



Bay Trail Equity Strategy Phase 1

San Francisco Bay Trail Board of Directors | October 27, 2022

Lily Brown, MURP

Image Credit: Karl Nielson



Image Credit: Karl Nielsen

Agenda

1. Project Team & Timeline
2. Project Purpose & Need
3. Process
 - I. Historic Literature Review
 - II. Case Study Neighborhoods
 - III. Oral History Interviews
4. Interview Takeaways
5. Key Themes
6. Recommendations
7. Equity Strategy and Bay Trail Work Plan

Project Team



Lily Brown
Project Management



Kate White
Project Management



Stefanie Brodie, PhD
Historic Literature
Review



Christopher Lepe
Oral History
Interviews



Bob Allen
Oral History
Interviews

Project Timeline



2021 - 2022

Phase I
Develop Internal
Report



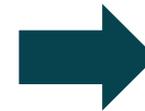
October 2022

Phase I
Publish Public-Facing
Briefing



Fall - Winter 2022

Scope Phase II
With input from
CBOs



2023

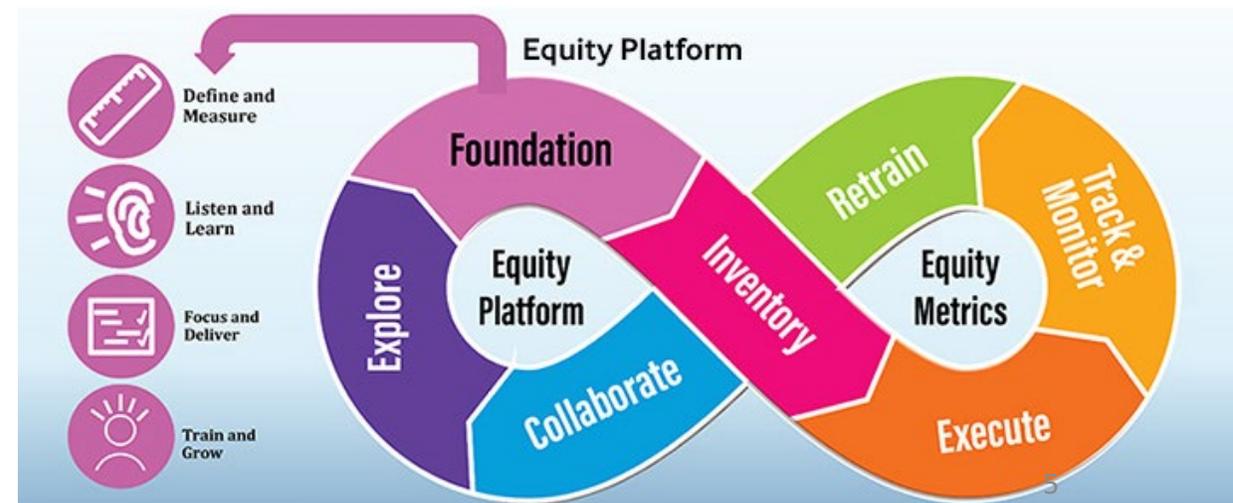
Phase II & Phase III
Execute, Track, and
Monitor



