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San Francisco Bay Trail Board of Directors  
Bay Area Metro Center  
375 Beale Street, Suite 800  
San Francisco, CA 94105

**Re: Bay Trail Board of Directors and Steering Committee Alternate Position**

Dear Members of the Board,

I'm writing to you to convey my interest in serving as the alternate representative for the East Bay Regional Park District (Park District) on the Bay Trail Board of Directors and the Bay Trail Steering Committee. I am the Senior Planner in the Trails Development Program where I have spent the last ten years working to close gaps in the regional trail network through Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. I consider the San Francisco Bay Trail (Bay Trail) to be one of the most important components of that network, serving as both a transportation corridor, and a recreational facility granting the public access to so much of the shoreline that might otherwise be inaccessible.

I have been involved in Bay Trail projects at various levels and have come to understand that the challenges of each section are unique and need to be navigated thoughtfully and strategically; there is no low hanging fruit left.

Prior to working for the Park District, I spent over five years building a regional program for the Pacific Crest Trail Association in Southern California and then Washington state, to preserve, protect, and promote the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail. I understand the value of creating and protecting long distance, contiguous, trails and recreational facilities. Though the obstacles (and scenery) are different, the importance of partnerships with the land managers, property owners, and politicians is similar to my experience with the Bay Trail.

The Bay Trail plays a large role in my personal life as well as my professional life. I am fortunate enough to live within a half mile of the Bay Trail, and regularly find myself walking, cycling, and watching wildlife along it. My son took his first bike ride on the Bay Trail to get a smoothie at Point Isabel. Both of my kids love playing eye-spy during snack breaks on our Bay Trail excursions as they look out at and across the water.

The Bay Trail Board and staff has been an effective force, completing more than 70% of this ambitious project. By utilizing my past experiences and relationships with agency and community partners I hope to be able to support the Board and the Steering Committee efforts to close critical gaps and protect existing stretches. I am ready and eager to understand more about Board actions and the role of the Steering Committee. I ask that you please consider appointing me as the alternate representative for the Park District to both positions. I can be reached at [swilson@ebparks.org](mailto:swilson@ebparks.org) or 510-544-5609 for further questions or discussion.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Wilson  
Senior Planner – Trails Development  
East Bay Regional Park District

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