

## MEMORANDUM

September 19, 2013

**TO:** MEMBERS, PORT COMMISSION  
Hon. Doreen Woo Ho, President  
Hon. Kimberly Brandon, Vice President  
Hon. Willie Adams  
Hon. Leslie Katz  
Hon. Mel Murphy

**FROM:** Monique Moyer  
Executive Director

**SUBJECT:** Informational Presentation on the status of the Port's Blue Greenway Projects

**DIRECTOR'S RECOMMENDATION:** No Action Required

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### **Overview**

The Blue Greenway is a City and County of San Francisco project to improve and expand the public open space network along the City's central and southern waterfront, from China Basin Channel to the San Francisco southern county line (*see Exhibit 1, Blue Greenway System*). When fully completed in 2045 this network will consist of 13 miles of contiguous pedestrian and biking space plus a series of parks and respite areas at which to enjoy the Bay.

The Port has taken a leadership role in planning, coordinating and improving the City's Blue Greenway Project. It has been able to accomplish this by utilizing a variety of funding sources, including the 2008 and 2012 Parks General Obligation Bonds, the Port's Southern Waterfront Beautification funds, pursuing and receiving grants and using other Port capital and operating funds.

Since 2008, the Port has accomplished much in improving the Blue Greenway, including:

1. Completed a planning process to develop the Blue Greenway Planning and Design Guidelines;
2. Designed and constructed an expanded Heron's Head Park;
3. Closed a 1,500 linear foot gap along the Blue Greenway and opened up the same length of shoreline access along Mission Bay;
4. Closed a  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile gap and created the City's first separated and protected cycle-track along Cargo Way;

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5. Designed and awarded a contract to construct Blue Greenway Signage;
6. Commissioned an artist to create and install Bayview Rise a large public art project on the Pier 92 Silos;
7. Secured a grant and initiated design to restore the Copra Crane;
8. Completed the design of Tulare and Bayview Gateway projects;
9. Initiated the development of a Master Plan for Crane Cove Park; and
10. Pursued and secured \$1,120,000 in grant funds with applications for an additional \$1,000,000 applied for.

As requested by Port Commissioner Leslie Katz, the following is intended to give the Port Commission an update on the status of the Port's Blue Greenway projects.

### **Status of Port Blue Greenway Projects**

The following provides a brief update for each of the Port's Blue Greenway projects, beginning in the South and moving North.

#### **Heron's Head Park**

In August 2012, the Port opened the new entry and expansion of Heron's Head Park. It was developed to complement the existing park, while expanding the programming opportunities. New park features include a new low-mow meadow, picnic and barbecue areas, park signage, site furnishings, a new off leash dog run, a new parking lot and permanent restrooms and utility area. This improvement has been very well received by the community and is actively used (see: *Exhibit 2, Site Photos*).

#### **Cargo Way Bicycle Lanes**

In August 2012, the City's first bi-directional Class I bicycle facility was opened. The improvements included a protected and divided space for bicyclists, laser detected signals that are triggered by bicyclist and safety signage. This project closed a ¾ mile gap in the Blue Greenway. It has been very well received by neighborhood residents, walkers and recreational and commuter bicyclist. (see: *Exhibit 3, Bicycle Lane Improvement Photos*).

#### **Pier 92- Grain Silo - Bayview Rise**

In March of 2013, the Port working with the San Francisco Arts Commission selected the artist team of Hadadd and Drugan to create *Bayview Rise*, an illuminated mural for the Port's Pier 92. Bayview Rise weaves together iconic imagery reflecting the Bayview neighborhood's changing economy, ecology, and community. Its large-scale graphics will make its primary images visible from a distance, while views up close will reveal the abstract patterns from which those images are composed. The artwork is conceived as a gateway into Bayview Hunters Point and will be visible and changing from day to night. The Project is scheduled to be completed in November 2013. (see: *Exhibit 4, Bayview Rise Plan*)

