



City of
OAKLAND
California

Media Contact:

Kristine Shaff
Public Information Officer
(510) 238-2966
kshaff@oaklandnet.com

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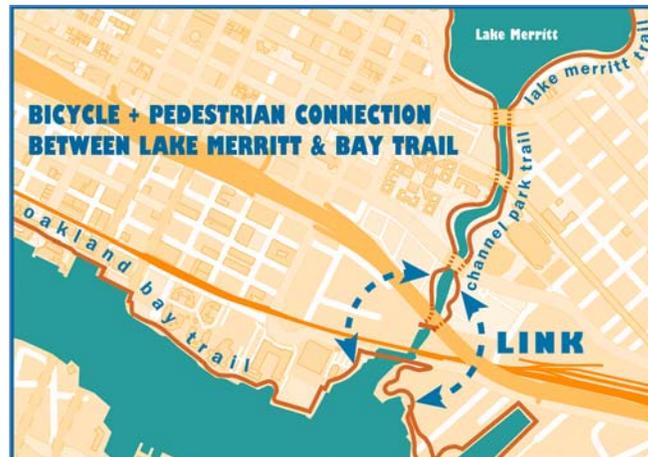
Lake Merritt Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge Project Awarded \$3.2 Million

Oakland, CA – The City of Oakland was awarded \$3.2 million dollars by the Bay Area Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) to continue design work on a bridge connecting the Bay Trail and Lake Merritt bicycle and pedestrian paths. The grant is part of MTC’s Regional Active Transportation Program (ATP). This program encourages investment in non-motorized transportation projects. In their action, MTC awarded a total of \$30 million to nine projects in five Bay Area counties and one regional project.

The Oakland Lake Merritt to Bay Trail Bicycle and Pedestrian Connection will close a major gap in the regional bicycle and pedestrian transportation network. As proposed, the new bridge will take off from under the I-880 freeway and fly over the Embarcadero and the Union Pacific Railroad tracks to connect the Lake Merritt trail network to the regional San Francisco Bay Trail and the Estuary (for more information, visit www.lm2bt.com). The current route is over one-half mile out of the way and crosses over railroad tracks and truck routes.

The project will be fully accessible to all, will reconnect vibrant neighborhoods and link numerous destinations for bicyclists and pedestrians of all ages and abilities. This new connection will create a much more user friendly route that is more open and inviting, and is expected to inspire more people to walk and bike in the area.

“Oakland’s reputation as one of the most bicycle-friendly cities in the nation continues to grow and I am delighted that this funding will help us build on both our cycling infrastructure and the great beauty of Lake Merritt,” said Mayor Jean Quan, who also sits on MTC representing Oakland. “I want to thank my colleagues at MTC and all our staff and community advocates working to help build a better Oakland together.”



For more information on this and other projects of Oakland Public Works, please visit www.oaklandpw.com.

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