Berlin Wall Bicycle Trail Contributes to Reunification

NEXT MEETING begins at 7:30pm on July 15 (third Tuesday) at Oakland’s Rockridge Branch Library, 5366 College Ave, at Manila. Our special international guest Michael Cramer will discuss the Berlin Wall Bicycle Trail. The trail serves as a reminder of the city’s division, and its reunification. Cramer is an auto-free member of the Berlin city parliament, and chaired its transportation committee from 1989 to 1990. His book on the Berlin Wall Bicycle Trail notes that the trail is one achievement of the Social Democratic/Green coalition. Cramer is currently writing a guide to the Bay Trail.
rideOn note: Short Reports in the June 2003 newsletter were inadvertently from January 2002. The correct June Short Reports are included here. We apologize for the error.

COLISEUM TO BAY TRAIL – The County of Alameda completed a plan to link the Coliseum BART station with the Bay Trail. The project would also connect Coliseum residents with the tremendous number of workplaces on the bay side of I-80. The plan identifies a $2.3 million preferred option that can be “constructed in stages” and “accomplished in less than two years.” The EBBC has participated in drafting the plan and we note that the project would serve the immediate community, plus allow visitors to the Coliseum to enjoy a recreational ride.

ORINDA – The Grizzly Peak Century attracted nearly 900 riders, including almost 100 day-of-the-ride registrants who showed up on an unseasonably cool and wet morning on May 4 for a day of healthy activity. The City of Orinda has not returned to GPC a deposit of $700 on top of a $300 event permit fee.

OAKLAND MACARTHUR BLVD – The existing six-lane road between Broadway and West St is currently being repaved. It could easily be restriped to safely accommodate bicyclists following the repaving. This section of MacArthur Blvd connects four bikeways with MacArthur BART! The Alameda Countywide Bicycle Plan makes this route a “high priority” to link cyclists with the nearby MacArthur BART station. New bike lanes on MacArthur would close gaps and provide connections between existing bikeways on West St, Webster Street and Broadway, as well as the future bike-way on Telegraph. The only recent time MacArthur Blvd was observed to be clogged was during the April 5, 2003 Oakland Peace March from Mosswood Park.

ALAMEDA-OAKLAND – BikeAlameda has lobbied for the City of Alameda to implement the water taxi for years (#1 priority in the Alameda Bicycle Plan). Delays over the last 1-2 years have been attributed to an overwhelming Public Works staff workload. There is no other decent alternative that provides safe two-way bike and ped traffic through the Posey and Webster Tubes. An RFP has now been sent out and Mayor Beverly Johnson concurs that establishing a full-time car-ferry would also be wise for earthquake preparedness.

ALAMEDA - BikeAlameda is the proud recipient of the Earth Day 2003 Mayor’s Award presented on April 26, 2003. The text of the award reads “Presented to BikeAlameda for “Promoting Bicycling as the Responsible mode of travel”. BikeAlameda is also now being paid by event promoters to provide valet bike parking at events in Alameda.

COCOCO – No matter which portion of the county you live in, the most important meeting of the decade is slated for June 18 when the EBBC will join with the Transportation and Land Use Coalition in unveiling “Transportation for a Livable Contra Costa.” CCTA has requested allocations for the Measure C transportation sales tax reauthorization from each of the regional planning commissions by the end of June. This meeting is our opportunity to present OUR allocations and policies—including a 5% set aside to fund the Countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan and insure that our “Good Roads” policies are adopted. Unless we have a large attendance of our folks, we will not have the impact we need! Time: 6pm-8pm. Location: CCTA offices, 3478 Buskirk Ave, Ste 100, Pleasant Hill. Additional information is available at www.ebbc.org.

Alameda County BAC to be Formed

As mandated by the Measure B transportation sales tax overwhelmingly approved by the voters in November 2000, the Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority (ACTIA) will soon appoint 11 citizens to serve on a countywide Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee. Like all BPACs, the primary purpose of the committee will be to review plans and prioritize projects for implementation.

You can apply to the ACTIA board members who either represents your home or a city near your home (not all cities are seated on the board). The governing board of ACTIA is composed of five members of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, five representatives appointed by the Alameda County Mayors’ Conference (two more than ACTA), and one representative designated by the Mayor of Oakland.