Project Purpose & Need

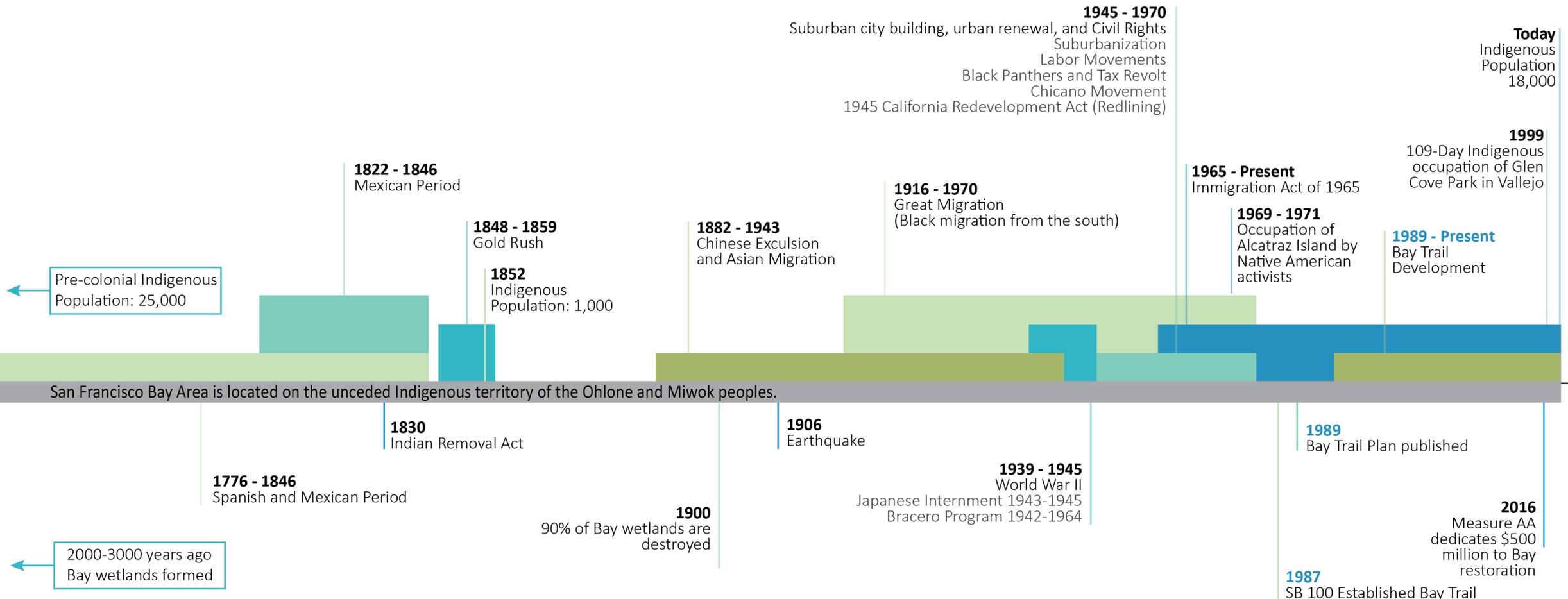
Equitably plan and manage the Bay Trail by:

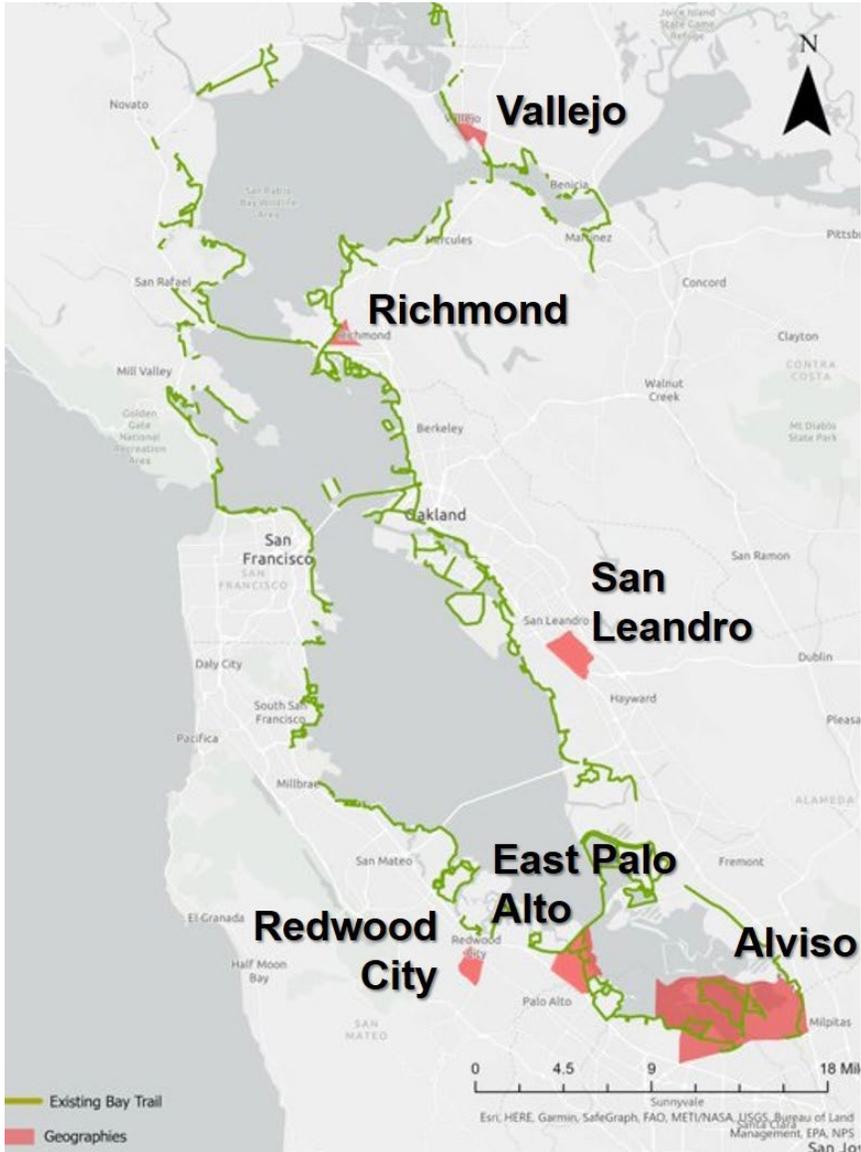
- Intentionally including equity in Bay Trail work program
- Exploring the **relationship** between shoreline communities, land tenure, the Trail, and the development history of the Bay Area
- Tackles a foundational step in the Equity Platform: *Listening and Learning*
- Acknowledging past harms & trauma
- Demonstrating reflexivity and self-criticality



