



City of
OAKLAND
California

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**METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION**

For Immediate Release:

April 10, 2014

Exhibit Celebrates 25th Anniversary of the San Francisco Bay Trail

*Oakland Celebrates Earth Day on April 22 With Bay Trail Photo Exhibit and
Public Lecture*

Oakland, CA — On Tuesday, April 22, 2014, the City of Oakland and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) will host a reception to celebrate ***Walking the Bay Trail: A Photo Journal***, a new photographic exhibition at Oakland City Hall. The event, which runs from 5:30 to 7 p.m., will be held in Hearing Room 3 on the ground floor of City Hall, 1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza. Oakland Mayor Jean Quan, who serves as a MTC commissioner, will welcome guests to the reception. Featured photojournalist and avid San Francisco Bay Trail trekker Kurt Schwabe will be on hand to describe his historic walk on more than 300 miles of the San Francisco Bay Trail in 30 days. Attendees of this free public event are invited to enjoy the photography exhibit on City Hall's third floor before or after the event. The photographic exhibit celebrates the 25th anniversary of the kick-off of the Bay Trail Project, and is sponsored by the San Francisco Bay Trail, MTC and the Association of Bay Area Governments.

With more than two dozen vibrant images, *Walking the Bay Trail: A Photo Journal* will be on display on the third floor of Oakland City Hall now through May 15.

Held on Earth Day 2014, the April 22 evening reception will feature “Blue Trail: Imagination + Innovation for Ocean + Bay Sustainability,” a presentation about Blue Trail, a visionary art-tech-science initiative (bluetrail.us). The presentation will be made by Lisa Zimmerman, a placemaking consultant; Oakland resident Jennifer Parker who is founder/director of University of California Santa Cruz's OpenLAB; and Marisha Farnsworth, principal at Oakland-based Hyphae Design Laboratory. The trio will present some of the highly imaginative designs for interactive installations from Blue Trail's design competition, including Hyphae Lab's “Hyperaccumulator Remediation Barge and Event Space.”

For more information on the photographic exhibit, please visit http://mtc.ca.gov/about_mtc/art_gallery/schwabe/2014.htm.

About Earth Day Celebrations in Oakland

The reception and presentation is one part of the City of Oakland's activities around Earth Day. On Wednesday, April 9, the Oakland Public Works Department (OPW) sponsored the 19th annual free environmental sustainability fair,

(more)

April 10, 2014

Page Two

EarthEXPO. The event attracted more than 2,000 spectators and 80 exhibitors to a four-hour fair in Frank H. Ogawa Plaza. Oakland Earth Day 2014 is an opportunity to make Oakland shine from the inside out. On Saturday, April 26, from 9 a.m. to noon, thousands of community and corporate volunteers will clean and green over 85 locations during the 20th annual Oakland Earth Day. Earth Day is Oakland's largest community volunteer event. This year's activities are expected to draw over 3,000 participants, including volunteers from Friends of Sausal Creek, Keep Oakland Beautiful, Starbucks East Bay, University of California and Bay Area Rapid Transit. Activities include litter pickup, graffiti removal, weeding, planting, and creek restoration. Participants may choose from a variety of sites including parks, recreation centers, creeks, commercial corridors and neighborhood locations throughout the city.

The first 2,000 Oakland Earth Day volunteers will receive a complimentary reusable bag, snacks from Clif Bar and Numi Tea, and a Chinook Book smart phone app that includes coupons for green products and service from East Bay businesses. Advance registration for individuals and small groups is not necessary. Visit the Earth Day website at oaklandearthday.org to find a site in your neighborhood, and show up Saturday morning to volunteer.

About the San Francisco Bay Trail

The San Francisco Bay Trail was originally envisioned as a "ring around the Bay" by then-state Senator Bill Lockyer, whose Senate Bill 100 was passed into law in 1987 with the endorsement of the entire Bay Area legislative delegation. SB 100 directed the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) to develop an alignment for the Bay Trail, as well as funding and implementation plans for the trail. It was 25 years ago, in 1989, that ABAG adopted this plan for the Bay Trail. The following year, ABAG set up the Bay Trail Project, a nonprofit organization dedicated to planning, promoting and advocating implementation of the Bay Trail. Lockyer's vision has since become a reality, with the construction of the Bay Trail well under way. To date, 330 miles of the 500-mile trail have been completed. When finished, the trail will connect all nine Bay Area counties. MTC is a major sponsor of the Bay Trail Project.

The Bay Trail increases public respect and appreciation for the Bay by offering easily accessible recreational opportunities for hikers, bikers, joggers and other outdoor enthusiasts, as well as offering an ideal setting for wildlife viewing and environmental education. Among its many benefits, the Bay Trail offers important transportation alternatives for cyclists and pedestrians, currently connecting to numerous public transportation facilities, with plans to expand these benefits by eventually crossing all of the major toll bridges. To learn more about the Bay Trail, please visit baytrail.org.

MTC is the transportation planning, financing and coordinating agency for the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area.

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