

# **PUBLIC ACCESS PATHWAYS ASSOCIATED WITH THE TIDAL CANAL PROJECT**

**Presented by Public Works and Recreation and Parks**

October 3, 2017 City Council Meeting

# BACKGROUND

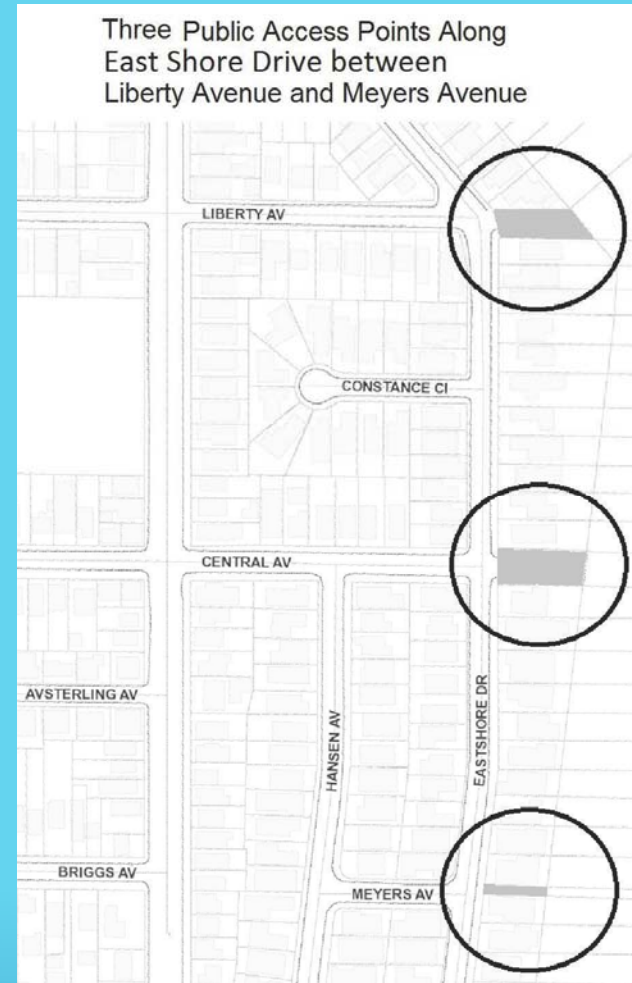
- ▶ Oakland Inner Harbor Tidal Canal, between Oakland & Alameda
  - ▶ City took ownership and divided it into 99 lots; sold 84 residential lots and 6 of 8 commercial lots; and retained \$1 million from the sales to help complete next steps.
- ▶ On April 18, 2017, Council directed staff to implement:
  1. Short-term solutions to address safety issues; and
  2. Develop long-term solutions for the use of public access points

# PUBLIC ACCESS PATHWAYS

Fernside Blvd.



East Shore Dr.



# SHORT-TERM SOLUTIONS

- ▶ Three access points on Fernside Blvd. Addressed safety issues including:
  - ▶ Initial temporary fencing to be replaced with lower, attractive fencing
  - ▶ Repaving two of the public pathways by March 2018
  - ▶ Increased police patrol attention, especially during evening hours
- ▶ Three access points on East Shore Dr.
  - ▶ Trash and graffiti removed
  - ▶ Signage to be installed by December 2017
- ▶ Total anticipated expense = \$250,000

# LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

- ▶ Hire a consultant with marine and shoreline recreation design experience to conduct a feasibility study of the six public access points on Fernside Blvd. and East Shore Dr.
- ▶ Goal: to identify recreational uses that are possible at each pathway to the water.
  - ▶ Could include viewing area, fishing, or small craft launch
- ▶ Will identify opportunities and challenges at each public access point plus cost estimates for options.
- ▶ Estimated completion this winter.

# Public Input Opportunities

- ▶ Feasibility study results to be used as foundation to discuss options with the community.
  - ▶ Meet with neighbors adjacent to each pathway.
  - ▶ Host a community input meeting to review and discuss options.
  - ▶ Staff will compile input and develop recommendations for review by the Recreation and Parks Commission in Spring 2018.
  - ▶ Final recommendation to City Council.

# Public Access Points – Community Survey

- ▶ City collected survey data from 6/14/17 – 7/9/17.
- ▶ 265 respondents, 96% of whom live in the East End and 78% do not have private access to the water.
- ▶ 55% have visited the pathways 6 or more times in the last five years.
- ▶ Top priority for public access points:
  - ▶ 30% = public view
  - ▶ 28% = direct entry into the water
  - ▶ 20% = maintain security

# Community Survey - Continued

- ▶ 72% agreed that revenues should be used toward building a small craft launch and spending the remainder on repairs and small enhancements.
- ▶ 49% agreed that the City should improve the existing pathway, expand it to the extent most feasible and consider leasing any remainder to the adjacent homeowner with revenues used for maintenance of the public access points.



# Status on Other Public Walkways

- ▶ There are 23 public walkways in Alameda
- ▶ In August 2017, Public Works assessed each pathway and determined all were accessible, with the exception of some of the six pathways being addressed in this process.

# Next Steps

- ▶ Conduct and complete the feasibility study of recreation use type options for each of the 6 public access points and bring those results to the community for discussion.
- ▶ Complete the immediate repairs to the 3 Fernside Blvd. access points and signage at the 3 East Shore Dr. access points.