Please go to www.acta2002.com for more info.
**SHORT REPORTS**

**PINOLE** – Following years of reminding that State Code forbids excluding bicyclists from public streets, Pinole has removed the “Bicycles Must Use Sidewalk” sign on Fitzgerald Drive, leaving only the “Bike Route” sign.

**CERRITO CREEK TRAIL** – Local advocates applauded the trail alignment plan and proposal for a mid-block crossing of San Pablo Ave presented at the third public hearing on the Albany–El Cerrito–Richmond project on June 25. The next step for the project to connect the Ohlone Creek and Bay Trails will be to share the plans for the crossing of San Pablo (aka SR123) with Caltrans at our quarterly Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting slated for August 5.

**FREMONT** – On June 25, the Fremont Bicycle Pedestrian Technical Advisory heard a presentation about a possible rail-trail conversion of the former WP track between Vallejo Mill and Central/Gomes parks, and possibly further south. BART and/or VTA are buying the ex-WP for the Warm Springs/San Jose extensions, but BART only needs the portion south of Central park. For more information contact Fremont BPTAC Chair Michael Graff (see BAC Calendar).

**WALK/BIKE CA 2003** - Registration Opens For Statewide Walking and Bicycling Conference: Sign-up before August 15th to receive discount. See “registration” at http://www.walkbikecaifornia.net. California Walks has joined the City of Oakland and CBC as a full conference partner and will promote the conference. The Call for Papers and Presentations has been extended through August 8th for the October 15-17 conference to be held at the Oakland Marriott.

**OAKLAND-ALAMEDA** – The City of Alameda’s request for a bike lane on Oakland’s 29th Ave from the Park St Bridge to the underpass has been denied because it would require removing parking from this freeway approach. The “devils triangle” between 23rd and 29th Avenues is slated to be repaved this summer. Elegant porcelain maps located along Oakland’s Embarcadero depict 29th Ave as part of the Embarcadero Bikeway from Jack London Square to Fruitvale.

**OAKLAND LAKE MERRITT** – Eventual replacement of “the world’s shortest freeway” was assured with passage of Measure DD in November 2002. The problem is that the work will take over a decade to complete. The Measure DD Committee, a broad coalition of groups in including the EBBC, succeeded in reminding the Oakland City Council and staff that an “interim measure for bicycle access and safety” is identified in the Lake Merritt Master Plan. Oakland Public Works staff have submitted a grant application to pursue the interim measure and Dowling Associates have provided, pro bono, a plan for bikeways on Lakeshore and E-12th St between E-15th and Lakeside.

**EMERYVILLE** – On June 17 the city council debated the design of the future bicycle/pedestrian bridge over the railroad tracks to Bay Street. Most speakers and the recently formed BAC favored a gradual ramp design. The Council directed the city staff to resolve the safety concerns associated with the more gradual, open ramp design so that this design is at the same level of fine-tuning as the stacked ramp design.

**BART-SFO** - The new BART-SFO-Millbrae extension opened to great fanfare on June 22nd. If you plan on bringing a bicycle, however, be warned that BART has enacted reverse-commute restrictions on bicycles between Daly City and Millbrae/SFO. The new schedule shows bikes not allowed on trains leaving San Francisco during the morning commute, nor are bikes allowed on trains heading towards San Francisco in the evening. Of course, there are no luggage restrictions at any hour — so feel free to schlepp an enormous Samsonite suitcase to the airport.

**Proposed Bay St. bike/ped bridge in Emeryville**
Free Historic Bike Tours

At least one Oakland Councilmember has committed to join the Oakland Museum of California "Bike Trippers" for free bicycle tours of historic downtown Oakland!

The tours take place the third Sunday of the month, on June 15, July 20, August 17 and September 21, with the season's final tour on a Saturday, October 18, 2003. Tours leave promptly at 10 a.m. from the museum's entrance at 10th and Fallon Streets, opposite Laney College. The leisurely paced, 5½-mile tours are on flat land with no hills, and last approximately 2½ hours. Experienced tour guides, all museum docents, discuss Oakland's architecture, art, natural features and history from the Indian and Spanish Rancho periods through the Gold Rush, the Victorian era, and the 1906 earthquake to the present.

