



CARMEL AREA WASTEWATER DISTRICT

*BRIDGE TO EVERYWHERE(BTE)
STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES (Revised)*

**February 19, 2025, Wednesday 2:00 p.m.
(Revised)**

CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 2:01 p.m.

**Signifies virtual attendance*

Present: President Ken White,

Other Attendees:

Barbara Buikema, General Manager
Patrick Treanor, District Engineer
Dale Byrne, Mayor of Carmel-by-the-Sea
Greg D'Ambrosio, Friends of Mission Trail Nature Preserve
Doug Schmitz, Friends of Mission Trail Nature Preserve
Sam Farr, Retired Representative U.S. Congress
Paul Bartow, Citizen Representative
Gary Tate, Citizen Representative
Scott Lonergan, Citizen Representative
Paul Short, Citizen Representative

Other In Person Attendees:

Bob Siegfried, Board Member - Carmel Valley Association Representative

Absent:

Laura Bowling, Friends of Mission Trail Nature Preserve
Katherine Wallace, Associate Planner, City of Carmel-by-the-Sea
Megan Dobyms, River School Parent Teacher Organization

Roll Call:

White (Present) and New Director _____ TBD -February 26,2025 (Special Meeting)

1. *Appearances/Public Comments: Anyone wishing to address the Committee on a matter not appearing on the agenda may do so now. Public comment shall be limited to 3 minutes per person per topic. No action shall be taken on any item not appearing on the agenda.*
2. *Agenda Changes: Any requests to move an item on the agenda will be considered at this time.*

None

3. *Appointment Of A New Member To the Bridge To Everywhere Committee Will Be Finalized in the Carmel Area Wastewater District February 26, 2025 Board Meeting. The New Member Is _____.*

4. Organization of the Committee

The Committee was in consensus to carry this item forward and to defer at this meeting.

General Discussion Items:

5. Schedule of organizations to meet with:

- **Carmel Valley Association Designated Appointee:** *(Barbara Buikema, Patrick Treanor, Greg D'Ambrosio, Laura Bowling)*

- ❖ Discussion about Mission and future deliverables

President White stated that the District has received a letter of support from the Carmel Valley Association's board and Carmel Residents Association.

- **Carmel Rotary-** Designated Appointee: *(Greg D'Ambrosio)*

President White stated that a presentation was given to the Carmel Rotary and the Committee will be asking for a letter of support from them. President White would also like for a letter of support after each presentation to a group.

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6. Site Clean Up Progress Report:

- Discussion regarding site cleanup progress

Greg D'Ambrosio hoping to establish some sort of a schedule on cleanup beyond what's been done so far. A solution to where to place the materials that the city still wants to retain. But the meeting has not yet occurred with the City.

President White asked Mayor Byrne if he would like to join the Committee. Mayor Byrne stated that he would like to learn more first. Greg D'Ambrosio requested if a date and time certain could be set to discuss questions.

Sam Farr stated that we must have clean title and site cleanup before any grant award from the Coastal Conservancy.

Sam Farr stated the land is in a riparian zone and it is very limited, and is designated as a park in every legal documents.

Mayor Byrne stated that the goal is to move projects like this forward, so we can make progress on other projects. Mayor Byrne will try and setup a meeting after the next council meeting, which is the 3rd and 4th, so maybe the following week.

7. BTE Outreach: Designate(s) listed below

- General Informational Flyer - Review by all committee members
- Neighborhood –

Paul Bartow stated that this communication is being worked on. There is some concern about parking if that area becomes a park or pickle ball.

A meeting with Lance Monosoff will occur Friday at 1 p.m. and Paul Bartow will attend that meeting.

The outreach is occurring to answer questions that the neighborhood may be having about this area becoming a park.

Mayor Byrne stated concerns about when change occurs and the need as a city, you help us figure out a way to draw a line through these things. So, there's continuity. So, we do not lose intellectual capital that's been developed over a lot of work. And that happened with this project based on my research, with people

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- Carmel Mission - Laura Bowling

No comments because Ms. Bowling was not at the meeting.

