



\$\$\$ millions for Bike Access in East CoCo!

Federal compensation funds for closure of Port Chicago Highway established in 1994 may produce dividends for bicyclists

EBBC Director **Bruce "Ole" Ohlson** notified other EBBC Board members that he needed to represent bicyclists at an important meeting in Bay Point would not be able to attend the March 18 EBBC meeting. Ole's leadership and sound judgement are infallible!

At stake was a plan for spending \$8.6 million in federal funds. The fund had grown from \$5 million as compensation for closing the Port Chicago Highway in 1994.

Bicyclists lost the only level route between the Bay Area and the Central Valley when Port Chicago Highway was closed in 1994. An extension of the Delta DeAnza Trail was quickly installed over 550' Willow Pass. Travel between this path and north Concord requires riding on the shoulder of the SR 4 freeway.

Ole was joined by **Jim Townsend**, Trails Development Manager with the East Bay Regional Park District.

"Port Chicago" continued p. 4



Bicyclist safety is compromised on the popular Miller-Sweeney (Fruitvale) Bridge.

Seismic Retrofit of Three Estuary Bridges

Disruption to begin this summer yet to consider bicyclists, advocates see opportunity for implementation of bikeway plan

We're fortunate a local news meeting announcement caught the attention of BikeAlameda member **Ricardo Pedevilla**.

On March 5, Alameda County Public Works engineer **James Chu** announced preparations for a project to seismically

brace all three Estuary Bridges. The Alameda Library meeting was facilitated by Supervisor **Alice Lai Bitker**.

As proposed, the project would begin with the 1935 Park Street Bridge in July of 2008. Although the project would not require closure, it would result in traffic delays that concerned local merchants. It is unknown how the construction would effect the paths over the bridge.

The 1939 High Street Bridge represents a bigger project that would require a 10-day closure and a 5-month detour of traffic to

"Estuary Bridges" continued p. 6

Next Meeting EBBC's next General meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 15 at the Rockridge Branch Library, 5366 College Avenue at Manila in Oakland. Bikes welcome (after hours), please use the elevator.

7:30pm - EBBC's **General Membership Meeting** agenda (see ebbc.org) will include action on Caltrans' proposal for the RSR Bridge, and on EBRPD Bonds, plans for numerous Earth Day events, and supervolunteer training for May Bike to Work Day energizer stations.

EBBC Office at 3301 E12th St, Suite 143, Oakland received a beautiful 54cm Cannondale R600 as a gift from **Dorothy Shannon** whose father no longer rides. We intend to keep the bike, valued at \$450, on the road by raffling it at the **Bike Away from Work Party** on May 15. First we will pay the superb mechanics at the Fruitvale Bike Station to give the bike a thorough tune-up.

Not familiar with this aluminum-frame road bike? We encountered an R600 rider at the summit of Mt Diablo on during Easter and asked his impression. His answer: "it's light and climbs like a dream!"

Bike to Work Day: Thursday May 15

Your volunteer help can encourage others - full details at www.ebbc.org

Bike to Work Day season is in full bloom and we want to help you sprout into action. From beginning cyclists to experienced bike commuters, there's something for all.

First up are the **Bike Commuter of the Year Award** nominations, due April 23. Know someone in your community who makes every day a "Bike to Work Day"? Do they ride daily, drop off kids at school, haul groceries, and set an example for others? We're looking for everyday bicycling champions. Please share their story with us by submitting your nomination today.

The **Team Bike Challenge** returns, encouraging cyclists to form teams of 2-5 people and compete by earning points for each day a team member rides their bike during May. The team with the most points at the end of the month wins a grand prize! Last year Alameda County had the most teams competing in the Bay Area and we intend to keep our crown. Sign-ups begin April 1.

You'll get there safely with our **Spring Bicycle Safety Classes** taught throughout the East Bay. Street Skills classes, Road 1 on-bike practice and Family Cycling Workshops, we've got you covered for a safe journey to work, school, market, anywhere.

BTWD Ad Campaign starts April 28. Look for our new ads promoting cycling that will appear on the backs of buses, at bus shelters, in BART stations and on the I-880 freeway billboard at Hegenberger. We're not quite ready to wrap an entire BART station in our new ads, but you'll be seeing them all around town. Point them

out to a friend and encourage them to join the cause.