Historic Literature Review

Bay Shoreline History: Precolonial to Present





6 Case Study Neighborhoods

- Unique stories that illuminate broader trends
- Located within **Equity Priority Communities (EPCs)**
- **Representative** of Bay Area demographics
- Historically home to **indigenous communities**
- Land use and industrial diversity that both produce **different barriers** and support **different uses** of the Bay Trail
- **Historically underrecognized** and **under-resourced** geographies
- *Not exhaustive*

Oral History Interviews



Image Credit: Lily Brown

Methodology:

- 60-90 minutes via Zoom
- 12 Interviews: Approx. two **residents** of each case study neighborhood (One in Alviso, Three in Redwood City)
- Participants were asked the **same set of questions** and were each **compensated** \$200 for their time.

Interview Topics:

- Community history & current context
- Familiarity with the Bay Trail
- Familiarity with MTC/ABAG & Bay Trail Project
- Mobility needs and barriers
- Mobility justice & arrested mobility
- Ideas for how to improve Bay Trail access and use
- Opportunities for partnerships, education, outreach, and engagement

Key Themes



Ecology & Environment



Government Actions & Outcomes



Culture & Capital



Development & Transformation



Root Shock: Dislocation & Displacement



Underlying Theme: **Colonialism & Whiteness**



All Impact Bay Trail History & Development

Interview Takeaways

- The Bay Trail contributes positively to the **health** of the region as a space for communities to get **outdoors**, be close to **nature**, and participate in **physical activities**
- **Access varies** by community
- Barriers include **lack of familiarity** with the **Bay Trail access** points, **inadequate public transportation** and parking, and **unsafe streets** for walking and biking to get to the trail
- The Bay Trail **is not viewed as a space for all races, classes, and abilities. Action must be taken to make it an inclusive and safe place for everyone.**



Image Credit: Karl Nielson

Interview Takeaways Continued

- **Improve maintenance, upgrade existing facilities** and **add new amenities** to increase trail use
- **Fund programs** to subsidize bikes and for group outings and events
- Protect and enhance **local landmarks** of EPC history and culture
- **Community in-reach** as a more effective strategy for Bay Trail Program to incorporate CBO & community input
- Increase EPC **representation** in policy and planning
- Address the inherent **gentrification pressures** that the Bay Trail contributes to



