



## THE BAY TRAIL IN RICHMOND NEW YEAR 2018 REPORT

This 19th New Year Report by TRAC, the Trails for Richmond Action Committee, summarizes the dramatic progress made during 2017 in designing, funding and building new and improved Bay Trail sections in Richmond. The City now has 34 miles of Bay Trail in place, representing almost 10% of the 355 miles completed of this planned 500-mile walking and cycling path encircling San Francisco and San Pablo Bays. Culminating a long term effort, half of Richmond's mileage now is on the northern shoreline linking Point Pinole Regional Shoreline, Landfill Loop and Wildcat Creek trails with the Plunge and neighborhoods ranging from Hilltop and North Richmond to the Iron Triangle, Atchison Village and Point Richmond.

Despite having more Bay Trail completed than any other city in the nine-county Bay Area, over eight miles of gaps remain. As discussed below and shown on the last page of this report, six active projects promise to complete 2.9 miles of new trail during 2018 and another 2.5 miles during 2019. Icing on the cake is the 4.3 miles of Bay Trail scheduled to open across the Richmond/San Rafael (RSR) Bridge in late 2018.

### North Shore

At long last, Richmond's northern shoreline is accessible by walking and biking the Bay Trail. In 2002 - 2005, TRAC obtained grants for the City to build trail sections between Cutting Blvd. and Wildcat Creek. During 2006 - 2011, the [Landfill Loop and Wildcat Marsh trails](#) were opened in stages, thanks to the cooperation and help of Republic Services and West County Wastewater District.



A breakthrough was reached in 2017 when East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) completed two projects providing a North-South pedestrian and bicyclist route through 2,560-acre Point Pinole Regional Shoreline. This included 1.5 miles of trail linking the Bay View Trail with the new Dotson Family Marsh staging area at the end of Goodrick Avenue plus a new bridge over Union Pacific (UP) railroad tracks connecting the Atlas Road Bay Trail with Cook's Point Trail.

For the first time, residents of neighborhoods such as North Richmond and Hilltop may walk and bike the Bay Trail to Point Pinole Regional Shoreline. There is, however, a 1/3-mile gap requiring walking or biking on narrow Goodick Avenue between the Dotson Family Marsh staging area and the Richmond Parkway Bay Trail. The Contra Costa Transportation Authority awarded the City a \$976,000 grant to complete funding for construction of a Class I trail along the eastern side of Goodrick Avenue.

Completion of the Atlas Road bridge Bay Trail opened the door for extending the trail north to the shorelines of Pinole and Hercules. To that end, a mile of Bay Trail is in the works running north from the Atlas Rd. bridge on the eastern side of the UP rail corridor. EBRPD built a 0.15-mile section to link up with 0.5 mile built recently by LDK Ventures as part of their Bay Area Logistics Center now under construction. One Corp LLC is extending this trail northward another 0.35 mile as part of Pinole Point Business Park Phase III with site clearance now underway at the end of Giant Road.

## Point Molate and the Richmond/San Rafael Bridge

Construction is underway on Package A of Bay Area Toll Authority's [RSR Bridge Access Improvement Project](#), which includes 1.16 miles of Point Molate Bay Trail between Castro Street and Stenmark Drive. Bids have been received for Package B to convert the Bridge's top deck shoulder into a barrier-separated, ten-foot wide, bidirectional Bay Trail for use by pedestrians and cyclists traveling between the East Bay and North Bay with access via BART, SMART, ferry and bus services. Award of contract is scheduled for January with project completion expected in late 2018



EBRPD completed a 65% preliminary design to extend the Point Molate Bay Trail 2.5 miles from the RSR Bridge to the northern border of the City's Point Molate property. This includes a mile of Bay Trail on a shoreline easement donated by Chevron and 1.5 miles on City property. EBRPD is funding design, environmental studies and permitting, and efforts are underway to secure funds for construction. [Click Here](#) for more information.



## South Shore

The five miles of Bay Trail following the shoreline between Central Avenue and Harbour Way South offer a scenic, enriching experience linking a necklace of eight city, regional, state and national parks.

Taking advantage of this, the second annual Every Kid in a Park - Richmond featured a one mile walk along the Bay Trail. This program brought 1,200 fourth graders from public schools in Richmond and San Pablo to Rosie the Riveter/WW II Home Front National Historical Park for an outdoor learning experience in partnership with the National Park Service (NPS), Rosie the Riveter Trust, Groundwork Richmond, West Contra Costa Unified School District and UC Berkeley's California Outdoor Engagement Coalition. Another UC Berkeley program brought 100 Japanese students to learn about the Bay Trail and Richmond's rich history as part of a program designed to develop

youth leadership capacity for making a difference in city planning and community transformation.

The four-mile [Richmond Wellness Trail Plan](#) adopted by the City Council incorporates the Bay Trail. California's Natural Resources Agency awarded the Trust for Public Land a \$3.1 million grant to implement this plan developed by the NPS and partners. The Wellness Trail will connect Downtown Richmond, including the Kaiser Medical Facility and BART/AMTRAK station, with the Bay Trail via Marina Way South.

Inland portions of the Bay Trail such as Marina Way South are important for connecting residential areas with the shoreline and for linking the southern shoreline with the [Ferry Point Loop Trail](#) and the northern shoreline. Represented simply by sidewalks and, at best, bike lanes for cyclists, these routes are being upgraded to be safer and more attractive as called for by the [South Richmond Transportation Connectivity Plan](#).

Three separate projects are underway to improve inland sections of Bay Trail. The [Bay Walk Mixed-Use Project](#) will provide 0.1-mile of buffered bike lanes on each side of



Marina Way South. Harbour Way South will get 0.4 miles of separated two-way bikeway as part of Industrial Properties Trust's light industrial building project. Contra Costa Transportation Agency's I-80/Central Ave. Interchange project will provide pedestrian and cyclist safety improvements for the spine Bay Trail crossing at the busy intersection of Central Avenue & Rydin Road as illustrated here.

## Richmond Takes Lead in Water Trail Sites

The City of Richmond designated four new launch sites to join the [San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail](#). With seven official locations maintained by the City and EBRPD, Richmond leads all Bay Area cities in this program enhancing access to Bay waters for kayaks, stand up paddleboards and kiteboards.



*Thank you for supporting completion of the Bay Trail in Richmond. Please share this report with your friends and neighbors, encouraging them to join the Richmond Bay Trail Network at no cost by e-mailing [tracbaytrail@earthlink.net](mailto:tracbaytrail@earthlink.net). For maps, a calendar of events and other information about the Bay Trail in Richmond, visit <http://pointrichmond.com/baytrail/>. Please follow us on Instagram @tracbaytrail and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/TrailsforRichmond/>*

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# SAN FRANCISCO BAY TRAIL PROJECT

## Richmond