EAST BAY EXPRESS is helping us publish a **Bike to Work Day**

Guide in their May 7 edition. It'll be a 4-page pullout with a map of over 50 Energizer Stations in the East Bay and all you need know for a safe and happy commute, plus details on all the fun events happening around Bike to Work Day.

Bike Away From Work Party, May 15, 5:30-7:30pm at Rudy's Can't Fail Cafe in Emeryville. Sponsored by the EAST BAY EXPRESS and the SIERRA CLUB Northern Alameda Chapter. Raffle prizes, silent auction items, BTWD t-shirt sales, grand prize-a brand new cruiser bike from New Belgium Ales,

and we'll award our Bike Commuter of the Year Awards for Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.

Of course, much more is going on. So, go to www.ebbc.org and click on the Bike to Work Day page, for all details.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TIMELINE:

Apr 1: Team Bike Challenge signup starts
Apr 1: Nominations open for Bike Commuter of the Year Award
Apr 15: Energizer Station locations set
May 12: Musette Bag swag stuffing for Alameda County at REI Berkeley
May 13: Musette Bag stuffing for Contra Costa County at REI Concord
May 15: Bike to Work Day - Lead a Pedal Pool or staff a nearby Energizer Station



Thanks to EBBC's marketing campaign, your neighbors and friends are certain to know that May 15 is Bike to Work Day!

More Spring 2008 Bicycle Safety Classes

FREE Urban Bike Safety Classes

You asked and we responded with added classes. It's now even easier to gear-up in April and May whether you plan to lead club rides or participate in Bike to Work Day for the first time.

Day One: Street Skills Class

4-hour classroom course teaches the basics of safe cycling, riding in traffic, equipment, crash avoidance, rights and responsibilities. Adults 14 and over. No bike needed.

San Leandro, Monday, April 14
6-9:30pm, San Leandro Main Public Library, 300 Estudillo Ave

Dublin, Thursday, April 17
6-9:30mm, Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza

Oakland, Thursday, May 1
6-9:30pm, Kaiser Medical Center, 280 W. MacArthur Blvd, 12th floor

Hayward, Thursday, May 8
6-9:30, Burbank Elementary School, 353 B Street.

Please check www.ebbc.org for announcements and details under "safety"

Day Two: Road I Instruction

6-hour Road I course provides an opportunity to put into practice what was learned in the Day 1 Street Skills class, including emergency maneuvers and riding in various traffic conditions, to test your knowledge of vehicular cycling skills. Bicycle required for Day Two.

Pleasanton, Saturday, May 3
10am-4pm, Pleasanton Tennis and Community Park Room, 5801 Valley Ave

Fremont, Saturday, May 24
10am-4pm, Family Resource Center, 39155 Liberty St, near Fremont BART Station

Oakland: Saturday, May 31
10am-4pm, Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter, 101 8th St. at Lake Merritt BART station

Sign up via email: Dave Campbell dcampbell@lmi.net or at the Berkeley Bikestation: (510)548-7433.

SHORT REPORTS

ENERGIZER STATIONS GALORE - The East Bay Bicycle Coalition needs you, our **super volunteers**, at each energizer station on the morning of Bike to Work Day. We're planning over 50 Energizer Stations this year. Our goal is 2009 members by the end of May. Your task will be signing up new members as they ride into an Energizer Station. Each super volunteer will be armed with EBBC envelopes, a cash zipper bag, a stash of our incentives to join (EcoMetro Coupon books-a\$20 value), and a BTWD musette bag to hold all this. We'll be holding a volunteer, energizer station work party in late April to practice our pitches to prospective members. We have also scheduled some preliminary workshop ideas for our next general meeting on April 15. To get signed up as a super volunteer for Bike to Work Day, email EBBC Chair **Dave Campbell** at dcampbel@lmi.net or give him a call at 510.701.5971.

MARTINEZ - EBBC member **Joe Eno** sits on the committee reviewing the Downtown Community Based Transportation Plan. He suggests that the project close the gaps in the bike lanes along Alhambra and Berrellesa and add bike lanes to Escobar St. For info visit: www.DowntownMartinezCBTP.com

OAKLAND LAKESHORE BLVD - The contract to reconfigure Lakeshore Blvd with bike lanes was issued in March. It is a small component of the Measure DD Lake and Estuary improvements that EBBC successfully campaigned for in 2002. Next up, E12th St Dam (AKA the "World's Shortest Freeway"). But first, advocates must counter opponents who have appealed the project Environmental Impact Report (report on the April 3 City Council Hearing will be posted at ebbc.org). Please let Council Member **Pat Kernighan** know you appreciate her dedication to the project!

