



THE BAY TRAIL IN RICHMOND NEW YEAR 2015 REPORT

This 16th New Year Report by TRAC, the Trails for Richmond Action Committee, highlights 2014 achievements and describes plans for completing the San Francisco Bay Trail in Richmond. Richmond has over 32 miles of Bay Trail built -- more than any other city on this planned 500-mile hiking and biking route encircling San Francisco and San Pablo Bays. However, 10 miles of gaps still remain as shown on the last page of this report.

The City of Richmond (City) closed two gaps in the Ferry Point Loop Trail during 2014 and initiated construction of a third section. East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) completed the massive grading phase of the Breuner Marsh Restoration and Public Access Project. Essential, but less dramatic, progress was made across all phases of work required to close other gaps in the Bay Trail route. This included obtaining easements, planning trail alignments, securing funds and developing trail designs.

Celebrating the Bay Trail

The Bay Trail Project celebrated its 25th anniversary at the visitor center for the Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front National Historical Park with 340 miles of Bay Trail completed in the nine-county Bay Area. The event included launching the [Richmond Home Front Heroes smart phone audio tour](#). The highlight of TRAC's 15th anniversary was receiving the Excellence in Motion Public Service Award from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission "for helping to develop the longest single segment of the Bay Trail".

Completing the Ferry Point Loop

Trains ... bricks ... ferries ... troopships: The 4.4-mile [Ferry Point Loop](#) encircling Miller/Knox Regional Shoreline and the newly linked 2-mile Shipyard 3 Trail represent some of the most historic and scenic sections of the San Francisco Bay Trail.

The City completed two new trail sections in 2014. One opened a scenic stretch of shoreline linking Brickyard Cove Rd. with the Shipyard 3 Trail along Canal Blvd. The other closed a gap along Brickyard Cove Rd. between Dornan Dr. near Ferry Point and the western side of Brickyard Landing condos. The \$603,000 required to design and build these projects was provided by grants



New Trail Linking Shipyard 3 Trail With Brickyard Cove Rd.

from EBRPD Measure WW and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) Bay Trail Project plus funds compensating for recreational losses caused by the Cosco Busan oil spill.

The City also authorized its contractor to begin the \$335,000 Bay Trail gap closure project along Garrard Blvd. next to The Plunge between Cutting Blvd. and the Ferry Point tunnel. Construction of the last Bay Trail section on the Ferry Point Loop awaits shoreline residential development planned on the City's historic Terminal One property at the foot of Dornan Drive.

Completing the Bay Trail to Point Molate

More than half of Richmond's uncompleted Bay Trail -- 5.5 miles -- lies between The Plunge and Point San Pablo Yacht Harbor. The City took a first step in restoring public access to the Point San Pablo Peninsula's shoreline in March when it reopened Point Molate Beach Park with one-third mile of sandy shoreline. However, one cannot safely walk or bicycle to this beach with its spectacular Bay views.



Point Molate Beach Park

Prospects for the Point Molate Bay Trail advanced dramatically in 2014. The Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA) initiated design of a new trail between Marine St. and the Richmond/San Rafael (RSR) Bridge. BATA is working with the City, ABAG Bay Trail Project, TRAC and Bike East Bay in an effort to create an attractive trail that is wide enough for safe enjoyment by bicyclists and pedestrians separated from the freeway while staying within Caltrans right-of-way on the north side of I-580. Chevron donated to EBRPD a 0.9-mile easement to continue the Bay Trail from the RSR Bridge along the shoreline to Point Molate Beach. This sets the stage for EBRPD to partner with the City in continuing the Bay Trail from the beach park along the 1.4-mile shoreline of former Point Molate Naval Fuel Depot.



Chevron Shoreline Trail Easement

Connecting with Point Pinole Regional Shoreline

Extending over a mile into San Pablo Bay, Point Pinole Regional Shoreline (PPRS) is the Bay Area's largest shoreline park. Although 4.5 miles of Bay Trail are located *within* the park, these trails are not connected with the main Bay Trail system in Richmond and nearby Pinole. EBRPD is working to remedy this isolation by developing southern, eastern, and northern linkages.

EBRPD completed grading for the Breuner Marsh Restoration and Public Access Project. This project will provide a southern connection with PPRS via a 1.5-mile trail between Goodrick Ave. and the park's Bay View Trail. Bay Trail public access improvements will be completed in late 2015 as the final stage of this \$8 million project.



Point Pinole Viewed From Breuner Site Before Grading

The City of Richmond received a \$63,000 grant from ABAG Bay Trail Project supplemented by \$5,000 from EBRPD and \$2,000 from TRAC to prepare plans for building a 0.4-mile Class I trail along Goodrick Ave. This will connect the Breuner Marsh Trail with the Class I Bay Trail parallel to the Richmond Parkway.

The eastern Bay Trail route into PPRS from the end of Atlas Rd. requires building a bridge over the Union Pacific railroad corridor. Plans have been completed for construction to start summer 2015. EBRPD also made progress in lining up easements for the Bay Trail leading north from Atlas Rd. to Pinole.

Incorporating the Bay Trail in Development Projects

TRAC worked during 2014 to ensure that seven proposed residential, commercial and industrial projects include construction of new or improved Bay Trail sections in accordance with Richmond General Plan provisions requiring “owners of property to complete the Bay Trail as part of any project approval process.”



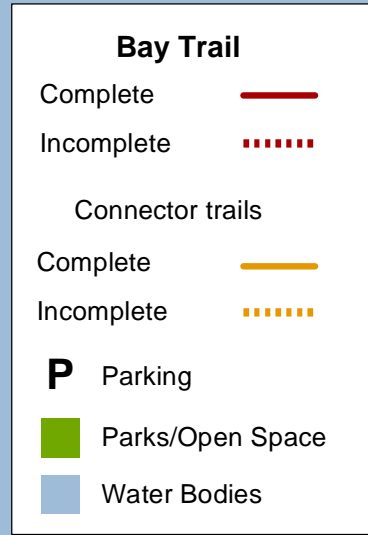
Thank you for supporting completion of the Bay Trail in Richmond. Please share this report with your friends and neighbors, encouraging them to join the Richmond Bay Trail Network at no cost by e-mailing tracbaytrail@earthlink.net. For maps, a calendar of events and other information about the Bay Trail in Richmond, please visit <http://pinrichmond.com/baytrail/>.

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SAN FRANCISCO BAY TRAIL PROJECT

Richmond



0 0.3 0.6 0.9 1.2 Miles

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