#### **Bayview Gateway**

The Bayview Gateway is generally located between Cargo Way, Third and Illinois Street and Islais Creek. It will be a new 1 acre open space at the gateway to the Bayview Community. This project, located on the Islais Creek shoreline includes: new landscape

areas, pathways, site interpretation and public art that will be on either side of Third Street. This location will also act as a transition point along the Blue Greenway providing respite for those traveling along both Cargo Way and Illinois Street and be a viewing area for the *Bayview Rise* project. Port staff will be requesting authorization to put this out to bid for construction at the October 2013 Port Commission meeting with significant completion expected in the summer of 2014 (see: *Exhibit 5, Bayview Gateway Plan*).

#### Copra Crane Restoration

In the summer of 2013 the Port received a grant to reconstruct and reassemble the Copra Crane on Islais Creek at the terminus of Indiana Street. The crane was the last hand operated machinery used by Longshoreman and will be recognized as a Labor Landmark once completed. The Port has retained an engineering team to develop the designs required to complete the project. It is anticipated that this project will begin construction in the spring of 2014 and be completed in the fall of 2014 (see: *Exhibit 6, Copra Crane*).

#### Tulare Park

Tulare Park is a connector park along Islais Creek that connects Illinois and Third Streets. This park was originally constructed in the 1970s and is in need of significant upgrades including accommodating access to those with disabilities. The Port, working with the community and the Department of Public Works has developed a creative design solution to accommodate access to all and improve the appearance of this shoreline open space. Port staff will be requesting authorization to put this out to bid for construction with the Bayview Gateway project at the October 2013 Port Commission meeting with significant completion expected in the summer of 2014 (see: *Exhibit 7, Tulare Park Plan*).

#### Crane Cove Park

Crane Cove Park is an approximately 9 acre proposed park within the Port's Pier 70 area. It is generally bound by 19<sup>th</sup> Street on the south, Illinois Street on the east, Mariposa Street on the north and the Bay and Ship Repair operations on the east.

The project site historically functioned as a series of spaces that collectively built ships. Historically, each area had its own unique function. The Park Plan took cues from these "functional use areas" and developed a design that allows different park programs to occur within the historic functional use areas, but allow the user to experience and appreciate the site as a whole and integrated park. *Exhibit 8 & 9, Crane Cove Park Master Plan*, illustrates the Park Plan.

A transformative element introduced in the design is the fill required for the construction of the 19th Street extension within the southwest corner of the site. The required fill partially buries Slipway #4, building #30 and some of the historic "traces" on site (which are in turn re-interpreted), resulting in the creation of a new entry plaza and a large at-grade lawn the length of Illinois Street.

The park plan includes five functional areas that each serve a different program of uses but combined, support and strengthen the total park plan as a whole. The areas include 1) a triangular shaped open multi-use lawn along Illinois Street; 2) Slipway 4, including Crane Plaza and Keel Park; 3) Building 109/110 and Forecourt area; 4) the Maritime Fields, including Slipways 1-3 and 5) the shoreline area to the north.

The current budget for the project is approximately \$21 million including all soft cost. A preliminary cost estimate for the Concept Plan identified a total project cost of approximately \$45 million (2012 cost) including all soft cost. The cost estimate equates to approximately \$5 million per acre, which is comparable to similar projects within San Francisco and the Bay area. Recognizing a current funding gap, the Port has identified an initial project phase for construction (see Exhibit 10, Crane Cove Park Proposed Phasing). The proposed phasing plan insures that the project delivers a diverse program of uses for park users, while respecting the overarching goals established for all of Pier 70.

The Crane Cove Park Master Plan has been developed through an extensive community planning process and has been presented to the City's Waterfront Design Advisory Committee and San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission's Design Review Board. The Port is anticipating design review approval in the fall of 2013, allowing the project to then move into schematic design and detail design with construction commencing in early 2015.