For those who have already taken the usual tour there will be simultaneous alternative tours from the same starting point. Tours of historic Brooklyn will take place in June, August, and October. These tours include Clinton Park, San Antonio Park, Brooklyn commercial district, a church designed by Julia Morgan, the oldest extant building in Oakland and, if time permits, the Peralta House.

A tour of West Oakland, in July and September, will go out to Middle Harbor Shoreline Park, the Oakland Mole, and the Port View Park.

Tours are limited to 20 people. Advance reservations are required and may be made by calling the Oakland Museum of California's Docent Office, 510/238-3514. Children over 12 are welcome if accompanied by an adult. Bring your own bike, helmet, water and snacks.

Contra Costa Not United on Bike/Ped Funding

CCTA has requested allocations for the Measure C transportation sales tax reauthorization from each of the regional planning commissions by the end of June. This meeting is our opportunity to present OUR allocations and policies, including a 5% set aside to fund the Countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan (CBPP) and insure that our "Good Roads" policies are adopted to guarantee that every project is accessible and safe for bicyclists and pedestrians.

Here is the math on why we need 5%:

- $277 million is called for to fully implement the CBPP
- Minimum of $79 million shortfall in funds to implement CBPP
- 5% of $1.6 billion in projected revenue = $80 million

Nevertheless, among the four Regional Transportation Planning Committees (RTPCs) in the County, only the Southwest Area Transportation Committee (SWAT - Danville, San Ramon, and Lamorinda) supports a 5% set-aside for bike/ped improvements). They should be applauded!

West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee (WCTAC) comes closest with a proposed 3% set-aside. TRANS-PAC (Transportation Partnership and Cooperation), the RTPC for Central Contra Costa offers only 1- to 2-percent. The fast growing East County area apparently sees little need for spending on bike/ped improvements as TRANSPLAN proposes to only requested 1%!

-Robert Raburn

Transportation for a Livable Contra Costa

To all of you who attended the June 18 CCTA Full Board meeting: THANK YOU and congratulations for a tremendous turnout!

The Transportation and Land Use Coalition (TALC) counted at least 75 of our folks in attendance at the June 18 CCTA meeting. Though we were a quiet crowd, our presence had a very tangible impact. And that's the first step to achieving what we want! [note: the EBBC supports a 5% set-aside to fund the Countywide Bicycle Pedestrian Plan, and “good roads” language to insure that all transportation spending result in improvements for bike/ped access and safety. Included in TALC’s tightly orchestrated line of speakers were Brad Edmonston, BTCEB Communications Coordinator, and Dick Anderson representing the EBBC and the Delta Pedlars]

After we presented the Transportation for a Livable Contra Costa platform, the Board went on to discuss the remainder of the agenda. I can tell you that the mood for the rest of the meeting was very different than what it has been in the past. Our message last night came across clearly: we made CCTA very aware that a LOT of us want a smarter and more equitable plan if Measure C goes to the ballot, and that we are here right now to help define that plan. Congratulations on a great job.

In terms of next steps, we now need to continue the constant pressure and voicing of our needs. CCTA will be putting together their alternative plans (both Expenditure and Growth Management) to be assessed for environmental impacts by mid-July. That's less than a month away, and we want to make sure our recommendations are included in those alternatives. That means there are 2 main things we need to do over
the next month:

1) Flood CCTA with letters supporting the Transport for a Livable Contra Costa Platform, and detailing what specific needs you have. Please send a letter in-- they make a difference! You can find a sample at our website, - http://transcoalition.org/c/sus_msrc/msrc.html

Write to:
Chairperson Julie Pierce
and Commissioners
Contra Costa Transportation Authority
3478 Buskirk Ave, Suite 100
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
Fax: 925-407-0128

2) Attend CCTA’s JULY Full Board meeting to request that they include elements of Transport for a Livable Contra Costa in their alternative plans. We want to have just as much impact then as we did last night-- that means we need large numbers yet again.