EARTH DAY - On April 19 EBBC will park bikes and offer special membership deals at **Berkeley's** Civic Center Plaza and in **Martinez** at the John Muir National Historic Site.

RICHMOND - The plan to spend \$6 million on MacDonald Ave without bikeways has resulted in: 1) formation of a Richmond BPAC that has already held a kickoff meeting on March 24 with **Bill Pinkham**, EBBC Director, and **Adrienne Harris**, EBBC Member; and 2) Richmond staff efforts to implement through E-W regional bikeway on Barrett Avenue. The BPAC seeks to fund a citywide bicycle plan and will next meet on April 7 at 5:30pm in the Shimada Room, Richmond City Hall, 1401 Marina Way. Contact staff liaison **Joe Light** Joe_Light@ci.richmond.ca.us, for details.

RSR BRIDGE - On April 3 the Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) heard a briefing on the issue of whether a roadway shoulder on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge should be allowed to be used as a bicycle and pedestrian trail during non-peak commute hours or should be reserved for future use as a travel lane by motorized vehicles. Implementing either option will require a permit from BCDC. The Bay Area Toll Authority has determined that the bicycle and pedestrian option is feasible and has offered to help arrange financing the trail and installing a moveable barrier to protect the trail users. The California Department of Transportation has taken a conflicting position that the barrier would pose a safety hazard to motorists and has indicated that it will not construct the barrier and trail. EBBC joined with Bay Trail sponsors to offer public comment and request that the Commission act to provide public access on the bridge. For info contact Brad McCrea 415/352-3615 bradm@bcdca.gov.

SAN LEANDRO SLOUGH BRIDGE - This critical gap in the Bay Trail between the Oakland Airport and San Leandro will receive the attention of the Bay Conservation Development Commission's Design Review Board on April 7. EBBC will be on hand to lend support completion of the Bay Trail.

PARK DISTRICT BOND - The East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) intends to place a \$500 million extension of the 1988 Measure AA Bond on the November 2008 ballot. EBBC has helped shape the expenditure plan. Throughout April and

early May the EBRPD will offer six public meetings to solicit public input on the proposed land acquisition and mix of projects. Please look for an EBBC representative (wearing a badge or bikegear) at each meeting to share your suggestions with.

- Apr 9, 7-8:30pm, Rec Center, 3230 Macdonald Ave, **Richmond**
- Apr 12, 10-11:30am, Conference Center, 125 12th St, **Oakland**
- Apr 16, 7-8:30pm, Centre Concord, 5298 Clayton Rd, **Concord**
- Apr 24, 7-8:30pm, Com Center, 40204 Paseo Padre Pkwy, **Fremont**
- Apr 26, 10-11:30am, The White House, 204 2nd St, **Oakley**
- May 1, 7-8:30pm, City Hall, 100 Civic Plaza, **Dublin**

For more information call 510-544-2003 or visit www.ebparks.org.

OAKLAND PARKING KIOSKS - A strong contingent of advocates spoke a hearing by the Council Finance Committee on the Multi-space Meters that have usurped bike parking. All four members of the committee--**Nancy Nadel**, **Jane Brunner**, **Jean Quan**, and **Ignacio De La Fuente**--commented in support of providing replacement bicycle parking. Nevertheless, we did not receive a funding commitment. Together with WOBO we seek \$50,000 annually from increased parking revenue to reach the over \$200,000 that replacement rack installation will cost.

ROAD DIETS - Planners and engineers from throughout the Bay Area attended the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's "technology transfer program" on March 19. Road Diets reconfigure existing roads to make them safer for bicyclists and pedestrians. ITE's award-winning engineer **James Daisa** presented examples from throughout North America showing that Road Diets reduce crashes and speeding, while enhancing bicycle access. Please urge your local staff to attend these free programs.

“Port Chicago” continued p. 1

The goal of the plan is to restore the transportation connection and waterfront access.

The *Contra Costa Times* (3/20/08) account of the meeting attended by “about 80 residents” noted that “the bulk of the audience--many of whom were bicyclists and proponents of building trail land--praised the plan.”