#### Bayfront Park Shoreline

In 2012, the Port of San Francisco completed and opened to the public the Mission Bay, Bayfront Park shoreline (see *Exhibit 11, Before and After site photos*). This project improved the shoreline to accommodate the future Bayfront Park and opened up 1500 linear-feet of shoreline for public access. The project included the removal of deteriorated pier and wharf structures, creosote treated piles, abandoned utilities and established a protected shoreline edge. Recognizing the ultimate park improvements were several years from completion the Port installed a multi-use pathway and site furnishings. This shoreline improvement project gets active use, by joggers, walkers and fisherman on a daily basis, the project also closed a ¼ mile gap in the Blue Greenway system.

#### Blue Greenway Signage

An improvement identified in the Blue Greenway Planning process was the need for the Blue Greenway to have an identity and marker along the system. The Port, with assistance from a design team, developed a design for a way-finding system to (a) improve recognition of the system of open spaces and the alignment of the Blue Greenway even before it is completely designed, funded and built; (b) help build an identity to the system for today's users and potential users; and (c) through removable panels, allow for future area interpretation on the signs as the Blue Greenway evolves in the next 35 years. *Exhibit 12, Blue Greenway signage* illustrates the design and locations of the signs to be installed. The Port Commission awarded the construction contract for the signs at the August meeting and significant completion of installation is expected in the spring of 2014.

#### Blue Greenway Art

In addition to Blue Greenway signage, public art is an integral component of the Blue Greenway and will assist in strengthening its identity. The first Blue Greenway public art to be installed will be the Pier 92 Grain silos as described above. This art piece was funded from the Port's Southern Waterfront Community Benefits funds. The next public art piece will be commissioned through a coordinated effort with the Arts Commission through the Art Enrichment program at the Bayview Gateway open space project. The Art Enrichment program requires 2% of the total capital cost of G.O. bond funds to be designated to public

art. In order to get the scale and quality of art appropriate of the space, the Port designated additional G.O. bond funds to the project. The art project will be located at the intersection of Third Street, Cargo Way and Arthur Avenue, with the requirement that the northwest corner of Third Street and Arthur Avenue be the dominant art feature, but allowing an artist to consider expanding the work to include the northeast corner of Third Street and Cargo Way (see *Exhibit 13, Bayview Gateway Art Locations*). This site was chosen to emphasize and highlight the Third Street Gateway into the Bayview community. The Art Commission will initiate the artist selection for this project within the coming week, with installation expected to begin in late 2014.

In addition to the public art projects underway, Port staff will continue to investigate opportunities for both permanent and public art for locations identified in the Blue Greenway Planning and Design Guidelines.

#### Other Blue Greenway Projects

The 2012 Parks General Obligation Bond includes funding for design and improvements to four other parks: Islais Creek, Warm Water Cove Park, Pier 70 Parks and Aqua Vista Park. The initial due diligence for these projects is in development with anticipation that these projects would be delivered in 2017. The Port expects to complete all Blue Greenway projects within its jurisdiction by 2035 with most projects coming into fruition in the next 5 years.

#### **Next Steps**

The Port will continue to implement projects that are funded through the resources available, pursue available grants and other funding. In addition it will continue to coordinate with other City, Regional and State agencies and interested stakeholders towards the goal of completing the Blue Greenway projects and growing stewardship and use of the system. Port staff will return to the Port Commission beginning next month for approval to issue various construction contracts.

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#### Exhibits:

1. Blue Greenway System Map
2. Heron's Head Park Site Photos
3. Cargo Way Bicycle Lane Improvement Photos
4. Bayview Rise Plan
5. Bayview Gateway Plan
6. Copra Crane
7. Tulare Park Plan
8. Crane Cove Park Master Plan
9. Crane Cove Park Master Plan
10. Crane Cove Park Phasing Plan
11. Bayfront Park Shoreline photos
12. Blue Greenway signage
13. Bayview Gateway Art Locations