Jason Wang and Elizabeth Owen / Arup

Recommendations

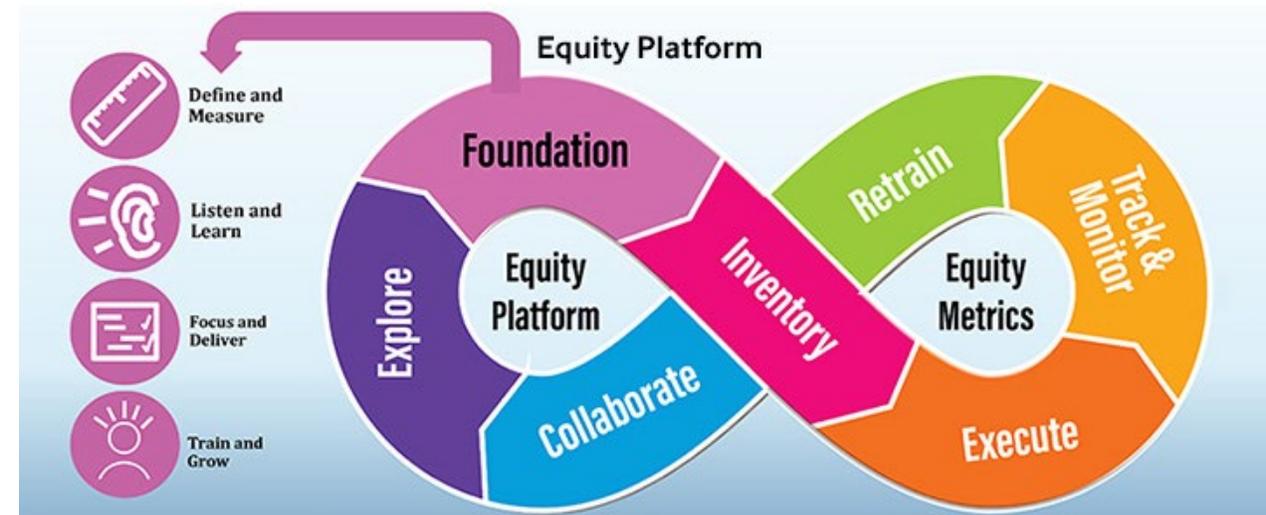
1. **Acknowledge Limitations** of Bay Trail – benefits are not shared equally, and it is not a priority for all
2. Set **Realistic and Strategic Mobility Goals**
3. Enhance **Existing Trail Segments** in addition to focusing on completing the 500-mile ring
4. Improve **Geographic Access to Bay Trail** and **Cultural Access and Belonging**
5. Facilitate **Community Education** and **Engagement** by listening, acting on recommendations, building partnerships and investing in existing needs



Image Credit: Karl Nielsen

Next Steps

1. Phase II Scoping – Engagement and in-reach, “**Foundation and Inventory**”
2. Phase II – Integration with current work program, “**Execute**”
3. Phase III - Action and implementation, “**Track and Monitor**”



There are four pillars at the foundation of MTC’s Equity Platform: Define and Measure, Listen and Learn, Focus and Deliver, and Train and Grow

FY
21-22

Bay Trail Equity Strategy **ARUP TOOLE DESIGN**

Regional Trails Fundraising Strategy **alta**

Bay Trail Gap Closure Implementation Plan

SFO Gap Closure Study

Bay Trail Planning and Implementation: Strategic Plan Update, Design Guidelines Update, Data Strategy, Needs Assessment, Delivery

FY
2022+

The San Francisco Bay Trail Project
Gap Analysis Study



A Report on Closing the Gaps in the 500-mile Regional Trail System Encircling San Francisco Bay

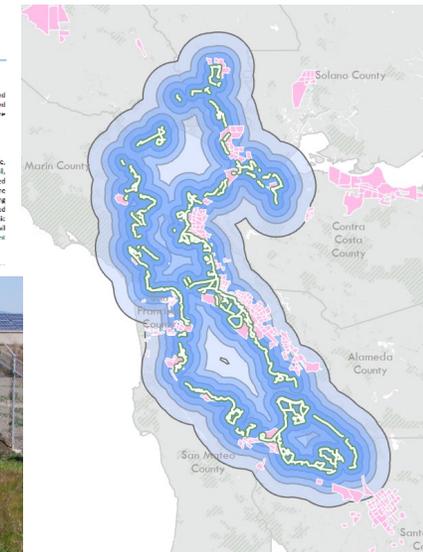
September 2005



San Francisco Bay Trail Project Strategic Plan
2019 - 2023

Mission
The San Francisco Bay Trail Project advocates for the implementation of a continuous recreation and transportation path around San Francisco Bay by coordinating the efforts of government agencies and other partners, providing technical assistance, seeking and administering funding, and promoting the trail's benefits through education and outreach.

Vision
San Francisco Bay is ringed by a continuous recreational corridor made up of hundreds of miles of safe, pleasant and attractive trails that serve a wide range of users. This network, known as the Bay Trail, almost always runs along the shoreline and typically travels on separated paths. The Bay Trail is used extensively for recreation, as a commute route, and as a setting for learning about nature. It crosses the region's topography and connects transit use by passing near many public transportation facilities. Along it are found many points of historic, natural, cultural and recreational interest. The Bay Trail has expanded the public's access to the shoreline, increased appreciation for the Bay, fostered local economic development and waterfront planning, and reinforced the Bay Area's sense of regionality. The Bay Trail is acknowledged as a uniquely valuable resource, and enjoys the unwavering support of government agencies and the public.



MTC-Funded
Kicked-Off
\$250K

Non-Profit Funded
In Procurement
\$160K

MTC Funded
OBAG3 Approved
\$2.5M

Status

Questions?

Lily Brown, MURP

Equitable and Active Transportation Planner

Design and Project Delivery

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Metropolitan Transportation Commission



design & project delivery



METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION