, Alternate Meeting Report/Action
- Round Robin  
Reports from members

We will also discuss the recent postponement of a joint multiuse carrot day due to our inability to secure event insurance. Equestrians and mountain cyclist groups were attempting to put on a demonstration event but were blocked by an inability to secure insurance. Join us in discussing these important issues. Happy Trails!

Dick Quigley, *secretary*

## MEETING MINUTES

April 17, 2002, EBRPD Headquarters

In attendance were:

Glenn Kirby-BARTC gkirby@silcon.com  
Bob Power-BARTC ridgebp@aol.com  
Gary Finn-Moraga Horseman's  
Don deFremery-Sierra Club  
Cheryl Lawton-ATRA cheryllawton@hotmail.com  
Kathy Nixon- Arab Trail Riders Assoc.  
catnixon@juno.com  
Marilynn Terstegge-Tilden Wildcat  
marenpony@hotmail.com  
Ted Stroll-Self tstroll@inreach.com  
Tim Rosecrans-Self pinnanazo@aol.com  
Rich Guarienti-Hayward Hiking Club  
guari@earthlink.net  
Judi Bank-Metro Horseman's judibank@aol.com  
Dick Quigley-Tri Valley Trail Blazers  
quigley1@llnl.gov  
Joseph Jones-Trail Council of Livermore Valley  
josephjones@atbi.com  
Jack Appleyard-BARTC jackyard@aol.com

Glenn called the meeting to order at 7:25 PM.  
After a round of introductions the agenda and minutes were approved as read.

Reports and Updates:

Treasurer's Report: None

Governance / Officers: See Membership Campaign below.

**Bay Area Ridge Trail Report:** Bob Power reported that two staff positions have been filled for the Bay Area Ridge Trail. Holly Van Houten has been hired as the new Executive Director. Holly's background includes several years with the Rivers and Trail Program of the National Park Service and as a Senior Planner with the Presidio Trust. She also served on the Ridge Trail Board of Directors representing NPS. The Ridge Trail also hired Jon Manson as the new Trail Steward. Jon brings experience from Marin County Open Space District.

Bob announced the dedication of Boccardo Trail in SCCOSA's Kirk property adjacent to Alum Rock City Park.

**Bicycle Access Presentation:** Glenn discussed past involvement by EBATC in the annual review process for Ordinance 38. Ordinance 38 is the East Bay Regional Park District ordinance regulating uses in the parks and on the trails. During the last revision of the Park District Master Plan, the Trails Council recommended that trail uses be regulated by ordinance rather than in the Master Plan. Our recommendations were included in the 1997 Master Plan. Because of this change, trail regulations now come up for review on an annual basis rather than every

ten years or so. The Trails Council, on behalf of BTCEB, one of our member organizations, requested that the Park District consider opening some narrow trails to multi-use status in some of the parks. A list of these trails was provided. Partly as a result of this request, the Board of Directors formed a special committee consisting of one Board Member, five Park Advisory Committee members, and staff from Operations and Public Safety Departments. The special committee made recommendations regarding bicycle use and also developed an evaluation tool to be used by District staff to help determine if some trails could be considered for greater access. This tool, referred to as the Bicycle Trail Evaluation Matrix, provided a checklist to be used in determining whether certain trails could be considered for inclusion in the Ordinance 38 exception for multi-use access. The report from the PAC Special Committee was considered by the Board Operations Committee last year, but as yet a recommendation has not been sent to the Board of Directors.

Glenn then introduced Ted Stroll and Tim Rosecrans and invited them to offer their presentation. Ted mentioned he was a member of the District Bike patrol and shared their concern of over crowded parks with mountain bikes currently restricted to fire roads. They mentioned they had made a board presentation and shared a proposed set of Ordinance 38 changes, and were referred to EBATC. They mentioned they were doing this initiative as private citizens, and not as members of or on behalf of any other group. Tim and Ted shared copies of a cover letter to EBATC and a draft of Proposed bicycle access amendments to East Bay Regional Park District Ordinance 38. They mentioned that the proposed "changes would open most district trails to cyclists, but would give individual park supervisors discretion to keep them off-limits for good reason". The memorandum suggested set of answers to possible objections to changing Ordinance 38. A) It will be unsafe; B) it will create conflict, D) it will disturb hikers' pristine experience. They also mentioned that the issue would be on the agenda for the 6/11/02 Board Operations Committee meeting at Peralta Oaks at 6 PM. They cited positive experiences with other Bay Area recreation districts that allow bike riding on some single-track trails. They suggested Joaquin Miller Park (Oakland), Annadel State Park (Santa Rosa) and several others that allow cycling on narrow trails.

Ted and Tim then asked EBATC to consider supporting their proposal to reduce undue conflict among trail users. Dick asked what undue conflict is or means and referenced the ordinance 38 matrix that EBATC was involved with as a means of trail use testing.