Developing a convenient bikeway to replace Port Chicago Highway has been an EBBC campaign for over a decade. In 2006 we supported **Senator Tom Torlakson’s** SB1556 to establish a network of Delta Trails that promises to connect Bay Point with Martinez with a shoreline path. In January this year EBBC supported a Caltrans planning grant to begin the network.

PROPOSED PROJECTS (partial)

Bailey Road Pedestrian/Bicycle Safety Improvements (from Delta DeAnza Trail near Mims Avenue, past freeway ramps to BART station driveway). Improve walking and bicycling conditions for Bel Air Elementary students, BART users, other pedestrians and bicyclists. Navy Fund: \$1.5 million (partial/full funding – costs to be determined).

Clyde Union Pacific Right-of-Way Trail - Build trail along unused railroad corridor by Port Chicago Highway, and establish trust fund to cover long-term maintenance needs. Navy Fund: \$1.5 million (full funding).



Junction of Port Chicago Highway with Delta DeAnza Path to BART.

Bailey-Bella Vista Connector Trail


Improve existing trail between Bella Vista Avenue and Bailey Road near Bel Air Elementary School and establish trust fund for long-term maintenance needs. Navy Fund: \$500,000 (full funding).

Bay Point Waterfront Park Access

Provide easier access, including disabled access to park west of McAvoy Harbor. Navy Fund: \$450,000 (full funding).

Plan & Build Great California Delta Trail between Pittsburg and Bay Point,

and Bay Point Park to Clyde, Concord and Martinez - These local segments of proposed Great California Delta Trail, eventually will link to Bay Trail at Martinez; provides access to waterfront. Navy Fund: \$2.35 million (partial funding)

For more information visit <http://www.cocoplans.org/> and click on “Navy Mitigation Fund.” Your supportive comments--by the **April 30 comment deadline**--can help insure that the plan is not derailed. 

EBBC MEMBERS GET DISCOUNTS AT AFFILIATED SHOPS

- Alameda Bicycle 1522 Park St, Alameda (includes Fruitvale Bike Station)
- Bay Area Bikes 2424 Webster St, Oakland
- Bent Spoke 6124 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland
- Bicycle Garage 4673 Thornton Ave, Fremont
- Bikes 4 Life 1344 Sunset Dr., Antioch
- Cal Bicycles 2053 First St., Livermore
- California Pedaler 495 Hartz Ave, Danville
- Castro Cyclery 20515 Stanton Ave, Castro Valley
- Cycle City 1433 High St., Alameda
- Cycle Sports 3530 Grand Ave, Oakland
- Cycle Path 22510 Foothill Blvd, Hayward
- Cycle Path 337 Main St, Pleasanton
- Danville Bike 115 Hartz Ave, Danville
- Dublin Cyclery, 7001 Dublin Blvd, Dublin
- Hank & Frank Bicycles 3377 Mount Diablo Blvd, Lafayette
- Hank & Frank Bicycles 6030 College Ave, Oakland
- Lamorinda Cyclery 232 Brookwood Rd, Orinda
- Left Coast Cyclery 2928 Domingo Ave, Berkeley
- Livermore Cyclery 7214 San Ramon Blvd, Dublin
- Livermore Cyclery 2752 First St, Livermore
- Mike’s Bikes 2133 University Ave, Berkeley
- Mike’s Bikes 1150 Contra Costa Blvd, Pleasant Hill
- Missing Link 1988 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley
- Montano Velo 4266 Piedmont Ave, Oakland
- The Pedaler 3826 San Pablo Dam Rd., El Sobrante
- Pegasus Bicycle Works 439 Railroad Ave, Danville
- Pioneer Bike Shop, 11 Rio Vista Avenue, Oakland
- Pleasant Hill Cyclery 1100-C Contra Costa Blvd, Pleasant Hill
- Real Bicycles 3506-B Old Santa Rita Rd, Pleasanton
- Robinson Wheelworks 1235 MacArthur Blvd, San Leandro
- San Leandro Cyclery 471 E 14th St, San Leandro
- Schwinn City 814 A St., Antioch
- Sharp Bicycle 969 Moraga Rd., Lafayette
- Solano Avenue Cyclery 1554 Solano Ave, Albany
- Stone’s Cyclery 2320 Santa Clara Ave, Alameda
- Tip Top Bike Shop, 4800-A Telegraph Avenue, Oakland
- Velo Sport 1650 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley
- Wheels of Justice Cyclery 2024 Mountain Blvd, Oakland
- wheelgirl 1714 Fourth Street, Sore C, Berkeley
- Witts Bicycle Shop 22125 Mission Blvd, Hayward

Present your valid EBBC membership card (clip mailing label on back cover) to obtain member discount at participating retailers. The mailing label must indicate that the membership is “Current” to qualify. Discount varies 5-25% on parts, bikes, and/or accessories depending on level of participation by retailer. Visit <http://www.ebbc.org> for further details.