- Coastal Conservancy –Patrick Treanor

Sam Farr spoke to Trish Chapman at the Coastal Conservancy. Mr. Farr requested that we prepare information demonstrating how much investment has already been spent on the surrounding properties at the Regional Park District, State Parks, Mission Trail, and to the City for trail development. That the Bridge To Everywhere is the project that opens the door all of those properties.

Mr. Treanor stated, with respect to Regional Parks, that the bridge would connect the Parks District to the ocean, which does not exist now. They currently are receiving \$22M through the Coastal Conservancy for their floodplain restoration project. All funds added up is approximately \$50M

Gary Tate stated that the important element is in the commitment/funding in the legal authority of the applicant, which is CAWD. They are going to be interested in what right do we have in this critical parcel/real park and resulting lease.

- County of Monterey- Patrick Treanor, Sam Farr, Doug Schmitz

See comments above

- Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District -Gary Tate is assigned to communicate with the Park District

See comments above

- State Parks – Patrick Treanor and Doug Schmitz

See comments above

- Letters of Support-

President White stated that two letters of support have been received.

- Offices of Federal and State Officials – Sam Farr and Doug Schmitz

Sam Farr stated that he wants to make a plea to our elected officials, but first we must have a solid ask.

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- River School -Paul Bartow

Paul Bartow stated the parents are in favor of the project. The brochure has been shared with the Parent Teacher Association PTA).

Greg D'Ambrosio requested that Mr. Bartow obtain a letter of support from the school.

- Other

8. Projected Preliminary and Future Expenditures :

- *Discuss upcoming potential expenditures*

- **Log debris & Wood Spoils**
- **Marketing**
- **Pine Cone Publications**
- **Radio Announcements**
- **Public Outreach And General Informational Flyer**
- **Topes Tree Service**
- **Logo Copyright**
- **Title/Easements**
- **Dusky-footed Woodrat Nesting Site**

9. Communication Received

Greg D'Ambrosio stated that Gary mentioned that he has the Kiwanis tagged for one of 3 dates. Are there any other groups that we want to reach out to?

President White suggested that we reach out and Carmel Chamber of Commerce.

Gary Tate suggested that the Point Lobos group be contacted. Sam Farr will reach out to the Point Lobos group.

Doug Schmitz stated that he and Ken White met with the Mayor Byrne several weeks ago. Mayor Bryne provided some ideas for alternatives within the lease document and Greg and I have been working on that. The lease document is possibly slated to appear on the City Councils April agenda.

Doug Schmitz stated that one of the things that came up when we met was the Mission parking lot, and that may solve parking for both Mission Trail and Rio Park. Mr. Schmitz will discuss this issue with the Carmel Mission.

Mayor Bryne stated that the City attorney is working on a draft lease agreement.

**10. Earth & Arbor Day, April 26, 2025: from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Devendorf Park
6th Mission Street Carmel-by-the-Sea, CA 93923 (attached Flyer)**

Greg D'Ambrosio suggested a petition at the booth explaining the project and request their signature in support of the project.

11. CLOSED SESSION: *As permitted by Government Code Section 54956 et seq., the Board of Directors may adjourn to a Closed Session to consider specific matters dealing with litigation, certain personnel matters, real property negotiations, or to confer with the District's Meyers-Milias-Brown representative.*

Conference with Real Property Negotiators:

Government Code section 54956.8

Rio Park, Carmel, CA 93923

Agency Negotiators: (Barbara Buikema, Patrick Treanor, Greg D'Ambrosio, Laura Bowling, Doug Schmitz, Sam Farr)

The negotiators will discuss terms. Price and Terms of Payment

Negotiating Parties: Owner of Rio Park, City of Carmel-by-the-Sea
(Chip Rerig, City Administrator)

There was no closed session

The Committee adjourned the meeting at 3:37 p.m.

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12. **ADJOURNMENT:** *The next Bridge To Everywhere meeting is typically scheduled for the third Wednesday of the month. The next Bridge To Everywhere meeting will occur on March 19, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. The next regular Board meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m., Thursday, February 27, 2025, in person and via teleconference webinar. The teleconference webinar is hosted through Zoom and you may receive access by visiting our website homepage, www.cawd.org, calling the District office at 831-624-1248 or via email at downstream@cawd.org.*

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