Glenn, Gary, Dick and Judi referred to the

EBATC's sub-committee and general meeting discussions a couple of years ago on a specific set of 6 trail proposals (three of them single track) with recommendations from Eric Mueller of the bike community and Vice Pres. of EBATC. The committee made field trips to selected trails, voiced concerns and made suggestions that were taken to the Board Operations Committee and to the Park Advisory Committee. A number of members were appalled to learn in the evening's discussion that the safety concerns of EBATC and the report from the PAC Special Committee, including the Bicycle Trail Evaluation Matrix (BTEM), have not as yet been recommended to the Board of Directors. More than two years have passed since the Bicycle Trails Council first brought the request to EBATC.

Jamie shared information about the trail construction and maintenance standards which EBRPD employs on close to 1000 miles of trails. Approximately 200 of these 1000 miles are narrow hiking and equestrian trails, 750 miles are multi-use. A small remainder are hiking only trails. She also shared that the "standards" for trail building have improved over the years and are similar to those of the CA State Parks system. EBRPD trail construction and maintenance methodology considers aspects such as line of sight, slope, curvilinear alignments, natural and cultural resource protection visitor safety, drainage controls, regulatory permitting, etc. Any new trail or change in use on existing trails requires evaluation.

After discussion Jack offered motion split in two parts:

1) EBATC recommends that Brandon Trail from Ten Hills to the Willow Park Golf Course in Anthony Chabot Regional Park be opened to multi-use as soon as possible for safety reasons as recommended two years ago, and,

2) We recommend that the report from the PAC Special Committee be brought back to the Board Operations Committee for consideration. EBATC further recommends that the Bicycle Trail Evaluation Matrix be adopted as a staff tool for determining whether certain narrow trails could be considered for multi-use access.

The motions passed with one abstention. After circulation of a draft letter, these recommendations will be sent to the EBRPD Board of Directors.

**New Business – Membership Campaign:** Glenn brought up our membership needs and encouraged all to think about recruiting and skill set needs. Because of the length of the discussion on bicycle access tonight, this topic will be continued to next month.

Round Robin:

The newsletter often gets delivered to members just a day or two, or even on the day of

the meeting. Jamie asked that the materials be prepared sooner and delivered to the District for mailing by the end of the first week of each month. Jack and Glenn asked that draft minutes and lead article be circulated for comment by the committee by the first of the month and no later than the 5 Th.

Dick shared the successful Trail Council of Livermore Amador Valley, efforts at Pleasanton City Council meeting on April 9 to approve the city master trail plan update.

This is significant as it sets to open zone 7 flood control easements with gravel service roads as multi-use trails. The council voted 5/0 in favor and was very supportive. Steve Fiala, Dick and Joe Jones (bicyclist) gave presentations. The trail next door video was used! Check out TCLAV web site. <http://www.tclav.org> Joe Jones has volunteered to help get EBATCs web informational current and user friendly.

Jack noted that it is incumbent on EBATC members and the District to act as a catalyst for enthusiastically following through on trail proposals.

Don asked if possibly our old flyer could be used as a tool as in the past at seminars or events. Marilyn suggested revitalization and update of the flyer might be in order to let people know we are in a recruitment mode. Jack suggested using the newsletter to support member organizations and circulate local stories and organizational events.

Joe Jones shared that TCLAV will have a booth at the Hacienda Transportation Fair in Pleasanton on Thursday 4/18. Or booth will be next to EBRPDs' with Jamie as the lead.

Brushy Peak Regional Preserve -Land Use Notice of public meeting Thursday May 2 7-9PM Livermore City Council Chambers was shared by Dick. The Public review period ends on Wednesday , May 8 and trails are an important element. Board approval is set for June 18 at 2 PM. EBATC members were encouraged to be involved.

Jamie noted that the EBATC newsletter can be a powerful communication tool as it reaches 275 people monthly.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Dick Quigley, *secretary*.

---

## NATIONAL TRAIL DAYS

There is still some room at the EBRPD National Trails Day event in conjunction with REI and EBATC on **June 1** at Redwood Regional Park in the Oakland Hills. Optional campout the night before at Redwood Creek complete with s'mores and campfire talks and good solid trailwork the next day within the Redwood Forest, Call (510) 527-7377 for registration.

---

## East Bay Area Trails Council: Membership Dues for Calendar Year 2002

---

With the trails surrounded by spring wildflowers, it's time to renew your membership in the East Bay Area Trails Council. Your participation is important in our ongoing efforts to preserve and expand the East Bay trail system.

Membership Dues for 2002:      Check enclosed:  
Individuals      \$15        
Organizations      \$30        
Make checks payable to:  
East Bay Area Trails Council

Please list below your name, address, phone number and if applicable, the name of the organization that you represent on the Trails Council.

Send check and completed form below to:  
East Bay Area Trails Council  
P.O. Box 5381  
Oakland, CA 94605-0381

---

*Please print*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization  
Represented: \_\_\_\_\_ *(if applicable)*

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City / State / Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Area(s) of Interest: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(hiker, cyclist, equestrian, skater, etc.)*

---

**EBATC**  
**2950 Peralta Oaks Court, P.O. Box 5381**  
**Oakland, CA 94605-5369**