Bishop Ranch Business Park
...bike-friendly workplace,
Contra Costa-style

And with 32,000 employees, it needs to be. Bishop Ranch Business Park, a 585-acre complex in San Ramon, is conveniently located for cyclists on the Iron Horse Trail and is 5.75 miles north of Dublin BART and 12 miles south of Walnut Creek. Within Bishop Ranch, another 4.5 miles of Class II bike lanes are available.

Encouraged year-round, new cyclists can request Bike-to-Work Starter Kits that include a t-shirt, matching backpack, safety lights, regional and local bike maps and much more. Bishop Ranch also coordinates the largest Bike-to-Work Day Energizer station in Contra Costa County. "We greet about 500 cyclists on Bike to Work Day and hand out the Bike to Work Starter kits year round," says **Marci McGuire**, Program Manager at the Bishop Ranch Transportation Center. "We include EBBC materials, safety information, water, food, coffee, juice, and a lot more. It's one of our biggest events each year."

Amenities for cyclists were incorporated into the original design of the complex and include locker rooms w/showers and bike racks or lockers at 45 buildings in 10 complexes and at Chevron Park. And cyclists can easily extend their range by using Bishop Ranch's 56 Express bus connections to BART stations in Walnut Creek and Dublin as well as to the Altamont Commuter Express station in Pleasanton. Another 100+ local non-express bus trips serve Bishop Ranch. Bike racks are available on all buses and employees ride all 156+ trips free with a pass from the Bishop Ranch Transportation Center. Through a partnership with 511 Contra Costa a Guaranteed Ride Home program is available to employees, including cyclists.



.Bicyclists at Bishop Ranch Business Park.



Parents and kids at Family Cycling Workshop conducted on March 22 by Safe Routes to Schools and EBBC in Berkeley. Another youth bicycle training workshop will be conducted this summer in Hayward. Contact Susan Silber susan@transcoalition.org at TALC.

Minutes

of the General Membership Meeting on March 18, 2008.
MTC MetroCenter, Oakland

EBBC BOARD MEETING

Draft for Approval

Board members present: Steve Ardrey, Mary Norton, Dave Favello, Dave Campbell, Rick Rickard, Tom Ayres, Bill Pinkham, Eric McCaughrin; also Robert Raburn, ED

Membership committee report - Tom presented minutes from the last membership meeting, at which Eric demonstrated the new software for our database and discussed its implementation.

Fruitvale Village signs - Robert has solicited a bid for signs in the upper window (opaque for shade) and middle window. Motion to approve up to \$600: APPROVED

Bike to Work Day budget - Dave Campbell Dave seeks authorization to spend up to the \$29k that has been raised so far for marketing costs; motion to spend this: APPROVED

Contract for TALC VBP supervisor - Hire employee for April 5 TALC summit. Motion APPROVED (with one No and one Abstain).

Treasury Report - Rick reports last period loss of \$5000 – because annual sales-tax payment and our annual contributions were included. 2007 showed a substantial loss - because didn't include goods sold; Rick will update at May meeting.

Dave C notes that EBBC is in early phase of an audit of our operations; key people have written statements of our procedures.

Rick has received checks for \$2400 from the last highlighting party.

The Major Taylor Cycling Club has ceased operation; we have applied to receive \$1000, plus bikes, tools, etc.; would be used for Cycles of Change program in Newark to be run by Mark Dieter.

EBBC GENERAL MEETING

Draft for Approval

Welcome and introductions - Robert expressed thanks to Doug Johnson for arranging our use of meeting room at MTC.

April 5 events - Cinderella, Martinez Celebrates Cycling, TALC Summit

Steve is coordinating Martinez, Dave F for Cinderella; each has several volunteers committed to help.

Dave C will participate in panel discussion at TALC summit - Paradox of Smart Growth.

Earth Day events - Oakland Apr 16, Berkeley Apr 19, Richmond Apr 19, Alameda Apr

19, Martinez Apr 19

Whole Foods in Oakland is doing a taste fair on Apr 19 and fair on 22nd. Bill propose not tabling at the Richmond event.