When: July 23, 6-8 pm (note that the date was changed from 7/16)
Where: 3478 Buskirk, Ste 100

As always, feel free to contact Sita Chokkalingham with any questions or concerns, or to ask for a presentation or more information (email: sita@transcoalition.org, or tel: 510-740-3104). For information on Measure C, check out our website at http://transcoalition.org/c/sus_msrc/msrc.html.

-Sita Chokkalingham,
Transportation & Land Use Coalition

Circus Cyclists Jailed

The Flying Rutabaga Cycle Circus traveled to St. Louis May 16 to kick off their “Caravan Across the Cornbelt” at the World Agricultural Forum. The group has definite opinions on the corporate control of agriculture and intended to travel all the way to Washington, DC, but had only made it as far as Tower Grove Park when police arrested nine of the members for “biking without a license.”

Their bicycles were impounded and they were held in jail for eight hours. After police discovered that mandatory bicycle registration was taken off the books two years ago, the cyclists were charged instead with “obstructing the flow of traffic.”

Meanwhile, another twelve Flying Rutabaga performers were arrested and charged with “occupying a condemned building”— the Bolozone which had been purchased from the city and had been occupied for over a year and was undergoing renovation.

A police search of the premises yielded an 8-foot tall puppet, circus whips, and juggling torches, some of which Police Chief Mokwa termed “dangerous weapons” at a Friday press conference.

Eventually, the group’s bicycles were returned — though with some of the tires slashed while in police custody. For their part, the St. Louis Police Department has conceded the arrests were a mistake. “I wish we wouldn’t have detained the people on bicycles,” Chief Mokwa was reported to have told a reporter for the Associated Press.
BAC Calendar
Compiled by: John Ruzek

Alameda County New 11-member BAC has now been approved by ACTIA. See article in this newsletter for more info. Staff: Rochelle Wheeler, (510) 267-6121, RWheel-er@acta2002.com.

BART Aug 4, 6 pm MTC, 101 8th Street, Oakland. Bimonthly, first Monday. Staff: Laura Timothy, 510-464-6425; Co-Chairs Joe Carroll, J.Carroll@lmi.net, Dave Favello, 925-939-9462; DaveVelo@aol.com; - County representatives: Alameda - Raines Cohen 510-337-9427 Raines@raines.com; Contra Costa – Dave Favello, Craig Hagelin 925-937-7610, CHagelin@earthlink.net.

Berkeley July 2, Aug 6, 4-6 pm, (call to confirm date and time) 2118 Milvia St., 2nd floor. Staff: Carolyn Helmke 510-705-8131, CHelmke@ci.berkeley.ca.us; Chair: Stephen Wheeler, SWheeler@uclink.berkeley.edu; EBBC rep Hank Resnik, Hacker@earthlink.net, 510-524-4488.

Brentwood July 15, August 19, 4:00 pm Parks & Recreation Department 740 3rd St. Staff: Janet Hensley, 925-516-5369, J.Hansen@ci.brentwood.ca.us, Delta Pedalers rep Dave Stoeffler 925-634-1793, Daves@ecis.com.

California Bicycle Advisory Committee (CBAC) Aug 7, Oct 2, 10:00 - 3:00 pm, Meetings held bimonthly in Sacramento at Department of Transportation, Conference Rm 2116, 1120 N Street. CBAC addresses bicycle issues regarding Caltrans facilities, standards and legislation of statewide significance. Staff: Ken McGuirre, Caltrans, 916-653-2750, Ken_McGuire@dot.ca.gov; Chair: Alan Wachtel, CABO, 650-494-1750, Wachtel@aol.com; REBAC rep: (vacant).

Caltrans District 4 July 8, Oct 14, 1:30 pm, 111 Grand Avenue, Oakland (Call Chair to confirm). Meets quarterly to review state highway projects which impact bicycle facilities. Staff: Julian Carroll, 510-286-5598, Julian_Carroll@dot.ca.gov; Chair: Doug Kimsey, MTC, 510-464-7794, DKimse@mtc.dot.ca.us; EBBC rep Doug Faunt, 510-655-8604, Faunt@netcom.com.

Concord (Trails Advisory Group) Call for date & location or check www.ci.Concord.CA.gov.us. Staff: Ginger Gessner, Parks Manager, 925-671-3444, EBBC rep Kathy Tate, 925-671-7579, Bikekat@constant.com.

