BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL
RESTORATION

April 4, 2012
AGENDA

♦ WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

♦ URBAN TRAILS PROGRAM OVERVIEW

♦ TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS OVERVIEW

♦ SCHEDULE & NEXT STEPS

♦ QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION
PROJECT TEAM

- Lisa Wayne / SF RPD – Natural Areas
- Meghan Tiernan / SF RPD – Capital Improvements
- Koa Pickering / SF DPW – Landscape Architecture
- Jessica Perez / SF DPW – Landscape Architecture
FUNDING & BACKGROUND

- 2008 CLEAN AND SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS BOND PROVIDES $5-MILLION FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO SF PARK TRAILS.

- PLANNING PROCESS HAS INCLUDED:
  - Public Meetings and Presentations before the Parks and Recreation Open Space Advisory Committee (PROSAC)
  - Precedent Research (GGNRA and Bay Ridge Trail)
  - Park Project Prioritization, Project Scopes, and Cost Estimates
  - Recreation & Park Commission Presentation and Approval of the Trail Program’s Plan
  - Work with other Park and Stakeholder Organizations
URBAN TRAILS PROGRAM OVERVIEW

PROGRAM VISION AND GOALS:

To connect people and neighborhoods to nature and to make natural areas and trails visible, healthy, and safe.

• ENHANCE AND IMPROVE UNIQUE URBAN TRAIL EXPERIENCES FOR SAN FRANCISCANS TO EXPLORE AND CONNECT TO NATURE IN THE CITY.

• IMPROVE TRAIL CONNECTIVITY AND NETWORKS WITH OTHER RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.

• IMPROVE TRAILS AND RELATED AREAS THAT PROTECT NATURAL RESOURCES AND SENSITIVE HABITATS

• IMPROVE TRAIL SAFETY

• DEVELOP A SUSTAINABLE TRAIL SYSTEM THAT LEVERAGES VOLUNTEER EFFORTS AND FUNDING RESOURCES

• CREATE THE FOUNDATION FOR A ROBUST LONG-TERM URBAN TRAILS PROGRAM
PARTNER AND STAKEHOLDER ORGANIZATIONS:

- Recreation and Park Commission
- Audubon Society
- California Native Plant Society
- Livable City
- Nature in the City
- Neighborhood Parks Council (NPC)
- Park, Recreation and Open Space Advisory Committee (PROSAC)
- SF Parks Trust
- SF Beautiful
- SF Tomorrow
- Sierra Club
- Trust for Public Land
- Walk for SF
2008 CLEAN AND SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS BOND PROVIDED $5-MILLION FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO SF PARK TRAILS.

26 ORIGINAL CANDIDATE PARK SITES IDENTIFIED.

11 PRIORITY SITES WILL RECEIVE FUNDING FOR LIMITED SCOPE PROJECTS: BASIC TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS.

RPD IS UNDERTAKING ADDITIONAL FUNDRAISING EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT MORE COMPLETE IMPROVEMENT SCOPES.

RPD IS ALSO UNDERTAKING GRANT WRITING EFFORTS, AS WELL, AS WORKING WITH NON-PROFIT PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS TO HELP LEVERAGE BOND FUNDS.
URBAN TRAILS PROGRAM LOCATIONS
URBAN TRAILS PROGRAM MILESTONES

PHASE 1 (YEAR 1)
- Grand View Park
- Billy Goat Hill
- Corona Heights

PHASE 2 (YEARS 2 AND 3)
- Glen Canyon
- Oak Woodlands
- Twin Peaks

PHASE 3 (YEARS 3 AND 4)
- Bernal Heights Park
- Bay View Park

PHASE 4 (YEARS 4 AND 5)
- Mt. Davidson Park
- John McLaren Park
TRAIL IMPROVEMENT EXAMPLES

CREATING SUSTAINABLE AND SAFE TRAILS
TRAIL IMPROVEMENT EXAMPLES

PATH, TRAIL, AND STAIR ENHANCEMENTS
TRAIL IMPROVEMENT EXAMPLES

RUSTIC FENCING

SURFACE IMPROVEMENTS

ACCESSIBLE TRAILS

RETAINING WALLS AND EROSION CONTROL FOR TRAIL SUSTAINABILITY
TRAIL RESTORATION EXAMPLES

HABITAT PLANTING

TRAIL MAINTENANCE

HABITAT PLANTING

TRAIL MAINTENANCE
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION
EXISTING CONDITIONS
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION
EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

PASSIVE RECREATION
ENJOYMENT OF THE VIEWS
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION
EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

OFF-LEASH DOG WALKING AREA
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION

EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION
EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

ERODED STAIRWAY ENTRY
ERODED SLOPING ENTRY

BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION
EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION
EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

CRISS-CROSSING TRAILS
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION
EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

EROSION ALONG TRAILS
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION
EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

EROSION ALONG TRAILS
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION
EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

WASHED-OUT TRAIL
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION

EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

ERODED TRAIL AND STAIRWAY
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION
EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

ERODED TRAIL AND STAIRWAY
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION

EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

DENUDED SLOPES
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION
EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

DENUDED SLOPES
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION

EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

SEVERE EROSION
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION

EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

SEVERE EROSION
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION
EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

GULLIES AND WASHED-OUT DEBRIS
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION

EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

WILDLIFE HABITAT AREA
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION

EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

GREAT HORNED OWL
Bubo virginianua

AMERICAN KESTREL
Falco sparverius

WILDLIFE
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION

EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

STAR LILY
Ziagadenus fremontii

SHOOTING STAR
Dedecantheon hendersonii

RARE PLANT HABITAT
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION
CONCEPTUAL PROJECT GOALS

• IMPROVE TRAIL LINKAGES AND CONNECTIONS WITH THE NEIGHBORHOOD

• ADDRESS EROSIIVE TRAILS AND REPAIR/RESTORE ERODED AREAS

• IMPROVE INFORMAL TRAIL ENTRIES / SIGNAGE

• CONSOLIDATE REDUNDANT TRAIL ALIGNMENTS

• ENHANCE HABITAT QUALITY WITH RESTORATION PLANTING AND INVASIVE PLANT CONTROL

• INCREASE ACCESSIBILITY

• INCREASE SAFETY
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION CONCEPTUAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Reroute and repair trails and steps for improved access
Remediate safety hazards along eroding cliff edge
Designate entry with signage
Erosion control

Repair trails for improved access
Remediate safety hazards by rerouting trails away from eroding cliff edge
Install post and rail fencing at base of slope
Erosion control

Investigate safety and traffic calming

Remove guard rail section for access
Add steps down steep embankment
Add benches

Reroute and repair trails for safety
Designate entry with signage
Investigate safe crossing
Install retaining walls and new steps
Erosion control

Use signs or fencing to direct users to designated entries

Bernal Hill Concept Plan
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION
CONCEPTUAL IMPROVEMENTS
AREA ENLARGEMENTS

WEST ENTRY TO TRAIL @ ELsie STREET:

- REROUTE AND REPAIR TRAILS AND STEPS FOR IMPROVED ACCESS
- REMEDIATE SAFETY HAZARDS ALONG ERODING CLIFF EDGE
- DESIGNATE ENTRY WITH SIGNAGE
- EROSION CONTROL
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION
CONCEPTUAL IMPROVEMENTS

NORTHERN SLOPE:

• REPAIR TRAILS FOR IMPROVED ACCESS
• REMEDIATE SAFETY HAZARDS BY REROUTING TRAILS AWAY FROM ERODING CLIFF EDGE
• INSTALL POST AND RAIL FENCING AT BASE OF SLOPE
• EROSION CONTROL

Park Improvements

Interest Points

▲ Primary Entrance
▲ Secondary Entrance

Proposed Trail Network

Existing Trail Network

High Diversity Habitat

Rec and Park Properties
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION
CONCEPTUAL IMPROVEMENTS
AREA ENLARGEMENTS

NORTH ENTRY @ BERNAL HEIGHTS BOULEVARD:

- INVESTIGATE SAFETY AND TRAFFIC CALMING

**Park Improvements**

**Interest Points**

- Primary Entrance
- Secondary Entrance
- Proposed Trail Network
- Existing Trail Network
- High Diversity Habitat
- Rec and Park Properties
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION
CONCEPTUAL IMPROVEMENTS
AREA ENLARGEMENTS

SOUTH ENTRY @ BERNAL HEIGHTS BOULEVARD:
- USE SIGNS OR FENCING TO DIRECT USERS TO DESIGNATED ENTRIES
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION
CONCEPTUAL IMPROVEMENTS
AREA ENLARGEMENTS

EAST ENTRY @ BERNAL HEIGHTS BOULEVARD:
• REROUTE AND REPAIR TRAILS FOR SAFETY
• DESIGNATE ENTRY WITH SIGNAGE
• INVESTIGATE SAFE CROSSING
• INSTALL RETAINING WALLS AND NEW STEPS
• EROSION CONTROL
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION
CONCEPTUAL IMPROVEMENTS

SUMMIT:

- REMOVE GUARD RAIL SECTION FOR ACCESS
- ADD STEPS DOWN STEEP EMBANKMENT
- ADD BENCHES
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION
COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

TRAIL IMPROVEMENT DISCUSSION

- CONTEXT FOR IMPROVEMENTS: TRAIL EXPERIENCE, SAFETY, BUDGET, HABITAT PRESERVATION

- WHAT ARE THE HIGHEST PRIORITIES FOR IMPROVEMENTS?

- TRAIL ENTRIES

- TRAIL ALIGNMENT: PREFERRED SEGMENTS AND ROUTE(S)

- TRAIL CONNECTIONS & CROSSINGS: SAFETY & CONTINUITY
Bernal Heights Trail Restoration

Questions & Discussion

- Reroute and repair trails and steps for improved access
- Remediate safety hazards along eroding cliff edge
- Designate entry with signage
- Erosion control

- Repair trails for improved access
- Remediate safety hazards by rerouting trails away from eroding cliff edge
- Install post and rail fencing at base of slope
- Erosion control

- Investigate safety and traffic calming

- Remove guard rail section for access
- Add steps down steep embankment
- Add benches

- Reroute and repair trails for safety
- Designate entry with signage
- Investigate safe crossing
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- Use signs or fencing to direct users to designated entries

Bernal Hill Concept Plan
BERNAL HEIGHTS TRAIL RESTORATION
CONSTRUCTION BUDGET AND SCHEDULE

TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET:

- $750,000 CLEAN & SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS BOND

PROJECT SCHEDULE (TENTATIVE):

- PLANNING: January – April 2012
  - Community Meeting 3: April 4, 2012 -

- REC PARK COMMISSION: May (TBD)

- DESIGN DEVELOPMENT: May – Oct 2012

- BID/AWARD: November 2012 – February 2013

- CONSTRUCTION: March – October 2013
URBAN TRAILS PROGRAM
NEXT STEPS

- VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
- FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES
- FUTURE PHASE TRAIL PROJECTS:
  - BAYVIEW PARK
URBAN TRAILS PROGRAM
CONTACT INFORMATION

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THANK YOU