Regional Transportation Plan and Climate Action Plan, SR2S and SR2T - Robert

MTC is working on 2035 Plan; our regional bike plan needs \$1.37 billion. Victory in Alameda County, to include - Niles Canyon and Mission Pass, connecting Fremont with Pleasanton - on regional bike plan map.

SR2S and SR2T - over next 5 years, part of Climate Action Plan promoted by Air District - \$50 million for SR2S; \$25 million as regional for SR2T.

State Legislation and Pedal Power (Apr 30, May 1)

- AB 2971 (Desaulnier) Construction of bridges, major thoroughfares - would fund bike and ped access on bridges and major thoroughfares, through development fees; sponsored by CBC

- AB 2744 (Huffman) - transportation fund for climate protection - a gas tax, up to \$0.10/gallon; would have to come with adopted expenditure plan, including ways to reduce global warming; sponsored by TALC; could raise up to \$300 million per year; Sierra Club working to support it

- Motion to support AB 2971 and AB 2744 APPROVED

- AB 1358 (Leno) Complete Streets - would require bicyclists and peds being included in every plan; but bill in hiatus until June after primary between Leno and Migden

BTWD events – Dave C

Looking for help with identifying more events in Contra Costa County. EBBC may adopt the Pleasant Hill BART station energizer station, because the Contra Costa Center will not be running it this year.

Estuary Bridges - see article

eBART to Antioch project scoping comments due Apr 15. Robert will send a letter: bikes on board, level platform, no barriers, routine accommodation, SR2T

Other

Eric McCaughrin says that the appearance of our website will change somewhat after

a software upgrade that he will implement probably this summer.

Program planned for tonight - learning how to enter events and other content at our website – was abbreviated because we were not able to confirm WiFi and projector access in time. We nevertheless benefitted from illustrated presentations throughout the meeting.

Submitted by Tom Ayres, EBBC Secretary


“Estuary Bridges,” continued p.1

the Miller-Sweeney (Fruitvale) Bridge. with the Park Street Bridge schedule to start in July 2008.

The 1973 Fruitvale Bridge is slated to be worked on in the Fall of 2009. However, traffic detoured from the High Street Bridge project--whenever that occurs--will degrade the safety of Alameda bicyclists who commute to BART.

Robert Raburn called the Fruitvale Bridge the “poster child for lack of bicycle plan coordination between the County and two local jurisdictions” He requested that the County meet with local staffs from Alameda and Oakland to **mitigate construction impacts**--possibly with the temporary installation of sharrows. He also noted that the *County Bicycle Plan* (2006) calls for bike lanes on the Fruitvale Bridge.

The seismic retrofit project's environmental review was completed years ago and does not reflect current bicycle plans or commute conditions. Because the two northbound lanes on the bridge are immediately reduced to a single lane upon entering Oakland, it is reasonable to **reconfigure the bridge to match the Oakland side** and install bike lanes following completion of the seismic work.

WHATYOU CAN DO: Your calls and letters to Supervisor Alice Lai Bitker, can make a difference! 1221 Oak St., Ste. 536 Oakland, CA 94612, (510) 272-6693 or fax (510) 268-8004. 

CONTACT EBBC

510 533-RIDE (7433)
www.ebbc.org

Executive Director Robert Raburn
510-533-7433
Fruitvale Village, 3301 E12th St, #143

EBBC OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

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Bruce "Ole" Ohlson
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Steve Ardrey

EBBC VOLUNTEERS

Hazard Eliminations Ian MacDonald
Membership Coordinator Mary Norton
EBBC Map Distribution Derek Liecty
Web Eric McCaughrin

COALITION PARTNERS

AFFILIATED RIDE CLUBS

Berkeley Bicycle Club
Bicycle Trails Council of the East Bay
Cherry City Cyclists
Delta Pedalers
Diablo Cyclists
Different Spokes
Fremont Freewheelers
Grizzly Peak Cyclists
Oakland Yellowjackets
Velo Raptors
Santa Rosa Cycling Club
Strada Sempre Duro
Valley Spokesmen

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

Albany Strollers & Rollers
Bay Area Bicycle Coalitions
Bay Trail Project
BikeAlameda
Bicycle-Friendly Berkeley Coalition (BFBC)
CA Association of Bicycling Organizations