“BAC” continued p. 8.

MINUTES of the General Meeting of Tuesday, June 17, 2003, held at the Berkeley Center for Alternative Transportation (BCAT)

CHAIR was Craig Hagelin.

BCAT Dave Campbell gave us some background about BCAT, where the PED EXPRESS has its home, as well as the CFBC.

MINUTES of the two previous meetings were corrected to read that “Regarding CoCoCo Measure C, on April 15, 2003, a motion was passed to endorse both a 5% set-aside to fund the County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan and a ‘good roads’ clause to guarantee that all transportation projects in CoCoCo be accessible and safe for bicyclists and pedestrians.”

TREASURY Debbie Lewis distributed her treasurer’s report for 1-1-03 to 5-31-03, which was approved. Expenditures $8,522.80, which included $1,000 monthly newsletters plus those included in B-T-W-D musette bags. Income was $6,724.32.

CoCoCo MEASURE C: We were urged show up tomorrow, June 18, at the 6PM monthly CCTA Board meeting to support the “Transportation for a Livable Contra Costa” platform of TALC (Transportation and Land Use Coalition) which contains our goals as mentioned above. (Addendum: A large number of TALC supporters, including several EBBC members, did attend the meeting and spoke.)

CERRITO CREEK TRAIL: Progress was reported on this cooperative effort of the cities of P.Ferrito, Richmond, and Richmond to connect the Ohlone and the Bay Trails. Meeting at Albany City Hall at 7 PM on Wed, June 25.

VALET PARKING at PORT FEST, done by volunteers Mike Fitzhugh, Greg Hagelin, Jennifer Stanley, Ron Bishop, Peter Barnett, Dave Campbell, Leo DuBose, and Pat and Robert Rubarn, earned us $300, plus 9 new members, plus a $90 contribution from the children of the Family Village Homeschool, Alameda Oakalnd Home Learners.

FATAL HIT & RUN On June 5, Matthew Sperry, bicyclist and musician, was killed by a hit-and-run motorist at Powell and Vallejo in Emeryville. Police seek witnesses. A memorial concert will be at 8PM, Thur, June 19, at the “21 Grand,” 449B 23rd St, Oakland.

MAP Rubarn reported good news from Barclay Maps regarding our revision of our East-of-the-Hills map. Barclay found a base map, the lack of which has held up our new map for several years.

CALIF BIKE/WALK CONFERENCE will be in Oakland, Oct 15-18, 2003. Exhibitors should contact http://www.walkbikcalifornia.net/doslab.htm. CBC (Calif Bike Coalition) and City of Oakland are sponsors.

BIKE-TO-WORK-DAY Next year, 2004, REBAC will apply for the money from MTC, and Debbie Hubsmith of Marin Co BC will be in charge.

MTC REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP) meeting was held at the Palace Hotel in SF on Sat, June 14, with EBBC members Robert Rubarn, Jennifer Stanley, Mike Jones, Michael Graff, Dave Campbell, Ron Bishop, and Yehuda Sherman attending. Our points are: 1. Expand available funding for the Regional Bike Plan. 2. Include “expanded” SR2T (Safe Routes to Transit) projects in RTP update. 3. Adopt performance measures, i.e., money should be spent for improving transportation rather than for beautification. 4. Bike paths on the western span of the Bay Bridge should be included. A bike path on each side of the suspension bridge will be needed for proper engineering balance.

HOV & BUS LANES A motion was passed to support lanes for busses and HOV (high occupancy vehicles.) ??? (Was this for HOV lanes everywhere possible or for a specific project??)

T-SHIRTS A discussion was started about what message to put on our new T-shirts. Most would like a message about Vehicle Code section 21202 allowing bikes full use of narrow lanes. We will probably vote on this matter at our Aug meeting.

NEXT MEETING will be back at the Rockridge Library at 7:30 PM on Tues, July 15, 2003, and it will feature Michael Cramer of the Berlin, Germany, parliament who will talk about such things as creating a multi-use path where the infamous Berlin Wall once was, and his new book about our own SF Bay Trail.