California Bicycle Coalition (CBC)
Cycles of Change
Greenbelt Alliance
P-Town Bike Advocates
Transportation and Land Use Coalition
Urban Ecology
Walk Oakland Bike Oakland (WOBO)
Waterfront Action

COMMUNITY REPS & ADVOCATES

BART Bicycle Advisory Task Force
CoCoCo Reps:
Alameda Co Reps:
Lamorinda
Livermore Amador Valley, Trails Council
Martinez Dick Anderson
Pittsburg Bruce "Ole" Ohlson
West CoCoCo Bill Pinkham

EAST BAY BICYCLE COALITION membership form

Send your tax-deductible donation to EBBC, PO Box 1736, Oakland, CA 94604
For EBBC meeting information check www.ebbc.org or call (510) 533-RIDE (7433)

Name

Address

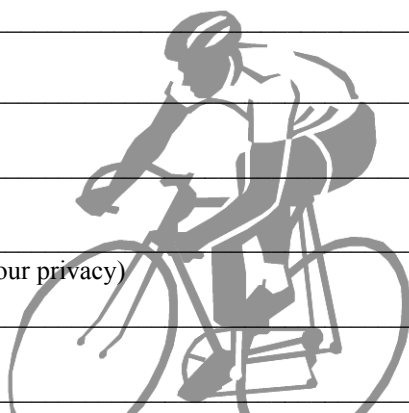
City, State, Zip

Phone/Fax

E-mail Address (EBBC guards your privacy)

Workplace/City

Commuter Utility Recreation Touring Transit User Other bicycling interests?



Membership Type

- Sustaining (\$25)
Half-Century (\$50)
Century (\$100)
Affiliate (\$40)
Introductory (\$12)
Living Lightly (\$6)
Endow (\$_____)

- New
Renewal

- Never share my name with others
Only share with EBBC affiliates



Mission Pass or Mission Impossible?

Mike Jones and I set out on bike to follow the path of the mission padres over what is now known to motorists as the Sunol Grade.

We couldn't be sure whether our adventure would let us eat lunch in Pleasanton, or if we would be turned back to eat Afghani cuisine near the Centerville Amtrak depot. Before setting out we made a pact to not trespass on posted property.

Bicycle access over Mission Pass was severed when the 5.4-mile segment of I-680 freeway between Route 238 near Mission San José and Route 84 near Sunol was dedicated on January 9, 1964. For the first time since before the Ohlone Tribe inhabited the East Bay, a car was needed to cross the low saddle between the San Francisco Bay and the

Livermore Valley.

All that remains of Mission Road are discontinuous remnants that serve as freeway frontage road. From west to east along I-680 one encounters Vargas Road overpass, Sheridan Road overpass at the summit, and the Sunol Valley Golf Course at the Andrade Road overpass. You don't feel like a novice rider if you have never bicycled these three roads or Mission Road--or even heard of them! None are accessible. They are isolated dead-ends for all but the auto-dependent. Even the many stables in the area are served by freeway exits.

None of these routes appear in Grant Peterson's classic Roads to Ride. These roads are virgin terrain for touring bicyclists. They beckoned us!

From Fremont BART, Walnut Road leads west across Mission Boulevard and becomes Morrison Canyon Road. Just beyond the Mission Boulevard we crossed the abandoned railroad bed that

could become a future multi-use path between Niles and Milpitas.

Because Morrison Canyon "road" leads to the new Vargas Plateau Regional Park, it is shown on BART's sketchy regionwide map. It is likely the narrowest paved road to be mapped with a solid line. We were fortunate to not encounter any descending vehicles during our climb of the path-like lane cut into the hillside with a steep drop-off into the creek. We wanted to see an encounter of SUVs that would require a lengthy drive in reverse to one of the few turnouts.

We stayed on the road and enjoyed the views from the still-to-be-opened Vargas Plateau Park area. Not many tread this route and we elected to not stop to visit the park caretaker (flagpoles). Opposite the Vargas Plateau Park on Morrison Canyon Road is the peculiar TRW upside down Plane-Antenna Test Site (stay out!).

Check back in May to find out where we eventually ate lunch.

- Robert Raburn

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Newsletter Notes: rideOn is published monthly by the East Bay Bicycle Coalition, a non-profit tax-exempt organization dedicated to promoting bicycling as an everyday means of transportation and recreation throughout Alameda and Contra Costa counties since 1972. Logo design by Martha McNulty.



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