Respectfully submitted by Yehuda Sherman, sec’y.
EAST BAY BICYCLE COALITION

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http://www.svbcbikes.org
West CoCoCo, BikeWestCoCo  408-236-2181
Bill Pinkham, bpinckham@hot.com

EAST BAY BICYCLE COALITION membership form
Send your tax-deductible donation to EBBC, PO Box 1736, Oakland, CA 94604
For EBBC information & messages, call (510) 433-RIDE (433-7433)

Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Phone/Fax

E-mail Address

Workplace/City

Interests

Membership Type
- Sustaining ($25)
- Half-Century ($50)
- Century ($100)
- Shop/Club ($40)
- Introductory ($12)
- Living Lightly ($6)

New
Renewal
Please do not share my name with other mailing lists.
“BAC” continued p. 6.

Contra Costa County  Meets yearly in late fall to review TDA Article 3 projects.  Staff: Joe Yee 925-313-2258;  Chair: John Ruzek, 925-939-5181, John_Ruzek@yahoo.com.

Danville  Meets as required.  Staff: Bryan Welch, 925-314-3313, BWelch@ci.danville.ca.us.  Chair: Sandra Meyers 925-837-5960.

Dublin  Meets yearly in late fall to review TDA Article 3 projects.  Staff: Ferd del Rosario, 925-833-6630, Ferd.delRosario@ci.Dublin.CA.us.

Emeryville  New BAC has now been approved by City Council.

East Bay Regional Park District  (Park Advisory Committee) July 28, 7:30 pm, Board Room, 2950 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland 94605  Staff: Ro Aguilar, Legislative Analyst, 510-635-0138 x2006, Chair: Henry Losie, 510-276-2271, EBhiker@aol.com.

Fremont  July 16, Aug 20, 7:00 pm, Niles Room, 39550 Liberty Street, (call to confirm)

Staff: Rene Dalton, 510-494-4535, RDalton@ci.fremont.ca.us.  Chair: EBBC rep Michael Graff@pobox.com.

Lafayette  July date TBD, Community Center Manzanita Room, 500 St. Mary’s Road.  Quarterly mgs, check website, www.ci.lafayette.ca.us, or call staff for date.  Staff: Leah Greenblat, LGreenblat@ci.lafayette.ca.us, 925-299-3229, Chair: Bart Carr, Bart_Carr@yahoo.com, 925-299-1664.

Livermore  (BAC being formed.) Call Community Development Department, 925-960-4500, for further info)

Oakland  July 17, Aug 21, 3rd Thursday at 3:30 pm at 250 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Suite 4314.  Staff: Kathryn Hughes 510-238-6493, KHughes@oaklandnet.com;  Chair: Ron Bishop 510-652-4667, rbishop747@aol.com.

Pittsburg Traffic & Circulation Advisory Committee  Aug 7, Oct 2, 7:00 pm, Civic Center 3rd Fl, 65 Civic Avenue.  Staff: Paul Reinders, PReinders@ci.Pittsburg.ca.us;  Chair: Peter Carpio, PCarpio@pacbell.net.  (Bring up new issues in Public Comment at start of meetings)

San Leandro  (BAC being formed.) Call Anna Vickroy, 510-377-3310, AMVickroy@ci.sanleandro.ca.us, for further info.

Pleasanton  Next meeting TBD.  Staff: Mike Tassano, 925-931-5670.

UC Berkeley  Call staff for information during the summer.  Chair Karl Hans, KHans@uclink4.Berkeley.edu, EBBC rep: Rachel Hiatt 510-325-6665 RHiatt@uclink.berkeley.edu, Staff Rita Bond, Rita-Bond@uclink4.berkeley.edu, 510-642-7194.

Walnut Creek  July 16, Sept. 17, 7:30 pm, 111 N. Wiget Lane, at Shadelands Civic Arts Bldg.  Staff: Mike Vecchio, Community Development, 925-256-3529;  Vecchio@ci.walnut-creek.ca.us  Chair & EBBC rep: Dave Favello, DaveVelo@aol.com.

West Contra Costa County  Bicycling interests are being addressed by an ad hoc BAC.  Contact Robert Raburn at 510-530-3444, RobertRaburn@csi.com, for further info.